

**THE
Punjab Legislative Council
Debates.**

From 6th March to 28th March 1929

Vol. XII

Part-II

OFFICIAL REPORT.



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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday the 6th March 1929.

THE Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the clock. Mr. President in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ACREAGE RATE AT LOWER BARI DOAB CANAL.

*1942. **Sardar Ujjal Singh** : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount realised on account of acreage rate in Khanewal and Montgomery divisions of Lower Bari Doab Canal;
- (b) the amount spent in the two divisions under the head for which acreage rate is charged?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (b) : The accounts are not kept by the divisions.

ACREAGE RATE.

*1943. **Sardar Ujjal Singh** : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the account of acreage rate charged is kept separately for each distributary and minor;
- (b) if so, the statement of the amounts so spent and realised for every distributary and minor in the Khanewal and Montgomery divisions may be laid on the table?

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

(b) Does not arise.

ACREAGE RATE.

*1944. **Sardar Ujjal Singh** : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the purpose for which money raised by acreage rate is spent;
- (b) whether it is a fact that maintenance of canal roads is a charge on the acreage rate account?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The services, the cost of which is covered by the rate are—

- (i) the construction of watercourses including the surveys necessary to determine their alignment;
 - (ii) rectangulation and kilabandi; and
 - (iii) road culverts for the water-courses.
- (b) The reply is in the negative.

ACREAGE RATES.

***1945. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please state the rate of interest charged on the money spent for the purpose for which acreage rate is levied?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The rates of interest applicable to the *pro forma* acreage rates accounts are as follows—

		<i>Per cent.</i>
1912-13 to 1916-17	..	=8.8252
1917-18 to 1922-23	..	=6.16
1923-24 to 1925-26	..	=6.25
1926-27 to 1929-30	..	=6.5

ATLAS MOTOR COMPANY, RAWALPINDI.

***1946. Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) if it is a fact that the Atlas Motor Company, Rawalpindi, has got a monopoly to ply for hire on the kacha road known as Sihala-Kahuta Road;
- (b) whether the Government has received any representation from the motor owners and drivers, as well as the public of the district against this monopoly;
- (c) if the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press notes of the *Tribune*, dated 8th February 1929, protesting against the orders of the District Magistrate, Rawalpindi, regarding the monopoly;
- (d) if so, what steps the Government is contemplating to take to redress the grievance?

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

(b) A representation from the lorry owners of the Rawalpindi district regarding the alleged monopoly was received. On enquiry it was found that no monopoly had been created.

(c) The article in question has been seen.

(d) Does not arise.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, KOT ADU.

***1947. Lala Bedh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether the small town committee, Kot Adu in Muzaffargarh district, has moved that the official president be replaced by a non-official one;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

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

(b) The matter has now been referred to Government and is under consideration.

Lala Bodh Raj : When was the resolution for the removal of the official president of the small town committee concerned adopted ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I ask for notice of this question.

JARANWALA SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE.

***1948. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the small town committee, Jaranwala, in Lyallpur district passed a resolution for the appointment of a non-official president ;
- (b) if so, what action has been taken on the said resolution
- (c) if no action has been taken so far, why ?

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

(b) and (c) As orders have been issued for the conversion of the small town of Jaranwala into a municipality it is not considered necessary to remove the official president of the town committee during the short time that is now left before the municipal committee is constituted.

Lala Bodh Raj : By what time will the small town committee be converted into a municipal committee ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : As soon as possible.

SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER, BAHAWALPUR SUB-DIVISION.

***1949. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in several cases payments for the final bills have been entered in the bill books without there being any entry of actual measurements in the measurement book, and that those entries in the bill books have been duly signed by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Bahawalpur Sub-Division, 2nd Bahawalpur Circle, in the year 1928 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the auditor, Mr. N. K. Sain, has taken objection to such a procedure ; if so, will the Honourable Member please lay on the table the remarks of the auditor in the matter ;
- (c) if the reply to (a) be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Member please state what action the Government has taken or intends to take against the officials responsible for this irregularity ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I regret that answer to this question is not yet ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the records of the case concerning the matter are at headquarters ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Headquarters at Kabul ?

Lala Bodh Raj : No, at the headquarters at Lahore.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Does the honourable member think so ?

Lala Bodh Raj : I want an answer to the question from the Honourable Member.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Apparently I am not so familiar with the papers that are in the Secretariat as the honourable member appears to be. Does the honourable member want me to answer that question ? I want to know the source of his information about the papers being there. I do not know. I have never been to the Secretariat office.

ASSISTANT ENGINEERS, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

***1950. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the local Government has issued instructions that no person from outside the province will be appointed as a gazetted officer or as an assistant engineer in the Public Works Department ;
- (b) if the reply to (a) be in the affirmative, whether any assistant engineers or temporary engineers have been appointed during the last five years against those instructions ; if so, why ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is the honourable member aware that some instructions as referred to have been issued by the Bombay Government ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I do not know. I have no such information.

CANAL WATER AND ACREAGE RATES.

***1951. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Colonisation Officer, Nili Bar, Pakpattan, has issued notices to zamindars of Mauzas Murshidpur, Khokar, Chak Allah Rakha Khan, Chak Qureshi and some other villages of Lodhran tahsil that supply of canal water for their lands will be stopped unless they agree to the payment of acreage rates ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the construction of water courses on account of which these acreage rates are charged has not been completed ; if so, what are the special reasons for taking the step referred to in (a) above ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) The villages in question are among those which have not hitherto received canal irrigation, but are within the irrigation boundaries of the Sutlej Valley Canals. The proprietors were therefore, asked whether they were prepared to pay acreage rate on the areas to be irrigated, according to the scale sanctioned by Government. They refused to pay acreage rate, and they have therefore been, informed that it will not be possible to extend irrigation to them until they consent to pay this charge.

(b) The construction of water-courses is not by any means the only item in the charge for acreage rate. Enquiries are being made whether the water-courses are complete in these specified villages, but if the proprietors decline to pay acreage rates, their completion is obviously not desirable.

CANAL IRRIGATION OF VILLAGE RAJAPUR.

***1952. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state for kharif 1928 for the village Rajapur in Lodhran tahsil—

- (i) the area commanded by canal irrigation;
- (ii) the actual area irrigated as shown by the revenue patwaris as well as by the canal patwaris;
- (iii) from which minor the said village is being irrigated?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The information is not available at Head Quarters and has necessitated enquiry being made from the local officers and the result is awaited. The information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as ready.

ACREAGE RATES.

***1953. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that there is agitation amongst the zamindars of Lodhran and Mailki tahsils in Multan district against the levying of acreage rates for the execution of new water courses;
- (b) whether any representations have been made in the matter to the Government; if so, what action has been taken thereon;
- (c) whether the zamindars gave their consent for the execution of new water courses and minors in place of old ones;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the zamindars are prepared to construct such water courses themselves and at their own cost;
- (e) whether any notice was given to the zamindars before the construction of new minors and water courses referred to above that they shall have to pay the cost of such works to the Government?

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

(b) Representations have been received and are being considered.

(c) The alignment of the new distributaries, minors and water-courses to command land not now irrigated having in most cases to be different from the old ones, the question of asking the zamindars for their consent does not arise.

(d) The zamindars are being encouraged to excavate water-courses in their own lands, working as contractors. Alignment survey and the construction of masonry works must necessarily be done by Government.

(e) No.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the new distributaries, minors and water-courses have been excavated in the lands of the zamindars ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I have not been to the place. I do not know.

WATER COURSES, MULTAN DISTRICT.

***1954. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state for Lodhran and Mailai tahsils in the Multan district—

(a) average expenses per acre incurred by the Government for the construction of new water courses for which the acreage rates are levied from the zamindars ;

(b) the rates charged by the Government from the zamindars per acre on that account ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The acreage rate is not based on the expenditure already incurred, but on the estimate of the expenditure to be incurred. This estimate includes the cost of alignment, excavation and masonry works with the addition of a percentage charge covering establishment, tools and plant, leave and pension allowances, audit and accounts and, in the case of payment by instalments, interest charges.

(b) Three rupees per acre for one payment on demand or four rupees four annas by instalments of eight and a half annas per crop.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is the honourable member aware of the fact that there are certain lands which cannot fetch even a price of Rs. 9 per acre ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Well then nobody will buy them.

TAIL OF RAPPAR MINOR.

***1955. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the level of the tail of Rappar Minor in Lodhran tahsil is below the ground level ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the lands on either side of it cannot be irrigated by flow irrigation;

(c) if so, what is the difference between the two levels?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (c) It is presumed that the question refers to the bed level at the tail of Rapper Minor; if so, the level of the bed at this place is 0.7 feet below the natural surface.

(b) The full supply level is 1.5 feet higher than natural surface, so that flow irrigation is feasible.

Lala Bodh Raj : For how long in the season is there a full supply in the minor?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : That is a fit subject for another question.

KAHROOR MINOR.

***1956. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Kahror Minor in Lodhran tahsil was not working properly in the year 1928;

(b) if so, what measures have been taken to remove the necessary defects in its proper working?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Kahror Minor was opened rather late owing to its being incomplete, but when opened it ran properly.

(b) Does not arise.

CANAL IRRIGATION, LODHRAN TAHSIL.

***1957. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that villages Tibbai Wadan, Shahpur, and Jass in Lodhran tahsil were not at all irrigated by canal water in the year 1928;

(b) if so, what are the reasons;

(c) what measures have been taken for the supply of canal water for these villages?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) It is not a fact that no irrigation was done in these villages.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Last year's experience has shown that the system of irrigation for these villages requires certain modifications consisting of extension of a minor to bring the source of supply closer to these villages. This extension is now being carried out and irrigation is expected to improve considerably this year.

GIRDWARI PAPERS, MULTAN DISTRICT.

***1958. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that zamindars and tenants of Lodhran and Mailsi tahsils in the Multan district have represented to the Government and the local authorities that the Girdwari papers as prepared by canal authorities for kharif 1928 do not correspond with the actual area irrigated on the spot ;
- (b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made into their allegations, and with what results ;
- (c) whether the said zamindars and tenants have prayed for the suspension of realisation of abiana pending the result of enquiry; if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : The information is not available at head quarters and has necessitated enquiry being made from the local officers and the result is awaited. The information as soon as ready will be communicated to the honourable member.

MUSLIM DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS, MUZAFFARGARH AND JHANG.

***1959. Shaikh Faiz Muhammad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the reasons for degrading the Muslim District Inspectors of Schools, Muzaffargarh and Jhang ;
- (b) whether this action taken against the two Muslim District Inspectors of Schools was proposed by the Divisional Inspector of Schools ;
- (c) if answer to (b) is in the affirmative, who was the Divisional Inspector of Schools at the time : whether he was the permanent incumbent or the officiating gentleman ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The District Inspectors of Schools referred to have not been degraded.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, nor is it possible to disclose the recommendations made about individual officers by Divisional Inspectors or other authorities.

MULTAN DISTRICT BOARD.

***1960. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether any petition was put in against the validity of the election of the vice-presidents of the district board, Multan, held in November 1928 ;
- (b) whether any reference was made by the Deputy Commissioner or the Commissioner in the matter to the local Government ;
- (c) if so, what action has been taken on that reference or on the said petition ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) An intermediate enquiry has been made from the Commissioner, Multan division, regarding the petition.

Lala Bodh Raj : When was the reference made to the Local Government by the Deputy Commissioner and the Commissioner as referred to in part (b) ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I want notice to look into the files.

Lala Bodh Raj : When was the intermediate enquiry made ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : Again I must ask for a notice.

NORMAL SCHOOLS, HOSHIAHPUR.

***1961. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the district of Hoshiarpur as well as in other districts, students who have taken up Urdu and Persian in the middle school examination are preferred to those who have taken up Sanskrit and Hindi, in the matter of admission to normal schools ?

(b) If so, why ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Reference has been made to local officers and a reply will be sent when received.

J. V. CLASSES.

***1962. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the candidates who have passed the vernacular final examination are preferred to the Anglo-vernacular middle passed and even Matric in the matter of admission to J. V. classes in training institutions ?

(b) If so, why ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes, as a general rule.

(b) A vernacular middle passed student is almost always better in the vernaculars and in mathematics than the Anglo-vernacular middle passed who devotes some thirteen hours a week for four years to the learning of English, but does not reach a standard that will enable him to profit by general reading.

In the past the recruitment of matriculates has not been encouraged as the great majority of matriculates came from towns and did not take kindly to work in villages; but now that we have many matriculate candidates from schools in rural areas, matriculates are being admitted in some numbers, provided that they possess the necessary vernacular qualifications.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, TOBA TEK SINGH.

***1963. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether the small town committee, Toba Tek Singh, in Lyallpur district, has passed a resolution for the election of a non-official president;

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

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

(b) Orders have been issued for the conversion of the small town committee into a municipal committee of the second class, and the submission of the necessary notifications by the local officers is awaited.

It does not appear necessary to Government to remove the official President of the small town committee during the short time that is now left before the municipal committee is constituted.

MIRZA MANZUR-UL-AZIZ BEG.

***1964. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to part (ii) of starred question No. 1482,¹ asked on the 28th November, 1928, will the Honourable Minister for Education please state if any action has been taken in the matter referred to? If not, why?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Appropriate action has been taken.

JAWALI AIDED SCHOOL.

***1965. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to starred question No. 1483,¹ asked on the 28th November, 1928, will the Honourable Minister for Education please state if any reply has been received to the reference made?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A copy of the answer to Council Question No. 1493 (starred) already communicated to the honourable member through the Secretary, Punjab Legislative Council, is laid on the table.

*(Answer to Council Question No. *1493).*

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) There is no aided school at Jawali, nor is there any Chandrain school in the Kangra district. (b) & (c) do not arise.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the schools referred to in the question are situated in the Muzaffargarh district?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : There is no aided school at Jawali, nor is there any at Chandrain in the Kangra district.

Lala Bodh Raj : Then are there any such schools in Muzaffargarh district ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : If the honourable member thinks so I shall make enquiries, but so far as I could find out these names referred to certain schools in the Kangra district.

Lala Bodh Raj : The original question does not refer to the Kangra district.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : If there is any error and the honourable member thinks that he is referring to two schools in the Muzaffargarh district I shall make enquiries.

UNANI AND AYURVEDIC SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE.

***1966. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to starred question No. 1444¹, asked on the 28th November, 1928, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if any reply has been received to the reference made ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The necessary information has recently been received. The reply to starred question No. 1444 is as follows :—

(a) A grant-in-aid of Rs. 8,000 has been given to each of the following institutions :—

- (i) Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, Lahore ;
- (ii) Islamia College, Lahore ;
- (iii) Ayurvedic and Unani Tibbia College, Delhi.

(b) The required statement is attached.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DISPENSARIES IN ALLOPATHY, UNANI AND AYURVEDIC OPENED AFTER THE REFORMS.

Serial No.	Year.	NUMBER OF DISPENSARIES OPENED AFTER THE REFORMS.				REMARKS.
		Allopathy.	Unani.	Ayurvedic.	Combined Unani and Ayurvedic.	
1	1922	32	1	1	..	
2	1923	23	1	1	..	
3	1924	23	1	..	..
4	1925	33	..	..	..
5	1926	129	..	..	5	
6	1927	111	3	2		
7	1928	*..	7	4	..	

*The figures are not available as yet.

MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT BOARD.

***1967. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to starred question No. 1646², asked on the 3rd December, 1928, will the Honourable

¹Page 20 ante.

²Page 248 ante.

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

Minister for Local Self-Government please state if it is a fact that the gentleman referred to conducted the cases in court on behalf of the accused?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Before he became a member of the district board the gentleman referred to had been engaged as counsel by one of the accused persons against whom a case was proceeding. After he had become a member of the board the gentleman withdrew from the conduct of the case.

MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT BOARD.

***1968. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to starred question No. 1650¹, asked on the 3rd December, 1928, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if the business rules of the district board have been revised? If not, why?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : No. The draft prepared by the special Sub-Committee of the district board has not yet been approved.

MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT BOARD.

***1969. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to part (b) of starred question No. 1651¹, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if any action has been taken against the person responsible for the defalcation?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : As a result of the enquiry that was held the district board came to the conclusion that no defalcation has been proved against the muharrir in question.

DERA GHAZI KHAN MUNICIPALITY.

***1970. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the payment of salaries to the establishment of municipal committee, Dera Ghazi Khan, and of other necessary expenditure are delayed;

(b) if so, what are the reasons;

(c) does the Government contemplate taking any steps for improving the financial condition of the committee?

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

(b) Want of funds.

(c) The Committee is taking steps to improve its financial condition.

CONSTITUENCIES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT BOARD.

***1971. Chaudhri Duli Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the average number of voters for a District Board constituency in the Karnal District is about 538;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the constituency with the smallest number of voters has 127 votes only;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in the constituency of Jaurasi Kalan the number of voters is 1,585;
- (d) whether it has been represented to the Deputy Commissioner, Karnal, to split up the villages in this constituency at least into two, if not into three, constituencies;
- (e) if so, what steps are being taken in the matter?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes. On the 18th February 1929.

(e) The Deputy Commissioner is in the first instance ascertaining the opinion of the district board in the matter.

APPOINTMENTS IN DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL BOARD SCHOOLS.

***1972. Chaudhri Dali Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether he has authorised the Divisional Inspectors of Schools to make appointments in District Board and Municipal Board schools without the previous approval of the chairman concerned;
- (b) if not, under what authority Divisional Inspectors of Schools make appointments first and then send the appointment orders to chairmen concerned for concurrence;
- (c) what are the names of District Boards or Municipal Boards whose chairmen have refused to give concurrence to such appointments since 1921?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Enquiry is being made from Inspectors of Schools and a reply will be given when ready.

SHAH NAHR MUKERIAN AND HALLA LABOUR.

***1973. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Hoshiarpur district the Department of Shah Nahr Mukerian is charging fine on account of Halla labour from ten per cent. proprietors of the Canals;
- (b) whether these proprietors have caused a notice to be served on the Secretary of State for India for instituting a civil suit for recovering the amount of fine;
- (c) whether the Government recently sent for these proprietors and advised them to supply Halla labour once or twice a year;

[Chaudhri Ram Singh.]

- (d) whether the Government threatened them that in case they did not agree to the proposal referred to in (c) pacca heads will be constructed on the mouths of their canals and that the supply of water in these canals will be reduced ;
- (e) whether these proprietors have been further asked by the Government to come to an understanding with the manager of the Shah Nahr Mukerian ; if so, why ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Such charges have in certain cases been imposed in the past. They have, however, been recently suspended and the whole question of the procedure to be adopted in this matter is now being considered.

(b) Yes.

(c), (d) and (e). No. No advice was offered and no threats were made. The Deputy Commissioner has for some time been attempting to negotiate a settlement of this question with the persons concerned. There have been several discussions and as a result of these the Deputy Commissioner recently put forward certain proposals for a settlement. These, however, have been rejected, and the matter is now being further considered.

PACCA HEADS IN SHAH NAHR MUKERIAN.

***1974. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that ten per cent. of the proprietors of Natha Singh and Budhabar canals have recently been asked by the Department of Shah Nahr Mukerian to construct pacca heads on the mouths of their canals ; if so, what are the reasons for the same ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no such undertaking was given by these proprietors to the said departments in the contract entered into by them in 1888 ;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons for which these proprietors are being compelled to construct pacca heads on the mouths of their canals.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, because it was found that in the absence of suitable head regulators an excessive supply of water entered the canals in question.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

ZAILDARS.

***1975. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (1) the number of zaildars in each district of the Punjab ;
- (2) their annual remuneration and the grades thereof ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A statement is laid on the table.

NUMBER AND GRADES OF ZAILDARS.

Districts.	GRADES OF ZAILDARS.					
	1st grade.		2nd grade.		3rd grade.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
AMBALA DIVISION.						
Hissar	23	200	23	150	37	100
Rohitak { Gohana	11	350	20	300	10	200
{ Jhajjar						
{ Sonapat						
Gurgaon { Palwal	19	275	19	225	20	175
{ Gurgaon						
{ Ferozpur						
{ Nuh	1	350	4	300	1	250
{ Bawal						
{ Ballabgarh						
Karnal	14	300	19	250	14	200
Ambala	19	275	20	225	22	150
Total	90	24,500	112	23,975	119	18,100
JULLANDHUR DIVISION.						
Kangra	11	250	23	170	13	125
Hoshiarpur	18	320	38	280	16	200
Jalandhar	19	320	35	250	19	200
Ludhiana	13	300	26	225	12	175
Barnala	24	250	45	200	23	150
Total	85	24,490	197	37,480	83	15,025
LABOUR DIVISION.						
Lahore	12	400	21	325	10	250
Amritsar	9	450	24	350	..	..
Gurdaspur	15	377	20	290	25	200
		425		375		238
Average	..	401	..	337	..	243
Sialkot	20	300	20	230	27	200
Gujranwala	15	400	17	325	18	230
Sheikhpura	15	400	19	330	17	300
Total	85	32,865	191	29,640	97	23,578

[Hon'ble Sir Paul-i-Husain.]

NUMBER AND GRADES OF ZAILDARS—CONSOLIDATED.

Districts.	GRADES OF ZAILDARS.					
	1st grade.		2nd grade.		3rd grade.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
RAWALPINDI DIVISION.						
Gilgit	12	350	20	275	20	200
Shahpur	17	300	23	250	24	200
Rawalpindi	4	200	9	150	4	100
Gujarkhan	3	200	8	150	4	100
Rawalpindi	3	150	3	125	3	100
Murree	1	150	3	100	2	50
Jhelum	No Zaildars in the District.					
Attock	5	350	16	300	16	250
Minawar	6	350	11	300	16	200
Total	52	15,470	88	20,375	111	21,850
MULTAN DIVISION.						
Montgomery	15	350	29	275	19	225
Montgomery Tahsil	7	350	13	275	7	225
Okara Tahsil	4	350	7	275	4	225
Lyalpur	12	300	24	250	22	200
Average					3	150
						to 100
						125
Jhang	13	300	18	250	26	200
Multan	16	400	33	300	13	250
Muzaffargarh	10	250	20	200	32	150
Dara Ghazi Khan	11	200	16	150	16	100
Total	94	20,500	169	40,075	184	23,375

POLICE.

***1976. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to a "sandid" letter to His Excellency the Governor printed at page 8 of the "Hindu Herald", dated 24th July 1928;
- (b) whether the allegations made therein relating to the promotion of Inspectors of Police to the rank of Deputy Superintendents of Police is correct?

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

(b) No. From the 1st April 1929 up to date 9 officers (including one direct appointment of a Sikh officer) have been appointed as Deputy Superintendents of Police, out of whom 3 are Hindus, 2 are Sikhs, 3 are Muhammadans and one is European.

PANDIT JAGAT RAM, SPECIAL TRIBUNAL PRISONER.

***1977. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Pandit Jagat Ram, son of Pandit Dittu Ram of Hoshiarpur, a special tribunal prisoner of 1915, is still in Jail;
- (b) when he was sentenced;
- (c) the term of imprisonment to which he was sentenced;
- (d) the date of his release?

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

(b) On 13th November 1915.

(c) He was originally sentenced to death with forfeiture of property but subsequently his capital sentence was reduced to one of transportation for life.

(d) The date of his release cannot be given at present, as it depends on his conduct and other factors.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What are the other factors?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I cannot detail them now.

PANDIT JAGAT RAM, SPECIAL TRIBUNAL PRISONER.

***1978. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the jail of the province where Pandit Jagat Ram, son of Pandit Dittu Ram, Bharadwaj, Brahman, Harians, district Hoshiarpur, the special tribunal prisoner of 1915, is confined;
- (b) when he was transferred to this province;
- (c) what is the state of his health in the jail of the province at present?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Government does not consider it advisable to name the jail in which prisoner Pandit Jagat Ram is confined.

(b) In 1928.

(c) Good.

DISTRIBUTION OF LAND IN THE HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

***1979. Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) the number of squares of land allotted to Hoshiarpur district for distribution to deserving agriculturists ;

(b) the number of squares actually allotted to Rajputs ;

(c) if it is a fact that Rajputs are paying a large portion of land revenue of the district ;

(d) if it is a fact that Rajputs have as a class been excluded ; if so, what are the reasons ;

(e) whether any principles were laid down by Government to guide the distribution of land in the Hoshiarpur district or were actually followed by the Deputy Commissioner ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) 250 rectangles for sufferers from cho, river or nullah action ; and 150 rectangles for colonists selected from villages with very small holdings.

(b) The selection of suitable colonists was left to the Deputy Commissioner. Government has asked for information on this point.

(c) Yes.

(d) No, though it is probable that other tribes have contributed more colonists from villages where holdings are very small. The question of making special allotment for Rajputs, both Hindus and Muslim, in this district is under consideration.

(e) The Deputy Commissioner of Hoshiarpur and the Deputy Commissioners of other districts with congested holdings were instructed that the most important consideration was to select men likely to make good colonists. Certain tribes were mentioned as having provided excellent colonists in the past, and instructions were given that these tribes should be largely represented in the new selections. But no tribes were excluded from selection.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH, SUB-INSPECTOR OF POLICE.

***1980. Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) if it is a fact that several complaints were made to the authorities against Sardar Harcharan Singh, Sub-Inspector of Police in the Ludhiana district, in the years 1926, 1927, and 1928, with the result that he was transferred from Khanna police station to the police lines and an enquiry was started ;

- (b) whether that enquiry has been completed ; if so, will the Government please lay a copy of the report on the table ;
- (c) if it is a fact that in the course of enquiry representations were made to the District Magistrate, Ludhiana, complaining against the conduct of certain police officers who were alleged to help Sardar Harcharan Singh by suppressing evidence ; if so, what action, if any, was taken against those officers ;
- (d) whether Sardar Harcharan Singh is still attached to the Ludhiana district ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes, but they were made in 1927 and 1928 only.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

STUDENTS AND POLITICS.

***1981. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the colleges in the province take undertaking from students before admission into such colleges that they will not take part in politics ;

(b) if so, which of the colleges do take such undertakings ;

(c) whether such undertaking was approved of by the Government or are there any standing instructions issued by the latter in this connection ;

(d) what steps, if any, are contemplated against those colleges which do not take this undertaking and what reward, if any, is granted to those institutions which require such undertakings from students ;

(e) whether any preference is given to students of those colleges which take such undertakings and, if so, in what shape this preference is given to them ;

(f) whether it is a fact that students from colleges which take the above said undertaking are considered to be better qualified for Government service ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Enquiries are being made and the information will be supplied to the honourable member when available.

GOVERNMENT DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS AND TOKEN GRANTS, 1928-29.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member) : Sir, I should like to state that all the Demands for Supplementary Grants now put before the House are upon the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor.

FORESTS GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 46,690 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 1929 in respect of Forests."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 46,690 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 1929 in respect of Forests."

The motion was carried.

FOREST CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 25,200 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 1929 in respect of Forest Capital Expenditure."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 25,200 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 1929 in respect of Forest Capital Expenditure."

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,69,798 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 1929 in respect of Irrigation."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,69,798 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 1929 in respect of Irrigation."

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,500 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 1929 in respect of Irrigation Capital Expenditure."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,500 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 1929 in respect of Irrigation Capital Expenditure."

The motion was carried.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,69,200 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 1929 in respect of General Administration (Reserved)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,69,200 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 1929 in respect of General Administration (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,92,850 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 1929 in respect of Administration of Justice."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,92,850 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 1929 in respect of Administration of Justice."

The motion was carried.

JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,70,190 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 1929 in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,70,190 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 1929 in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements."

The motion was carried.

INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 59,300 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1929 in respect of Industries and Fisheries."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 59,300 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1929 in respect of Industries and Fisheries."

The motion was carried.

CIVIL WORKS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GRANT.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,48,000 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 1929 in respect of Civil Works—Capital Expenditure."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,48,000 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 1929 in respect of Civil Works—Capital Expenditure."

The motion was carried.

FAMINE GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,000 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 1929 in respect of Famine."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,000 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 1929 in respect of Famine."

The motion was carried.

GRANT REGARDING SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,81,700 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 1929 in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,81,700 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 1929 in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

The motion was carried.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 35,560 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 1929 in respect of Stationery and Printing (Reserved)."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 35,560 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 1929 in respect of Stationery and Printing (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

REFUNDS (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 91,280 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 1929 in respect of Refunds (Reserved)."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 91,280 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 1929 in respect of Refunds (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

GRANT REGARDING EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND (OTHER THAN STORES).

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 52,400 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Ministries of Agriculture, Education and Local Self-Government to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1929 in respect of Expenditure in England (other than Stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 52,400 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Ministries of Agriculture, Education and Local Self-Government to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1929 in respect of Expenditure in England (other than Stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India."

The motion was carried.

GRANT REGARDING EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 12,680 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Ministry of Local Self-Government to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1929 in respect of Expenditure in England under the control of the Secretary of State for India."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 12,680 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Ministry of Local Self-Government to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1929 in respect of Expenditure in England under the control of the Secretary of State for India."

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION GRANT.

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

"That a token sum of 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 1929 in respect of Irrigation."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a token sum of 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 1929 in respect of Irrigation."

The motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a token sum of 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 1929 in respect of Miscellaneous (Reserved)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a token sum of 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 1929 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 a token sum of Rs. 10 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 1929 in respect of Civil Works (Transferred)."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a token sum of Rs. 10 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 1929 in respect of Civil Works (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

THE PUBLIC GAMBLING (PUNJAB AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member): Sir, I beg to introduce the Public Gambling (Punjab Amendment) Bill.

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

"That the Public Gambling (Punjab Amendment) Bill be referred to a Select Committee, with orders to report within 15 days, consisting of the following:—

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lai,

Chaudhri Zafulla Khan,

Bana Firoz-ud-din Khan,

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri,

Mr. J. G. Beazley.

Mr. S. L. Sale,

A nominee of the Honourable the President, and
the Mover.

Sir, the measure which I seek to refer to the Select Committee is one in which a great deal of public interest has recently been evinced. And it is illustrative of what I may call the responsiveness of the Government to public demand for legislation on the subject. Complaints were received by Government that *satta* gambling is on the increase, that it is an evil which is impoverishing the people to such an extent that it has become a very great scandal to which can be attributed the ruin of a large number of families in very many towns of the Punjab. There were several reports received by Government. One was from the Deputy Commissioner of Ferozepore who had taken action on a communication which a vernacular paper of Lahore called *Partap* published in its issue of the 25th April 1928. Another report was received from the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur, last year in which he informed us that in Hoshiarpur *satta* gambling was on the increase and the ignorance of the people made them easy victims to being run into gambling dens. We had another startling complaint from the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar who on enquiry came to the conclusion that in various bazaars and mohallas this evil was rampant and that people anxious to become rich soon found that they were rapidly becoming more impoverished by having recourse to this method of becoming rich soon. Besides these official reports, Sir, Government received representations amongst others from the Managing Director of National Limited, Ludhiana, another one from the Secretary, Citizens' Association,

Ambala and yet another, a deputation of the Hindu Sabha, Ambala Cantonment waited upon His Excellency the Governor reiterating their grievances in the matter of *satta* gambling. The sense of responsibility of these three institutions which made them approach the authorities is undoubtedly commendable.

Then, Sir, the second head under which Government was moved towards legislation came from the honourable members of this Council who interpellated Government on the subject. Question No. 673 put by Chaudhri Afzal Haq concerning Ludhiana, No. 1147, put by Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal concerning Jagadhri in Ambala district, No. 1535 by Lala Jyoti Parshad referring to Hissar, No. 1549 by Chaudhri Mohammad Abdur Rahman Khan relating to the Punjab as a whole, No. 1557, put by Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal relating to the Jullundur division, No. 1597 by Chaudhri Afzal Haq again relating to the towns in the Punjab, and No. 1821 by Lala Jyoti Parshad related to Hissar and Bhirwani taluks—these questions pointedly drew the attention of the Government to this grave evil.

Then the second stage was reached when some members of the Council tabled a resolution to be moved with a view to secure the amendment of the law relating to gambling. In this connection I must acknowledge the sense of responsibility of the public press as well, in particular, the vernacular public press, which persistently drew the attention of the Government to the great evil of *satta* gambling and urged legislation by Government. Amongst other papers the '*Inqilab*' and the other called '*Bijli*' drew Government's attention to this matter. While acknowledging our debt of gratitude to those who interested themselves in the matter and pressed upon Government the advisability of legislation one cannot help remarking that very little has been done in this connection by what one might call social reform institutions, or for the matter of that, political reform institutions in the province. We must remember, gambling is an evil. We have made it a crime. I am now trying to extend the scope of the criminal law relating to the subject. But none of us can forget that it is, if I am not mistaken, a sin in all religions and yet none of the religious societies have tried the least bit to do informing propaganda amongst the people to the effect that that was not the way to become rich, that people who took to it were being misled and tell them that the way to get rich was by putting in honest work and not by putting a rupee into the *ghara* (earthen vessel), out of which they expect to get a thousand rupees. I am emphasising this point with no object other than this, that no criminal legislation can really root out the evil unless the society is prepared to help the enforcement of the legislation which we are now making. If this measure is to be left like other measures to the police to be enforced, I am not very sanguine of stamping out the evil, and I consider that that end can be achieved by the conscience of the people being awakened to the urgent need of stamping out the evil. (*An honourable member*: Only *satta* gambling, or other gambling also?) Will the honourable member not be satisfied by making an honest and good beginning? Must we stamp out all the evils in this world before trying to stamp out any particular evil? Great things are achieved from small beginnings. Let us now restrict ourselves to this one evil and if we put it down successfully, it would be an accomplishment worthy of all praise.

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

To proceed, the action taken by Government has been, firstly, to try our luck at the law courts, and see whether the existing legislation is enough to eradicate this evil. We instituted prosecutions in some cases, and we failed. And therefore we were forced to the conclusion that as the honourable members of this Council in their interpellations indicated, there was no course open to Government to take except that of fresh legislation if the Government were to meet the wishes of the people in this respect. Protracted investigations were held in Panipat, Karnal and other places to gauge the extent of the evil, and I very much regret to say we found the evil rampant and to a very considerable extent. Therefore, we found an amendment of the Gambling Act of 1867 was called for. Honourable members will find in the Statement of Objects and Reasons a history of the various attempts at legislation on the subject narrated. It goes back to 1916. We have taken as our model the Act of the United Provinces relating to the subject.

I had originally intended to refer the Bill to the Select Committee in the ordinary way, but on finding that the feeling on the subject was so great that immediate legislation was necessary, I decided to add an instruction to the Select Committee for submitting its report within 15 days, the object being that the legislation be passed in the course of the present session. If honourable members have no objection I will be glad to hold a meeting of the Select Committee after the 8th of March and before the Council re-assembles in which case the Council will be able to consider this legislation on the last day of the session, probably the 28th March.

I have really nothing more to add to what I have just said. There is very considerable agreement on the subject and I know of no one who really takes objection to it. I request the motion be passed.

Mr. President : The question is—

“That the Public Gambling (Punjab Amendment) Bill be referred to a Select Committee with orders to report within 15 days, consisting of the following:—

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal,
Chaudhri Zaftrulla Khan,
Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan,
Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri,
Mr. J. G. Beazley,
Mr. S. L. Sale,
The Deputy President, and
The Honourable the Revenue Member.

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB VACCINATION LAW (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government): Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Vaccination Law (Amendment) Bill.

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

“That the Punjab Vaccination Law (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration.”

Mr. S. L. Sale (Legal Remembrancer): With the permission of the Chair, Sir, I wish to move an amendment to clause 6 of the Bill.

Mr. President : Order, order. At this stage, no amendment is permissible. The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration has not yet been put to the House.

The question is—

"That the Punjab Vaccination Law (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration clause by clause."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That clause 1 part (2) and clauses 2 to 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. Sale: Sir, I beg to move an amendment to clause 6.

"That for the word 'persons' the word 'members' be substituted in line 2 of the new Section 3-A proposed in the clause."

I think it is very clear as to why the amendment is necessary. Perhaps I had better explain in as few words as possible the advisability of the amendment. The clause as it stands reads—

"A majority in number of the *persons* present at a meeting of the district board may apply to the Government, etc., etc."

It is clear I think that the intention of the Bill is to permit district boards to initiate proposals for the extension of the Act. We know that at meetings of the district boards there may be present persons who are not members, *e.g.*, members of the public or officers called in an advisory capacity, and it appears to me that the clause as it stands might be interpreted to mean that all such members of the public and any person called in an advisory capacity may join together to swell the majority, which is necessary to make the application to the local Government. Therefore it seems desirable that to remove any possible doubt we should substitute the word "members" for the word "persons", so that it will be perfectly clear that it is only the members of the district board who can make up the majority. I therefore move the amendment.

Mr. President: Clause under consideration, amendment moved is—

"That in line 2 of paragraph 2 of clause 6 for the word 'persons' the word 'members' be substituted."

The question is that that amendment be made.

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That clause 6 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That clauses 7 to 12 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 part (1) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

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

"That the Punjab Vaccination Law Amendment Bill be as amended be passed."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Punjab Vaccination Law Amendment Bill as amended be passed."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB VILLAGE PANCHAYAT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government) : Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill.

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

"That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That part (2) of clause I stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That clauses 2 to 12 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 part (1) of clause I stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

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

"That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be passed."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be passed."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB TENANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce the Punjab Tenancy Amendment Bill. As the statement of objects and reasons shows this Bill has been introduced with the object of removing all doubts as to the interpretation of a provision of law. This alteration has been made necessary on account of a pronouncement of the High Court. The object of the original legislation has been carried out by this alteration. Therefore, I have nothing more to add to what I have said except that in case any lawyer member finds any loopholes in it he would be good enough to point that out so that I may rectify the defect. At this stage I simply beg leave to introduce the Bill.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That leave to introduce the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill be granted."

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill.

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

"That the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following :—

Pir Akbar Ali,
Nawab Malik Major Talib Mahdi Khan,
Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram,
Sardar Harbakhsh Singh,
Mr. C. A. H. Townsend,
Mr. S. L. Sale,
Nominee of the Honourable the President, and
The mover.

Sir, I have nothing to add to what I have already said except this. The reason why I am not asking this simple legislation to be passed to-day is that the honourable members who have legal knowledge and experience may be able to help in case there is some defect of law in the proposed legislation. And if the honourable members desire that the report of the Select Committee should be presented early, I will have no objection to meeting their wishes, which means an amendment of the motion I have made.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following :—

Pir Akbar Ali,
Nawab Malik Major Talib Mahdi Khan,
Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram,
Sardar Harbakhsh Singh,
Mr. C. A. H. Townsend,
Mr. S. L. Sale,
The Deputy President, and
The mover."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB ADULTERATION OF FOOD (AMENDMENT) 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 Adulteration of Food (Amendment) Bill.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Punjab Adulteration of Food (Amendment) Bill.

Sir, I think I had better explain to the House that the original Bill which was introduced in this House was so defective that the Select Committee felt that an entirely new Bill ought to be drafted incorporating all the suggestions they had made. Consequently we decided to draft a new Bill and that Bill is now ready. If the House will kindly give me leave to withdraw the original bill I shall introduce with their permission the new Bill.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Punjab Adulteration of Food (Amendment) Bill."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB PURE FOOD BILL.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Punjab Pure Food Bill.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Pure Food Bill."

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I beg to introduce the Punjab Pure Food Bill.

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

"That the Punjab Pure Food Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following—

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan,
Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava,
Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal,
Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan,
Mr. Din Muhammad,
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,
Sardar Harbakhsh Singh,
Mr. S. L. Sale,
Mr. Alan Mitchell,
Nominée of the Honourable the President, and
The mover."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Punjab Pure Food Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members—

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan,
Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava,
Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal,
Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan,
Mr. Din Muhammad,
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,
Sardar Harbakhsh Singh,
Mr. S. L. Sale,
Mr. Alan Mitchell,
The Deputy President, and
The mover."

The motion was carried.

ELECTION OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. President : I have to announce to honourable members of the Council that on the 8th March the Council will sit from 8 A.M. to 12 noon instead of from 2 P.M. to 6 P.M.

Now the non-official members of the Council will proceed to elect the various standing committees. The Secretary and his assistant will distribute the ballot papers which the honourable members will duly mark and put in the ballot box. The result will be announced when ready.

(At this stage the chair was taken by the Deputy President, and the election of the standing committees was proceeded with.)

The Council then adjourned till 2 P.M. on Thursday, the 7th March 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 7th March 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the Clock. Mr. President in the Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHAIR.

DISCUSSION OF GOVERNMENT DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

Mr. President : I have to announce to the Council that in accordance with the provisions of the Punjab Legislative Council Rules, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to allot 8 days for the discussion of the Government demands for grants under the various heads of the budget as noted in the statement attached. Of the days allotted not more than 2 days shall be devoted to the discussion of any one demand. The order of presentation of the Demands will be reverse to that noted in the statement, that is to say, commencing with Demand No. 37, and proceeding backwards.

Demand No.	Major Heads included in Demand.
1	5—Land Revenue (Reserved).
2	6—Excise (Transferred).
3	7—Stamps (Reserved).
4	8—Forests (Reserved).
5 {	8-A—Forests (Reserved).
	52-A—Forests (Reserved).
6	9—Registration (Transferred).
	XIII—Irrigation—Working Expenses (Reserved).
7 {	14—Interest on Irrigation Works (Reserved).
	15—Other Irrigation expenditure financed from ordinary revenues (Reserved).
8 {	16—Construction of Irrigation Works financed from ordinary revenues (Reserved).
	55—Construction of irrigation (Capital Expenditure) (Reserved).
9 {	19—Interest on Debt (Reserved).
	21—Reduction or Avoidance of Debt (Reserved).
10	22—General Administration (Reserved).
11	22—General Administration (Transferred).
12	24—Administration of Justice (Reserved).

[Mr. President.]

Demand No.	Major Heads included in Demand.
13	25—Jails and Convict Settlements (Reserved).
14	26—Police (Reserved).
15	31—Education (Reserved).
16	31—Education (Transferred).
17	32—Medical (Reserved).
	32—Medical (Transferred).
	33—Public Health (Transferred).
18	34—Agriculture (Transferred).
19	35—Industries (Transferred).
20	35-A.—Capital outlay on Industrial Development met from revenue— (Transferred).
	56-C.—Industrial Development (Capital Expenditure) (Transferred).
21	37—Miscellaneous Departments (Reserved).
	47—Miscellaneous (Reserved).
	51-A.—Miscellaneous adjustments (Reserved).
	52-I.—Transfers to the Revenue Reserve Fund (Reserved).
22	30—Scientific Departments (Transferred).
	37—Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred).
	47—Miscellaneous (Transferred).
23	41—Civil Works (Reserved).
24	41—Civil Works (Transferred).
25	41-A.—Capital Expenditure on Civil Works met out of Extraordi- nary Receipts (Transferred).
	60—Civil Works (Capital Expenditure) (Transferred).
26	41-B.—Capital Expenditure on Hydro-Electric Scheme met from Revenue (Transferred).
	58—Hydro-Electric Scheme (Capital Expenditure) (Transferred).
27	43—Famine (Reserved).
28	45—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions (Reserved).
29	45-A.—Commutation of Pensions financed from ordinary revenues (Reserved).
	60-B.—Payments of Commuted value of Pensions (Capital Expen- diture) (Reserved).
30	46—Stationery and Printing (Reserved).
31	46—Stationery and Printing (Transferred).
32	Loans by Provincial Government (Reserved).
33	Loans by Provincial Government (Transferred).
34	Refunds (Reserved).
35	Refunds (Transferred).
36	Expenditure in England (other than Stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India.
37	Expenditure in England under the control of the Secretary of State.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

Mr. President: The Council will now proceed to discuss the demands for grants.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow: (Finance Member): Sir, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recommend that these demands be considered.

EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,000 be granted to the Governor in Council and the 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 Expenditure in England under the control of the Secretary of State."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,000 be granted to the Governor in Council and the 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 Expenditure in England under the control of the Secretary of State."

The motion was carried.

EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND GRANT (OTHER THAN STORES).

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,50,160 be granted to the Governor in Council and Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Expenditure in England (other than stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,50,160 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Expenditure in England (other than stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India."

The motion was carried.

REFUNDS (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,51,500 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Refunds (Transferred)."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,51,500 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Refunds (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

REFUNDS (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,16,800 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 Refunds (Reserved)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,16,800 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 Refunds (Reserved)."

The motion was carried—

LOANS BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT (TRANSFERRED)
GRANT.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,20,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Loans by Provincial Government (Transferred)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,20,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Loans by Provincial Government (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

LOANS BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,56,000 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 Loans by Provincial Government (Reserved)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,56,000 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 Loans by Provincial Government (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Sir, I beg to move—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,28,000 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 Stationery and Printing (Transferred)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,28,000 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 Stationery and Printing (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,78,600 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 Stationery and Printing (Reserved)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,78,600 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 Stationery and Printing (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

COMMUTATION OF PENSIONS (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,16,300 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 Commutation of Pensions (Capital Expenditure)."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,16,300 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 Commutation of Pensions (Capital Expenditure)."

The motion was carried.

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,08,700 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 Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,08,700 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 Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

The motion was carried.

FAMINE GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,60,000 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 Famine."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,60,000 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 Famine."

The motion was carried.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 41,83,600 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 Hydro-Electric Scheme (Transferred)—Capital Expenditure."

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 41,83,600 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 Hydro-Electric Scheme (Transferred)—Capital Expenditure."

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar (City Muhammadan), Urban] : Sir, a few years back when the question of hydro-electric schemes was before the Council there was opposition raised to the demand by certain people who wanted that the scheme should be started not in Mandi State but somewhere in British territory. It was promised at that time, so far as I remember, that the whole scheme would be finished in three or four years. Four years have elapsed and yet we are told that they are going to just start the tunnelling. I have been to the place. It is rather a happy valley but unhappily I found that they had not progressed with the work to any appreciable extent. What have they done so far is to build a number of bungalows and construct any number of roads about the place. As regards actual work not much has been done. What I heard and what I saw myself showed how unsatisfactory the state of things was. Worse than that, Sir, I heard that there was no co-operation between the higher staff engaged in the work. In fact there is constant friction among them and I hope the Honourable Minister will be frank enough to admit this statement in this House.

Again, when the scheme was proposed we were told that it would cost about half of what it has actually cost so far. Not only in regard to the estimates has there been this miscalculation, but in regard to the period within which the scheme would be completed, and I think that another seven or eight years would be required before the whole scheme is reduced to working order. We want now a definite announcement from the Honourable Minister as regards the cost and the time that is likely to be taken. We would like to know the total cost according to the present estimate. It is easy to start a scheme, Sir, and when I say this, I do not say it in a spirit of malice against the Honourable Minister, but we do want that even at this stage if it is necessary the Honourable Minister should re-examine the whole scheme, and it is much better to do it at this stage than at a later stage just to find the scheme another Back Bay scheme of the Punjab. The Honourable Minister, the other members of Government and His Excellency the Governor have always been saying that this scheme was going to be a success but I am afraid that after spending a big amount of money it may not prove another South Sea Bubble. We are all hoping that the scheme will not so end. I, therefore, give the warning to the Honourable Minister that it is much better that if a mistake has been made and it is found that the scheme would be a white elephant and will not work at all, to tell the House frankly, and we can easily convert the bungalows so far constructed

into summer resort, a kind of sanatorium for the Punjab. So far as the tunnelling is concerned, we are told that there are signs of failure already, as it has been admitted by the Honourable Minister that they have come upon a kind of shingle in the soil which would not bear the strength of the current of the river along the tunnel. We hear it talked about in this city, Sir, that they are going to have a special iron tunnel on the model of the London tubes sent for in order that the water may pass through it, which is going to be a very costly affair. We want the Honourable Minister, therefore, to clearly state the situation and not be shilly-shallying because in case of failure the fair name of the Province will be at stake and the financial liability of the province involved in this scheme is very huge even for a rich province like ours. So, Sir, I hope the Honourable Minister will tell the honourable members here and the people outside whether it is possible to push the scheme to success. Probably I think the present Minister may say that he will not be in his place ten years hence and that the task of explaining the situation then would fall to a successor of his. But let this not deter him from making the position clear, for the welfare and prosperity of the province should be close to his heart so that the prospects of his continuance or otherwise in office should not be allowed to stand in the way.

In opposing this grant, therefore, I wish first of all to state that the scheme should have been started at Pathankot instead of in Mandi. We should also like to know the amount of current that is proposed to be got by this scheme and how the Government proposes utilising it. For I know, Sir, that the Government has launched upon a sort of policy of blackmailing the municipalities in this respect. In Amritsar municipality, for instance, where we wanted to start an electrification scheme, the Government refused to give us a grant but has forced the municipality to buy its electricity from the hydro-electric scheme in course of execution at present. Is this the sort of blackmailing that is to go on in order to make the scheme a success? The municipalities of the Punjab are being forced to purchase—I will be glad, Sir, if they are given the power at a fair rate by the Government—at by no means a cheap rate. Because the Government has rightly or wrongly involved itself in the project, the municipalities are compelled to buy the current from the Government. Again, Sir, there is a serious apprehension that the scheme may end disastrously for as we all know, the valley of Mandi is liable to storms and earthquakes and natural difficulties of that kind. I have also one suggestion to make, Sir, in this connection to the Government. The Government should appoint a committee of members of this House who will visit the spot and after making full inquiry tell the House at the next session the results of their examination of the whole scheme. We are not satisfied with the opinions of high paid officials whose interests it is to keep the project running holding out hopes that it will prove a success. As we are leaping in the dark and the figures of expenditure are mounting up from year to year, so I want a thorough searching enquiry. With these words I beg to oppose the demand.

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadian), Rural]: The Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme is a very big scheme. It has got two aspects, the financial aspect and the technical aspect. As regards the technical aspect, I think the scheme was fully examined by the experts and is now in the hands of able men like Lt.-Col. Battye and Mr. Cramp, officers

Sayad Muhammad Husain.]

who were responsible even from the beginning of the scheme and who still continue to be responsible for it along with the Honourable Minister for Agriculture. Let us not, therefore, suppose that the scheme will be a failure. If unfortunately it ends in a failure, it will amount to a severe condemnation of the Ministry at that time. The province is not a rich province and the name of the Minister will be condemned. The Honourable Minister opposite will possibly continue to be in the place then and in charge of the subject. I know he is trying for that and his success at continuing in his office depends upon the success of this scheme. If the scheme in the course of years proves dilatory, or unduly expensive, we will see that he is made responsible for it. He should see that he should make his name and devote his whole time attention to consulting with the experts, visiting the spot from time to time and seeing for himself the progress in the execution.

I now proceed to say a few words about the financial aspect. We are spending several crores of rupees and the money is being borrowed in the open market at something like 6 per cent. rate of interest. Even the interest that is being paid by the Government amounts to a high figure. So that there is a very great necessity to see that the work is progressing month by month. Supposing it is delayed in one year, we should be spending several lakhs more upon the capital expenditure without getting anything in return. So it is in the interests of the Province, it should be the duty of the Honourable Minister and that of the experts, in charge of the project to expedite the work. And when the time comes, as I am sure it will come, when electric power is made cheap in the province we who are now rising to condemn the ministry will be the first to congratulate the Minister then in power and the present Minister for Agriculture and his name will pass into the future for having helped the pioneer movement and laid the first foundations for the future industrial development of the province.

Mr. E. Maya Das [Non-Official, Nominated] : Sir, I wish to say a few words in connection with what the first speaker said that thousands of bungalows and dwelling houses had been constructed and little progress had been made in the actual work. I concede, Sir, that there should be criticism in a matter of this kind, but it is necessary that that criticism is fair. The honourable member said that if houses had been built, they could be used as summer resorts and the place made a sanatorium. If the project had to be carried through and if people had to live there to look to its execution, it was absolutely necessary that houses for the establishment should be constructed to begin with. The suggestion that the place could be made a sanatorium cannot be taken to be a practical suggestion for, I think, the area is within a Native State and outside British territory and arrangements will have to be made before such a proposal could be effected. I suppose it will not be possible for the Punjab Government to enter into terms with the Ruler of the Native State in this respect. Then, the honourable member proceeded to say that the rock was brittle and not strong. I should like to ask him how it would be possible for any one beforehand to foresee what kind of rock the tunnelling will have to encounter and more than that, if in the present instance, our engineers were not able to find out beforehand the nature of the rock in the place, then they are not to blame. Even the best engineers in the world.

have their limitations. One of the greatest tunnels in the world is the Simplon tunnel and there they had greater difficulties than have been met with here. Another greater engineering feat is the construction of the Panama Canal and there also they had this shifting rock to deal with and the cost was ultimately enormous. Therefore, to find fault with the engineers in the present instance is out of the question. Particularly to say that this particular Minister or that has been responsible for it is a very wide statement to make. If I heard the same honourable member aright, Sir, I heard him to say that there have been sandstorms there. For my part, I have never heard of sandstorms in the Mandi State. So far as I know the site selected is one of the twelve best sites in the world for a scheme of this sort. Moreover, all possible efforts were taken to enquire and get the best advice in the matter before the scheme was taken in hand. And if unfortunately for reasons beyond human control, it involves us in a larger cost, it is a thing which could not be helped. So far as I can see there has been no neglect of any kind in this matter.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh [Minister for Agriculture]: Sir, I welcome the discussion which my honourable friend has started. He is an industrialist and is naturally interested in the industries of this province. I am also very glad to see that he visited our Hydro Electric Works. I would certainly invite any honourable member who would like to go and see the works and realize the difficulties with which we are confronted. I took the opportunity of taking two members with me. I took them over the ground and showed them the work which was being executed. I think the honourable members are aware that before the scheme was accepted every possible precaution was taken and the best technical advice was obtained not only in India but from England. We have a firm of Consulting Engineers who have been constantly advising us. So I may with some confidence assure the House that we are working under the best possible expert advice available. So far as the site is concerned, it is one of the best sites that could be discovered in India. Now as to the matter of delay that has occurred, if you could only have visited the place when work was started, you would have realised the difficulties of transport from the railway head to the tunnel. In the beginning even a road did not exist. I may mention one instance. There was a steel cable which was required at the works, and the bridge over which this cable had to be carried was not considered strong. The cable had to be unwound and carried across and then wound again. In the same way very heavy material for the working of the tunnel had to be obtained from outside and transported to the place. It took many months to collect material and metal working machinery. It was only last year that we were able to start the temporary Power House to work the tunnelling machinery. You can easily realize that delay was inevitable, as the means of transport did not exist, the tunnelling plant had to be obtained from abroad and labour collected and trained for the work, and above all it was necessary to get expert officers from all over the world. It has taken a good deal of time to put the staff together. The staff is not like the regular staff which you get in the Public Works Department familiar with all the conditions under which they are working. The staff had been gathered from all corners of the world and is now settling down to work. I can assure the honourable member that the staff is working with a spirit

[Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

of confidence, which would satisfy him. In any case, I can assure him that I am completely satisfied that the staff is tackling the work in an efficient manner. We have Col. Battye, who is a great enthusiast and a hard driver. Then Mr. Crump, whom, I think, many members in this House know, is Superintending Engineer there. I am sure that those who have had the pleasure of meeting these two officers will agree with me that the work could not have been left in better hands. Now regarding the tunnel, my friend said that this tunnel will not be built in 10 or 12 years, and that the work on the tunnel had not been started. I do not know when he visited the works, but if he visited the works about 4 or 5 months ago, he must have seen the adit which was nearing completion. The adit, I am glad to say, has been completed and we are now digging away on the four faces of the tunnel and completing every day at the rate of 4 feet to 5 feet, and in some instances at 10 feet a day. We have got to cover about 19,000 feet and now the work has been started on four faces and if we maintain the average of 10 feet a day on four faces, you can easily calculate the time it would occupy to bore through the tunnel. The honourable member was quite justified, when he said that we have met shattered rock on the port side on the northern side. However we expected it, and we hope to get good rock formation. The tunnel through shattered rock will have to be supported and re-enforced according to the established engineering practice.

Now regarding dates. In the original estimates, it was said that the work should be completed on the 1st of April 1930. The present forecast postpones the date of completion to the 1st January 1932. I do not know any work of this magnitude anywhere in India which has ever been completed within the estimated time.

As for the cost, it is estimated at 4 crores and 23 lakhs. For myself I feel confident that the supply of electric power is going to make a great change for the Province. One of the first things done by the Irish Free State was to launch on a similar scheme. The Irish scheme was more difficult than ours but there is great deal of similarity between the two, the costs are about the same and the demand is undetermined. I am sure when the scheme begins to work it will help the industrial development of the Province which the honourable members of this House are so anxious about. As for myself, I can assure the House that I feel proud to be associated with a scheme of this magnitude.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 41,83,600 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 Hydro-Electric Scheme (Transferred)—Capital Expenditure."

The motion was carried.

CIVIL WORKS (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,10,000 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 Capital Expenditure."

Mr. President : The demand moved is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,10,000 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 Capital Expenditure)."

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan [Jhelum (Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, there is no doubt that a lot has been done in constructing roads in the province. But the question is whether every district has received its due share of the expenditure. Roads from a commercial point of view are absolutely necessary. In the plain districts there are many roads besides the railway lines, but there are some unfortunate tracts where the land is uneven and cut up by ravines where real and steady work has not been commenced. To cite an example I would put forward the district of Jhelum. Throughout its length of 120 and odd miles and breadth of about 60 miles, we have got only one metalled road, namely the Grand Trunk Road linking Jhelum with Pindi which just touches a fringe of it. Besides that we have got only a small metalled road which links Gattalian ferry to Jhelum and is not more than 7 or 8 miles. The lot of the poor people who live in such tracts cannot be described. First of all they work under the disability of having their homes in the places which are less fertile. Nothing can be done in that line. Secondly if they get anything out of their lands, there is no way to take it out. So they suffer doubly and I think theirs is the first claim on the Government to have some sort of roads. In Jhelum we have got Pind Dadan Khan sub-division. It is a very important place because in it live the clans called Avans and Janjais who furnish a large number of soldiers for the army, but there is no metalled road linking Jhelum with it to take them out quickly at the time of emergency.

Everyone remembers the great Jhelum flood of 1st September last which carried away cattle and everything from villages and hamlets. The Deputy Commissioner was held up for days and could not reach Pind Dadan Khan with a view to see what havoc had been caused there. Had there been a road linking Jhelum with Pind Dadan Khan perhaps he might have easily reached the latter place. As there was only one railway line, which had been breached he could do nothing. At the same time we see that roads are being constructed towards the Frontier and if this road is constructed between Jhelum Pind Dadan Khan and on to Khushab-Mianwali road, it will be very useful at the time of the general movements of troops to relieve pressure on Lahore-Pindi, or Lahore-Mianwali section from one to the other. So I would ask the House that they should not only sanction money for the districts which are well looked after by Nature, but also for districts which unfortunately suffer from calamities of the kind I have described above.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban] : Sir, there is no doubt about it that roads are a necessity and that buildings for officers are a necessity. During the last ten years Government have been spending enormous sums of money on the residential quarters of officers. The fact is that we are at present passing through adverse financial conditions in the province and these will last for the next year also. So the question is why the Government should go on spending huge sums of money on residential quarters without in any way encouraging private enterprise

[Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq.]

in the matter of the construction of buildings. If the Government were to induce capitalists, a large number of such people will be willing to come forward to construct houses and rent them at reasonable rates to these officers. In today's items we find that a sum of Rs. 82,500 is allotted for the construction of residential quarters for the Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur. I do not say that the Deputy Commissioner should not have a decent house to live in; that is not my point at all. But what I say is that if the Government had only tried, out of hundreds of houses at the station some suitable house would have been available to them for rent. After all we are going to spend so much money a big portion of which comes from the pocket of poor people of the Punjab. That money could as well be spent on education and hospitals and Industries and so on. I am not attacking this simply because it is the house of the Deputy Commissioner. I agree that the head of the district should have a decent house to live in. But in a place like Jullundur there will be any number of capitalists willing to come forward to build a house and rent it to the Government. Why not try that method before spending so much of money on constructing residential quarters? This amount may as well be used for developing the industries of the province and thus relieve unemployment. Unless we develop industries and relieve unemployment the future will be very dark for us. Children are starving and men and women are starving in the country and they cannot get even a mouthful of food. Come out of your garden palaces and see what is happening in the country. I am not speaking against this Deputy Commissioner or that Executive Engineer having a bungalow, but I am insisting on the principle of encouraging private enterprise to build buildings for these officers. After all, these officers if they occupy a house will have to pay rent. Supposing you tell the people that the Deputy Commissioner wants a house and that he would pay a rent of Rs. 100 or Rs. 200, somebody will be forthcoming to build a house at a cost of Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000. It is only a question of interest and Government can assure the man investing the money on such buildings for these officers that they would get a fair rent and fair interest on the capital invested. I am strongly opposed to this idea of the Government spending large sums of money on buildings before they have satisfied themselves that suitable buildings were not available for these officers. Then, they should try to induce some capitalists to construct buildings. They should advertise in the papers that a building is required for a high officer and that he will pay Rs. 100 or Rs. Rs. 200 as rent and induce people to come forward to build houses. Government may give a guarantee to the man who constructs the house that it will be occupied by officers of Government for 20 years or 30 years and that a fair rent will be paid to him. Unless this is done we will see that in future this system is put an end to once for all by opposing this grant during the next financial year.

---Then again, Sir, any number of houses are being built for the officers both Indian and British. But Government has turned a deaf ear to my request to have a suitable building for the Amritsar Bar.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : I may say that the money has been sanctioned.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : But the building is not built. Sir, unless the lazy elephant is goaded with the spear, unless the Government

benches are goaded often I could not have got this statement that the money had been sanctioned. I am glad that after all money has been sanctioned. The area of the building allotted to the members of the bar is one-tenth of the area allotted to the convicts. The members have to sit there in the hot weather and there is hardly any room to move about. It is very congested and the sanitation is awful. It is time that the Chief Engineer took some trouble in urging his subordinates who seem to be not very obedient in this case, because when money was sanctioned two years ago they were not able to utilise it and ultimately it had to be resumed by Government. The Executive Engineer or some other engineer had not had the necessary time to build these buildings. Just as they are interested in the building of residential quarters for officers, they should also take some interest in the construction of other public buildings also.

As regards roads if the honourable member in charge of roads goes and sees the roads between Lahore and Amritsar he will find that some portions are very rugged and if he goes on foot his legs will stick knee deep in mud. I do not say that money should not be spent on roads, but I want that it should be spent such roads where there is more traffic. I do not object to spending more money on roads in Darapur which has supplied the British Government with many recruits, but I urge that more money should be spent in the construction and maintenance of roads in places which carry heavy traffic. It is not a question of charity; it is a question of justice that those places which pay more taxes should have the benefit for paying the taxes. Take for instance Amritsar; it has 600 lorries. The road between Lahore and Amritsar is narrow and unfit for heavy traffic, and it should be widened.

Mr. H. D. Craik : Sir, the honourable member has attacked the decision of Government in allotting money for the construction of a house for the Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I am not at all attacking the particular item; I am only enunciating a principle and in doing so I took this as an example. I only said that the Government should not proceed to the construction of such houses as a matter of principle. I do not at all object to the house of the Deputy Commissioner or any other officer. I have already said that there are two ways of doing this without the Government spending large sums on the construction of new houses.

Mr. H. D. Craik : The honourable member criticised the building of this house on a question of principle. I understand he thinks that it is the duty of the Government to get these houses built by capitalists and not to build them themselves.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Only later on when it is impossible for the Government to get anyone else to do it.

Mr. H. D. Craik : Sir, in this particular case, the house is to be built on land which is the property of Government. Surely it is more reasonable for Government to build the house themselves than to try to induce someone else to invest his capital on Government land.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I did not attack this particular house.

Mr. H. D. Craik : If the honourable member is satisfied, so am I.

Mr. E. Maya Das (Non-official nominated): Sir, I wish to speak a few words about the allotment of Rs. 11,46,880, for Original Works—Communications—Works in progress. (Page 462, of the Budget Estimates). I understand that this amount is intended for roads in progress and I believe that one of the roads in progress is the road near Ferozepur where a small diversion is to be made and a new bridge is to be built.

In connection with this road I wish to point out that the old road bridge is still being used for road traffic because the new road bridge is not yet ready. The railway has given up the old bridge and they have now begun to use the new bridge. I wish to point out that in the case of the old bridge the railway used to pass underneath and the vehicular traffic on the top, and the old road bridge was much wider than the new road bridge. Even then there were cases of animals getting frightened from the noise of the train and they fell over the railing into the river. But in the case of the new bridge, the distance of the railway bridge is very small. Further they are on the same level. Then they are separated by a small fencing only so that animals will very easily see the engine approaching and it is very probable that the animals will feel very frightened and there will be many accidents. I would also like to point out that the width of the new road on this bridge being smaller, when carts heavily laden with *bhusa*, skins or fodder travel or when camels pass there there will be only one way traffic and any motor that may come up from the other direction will have to be held up. In the case of the old bridge there were side walks but very narrow side walks have been provided in the case of the new bridge. In these circumstances I would, with your permission, make a suggestion that the old bridge be not dismantled until such time that it is found that the new bridge is a satisfactory bridge and can be used without any detriment or without any fear or without causing any interruption or trouble to the public. If it is possible the old bridge should not be dismantled till then.

Mr. A. R. Astbury (Chief Engineer): Sir, this bridge to which Mr. Maya Das has referred has put Government in a very great difficulty. The present bridge is not one which Government was free to choose. The North-Western Railway desires to keep the piers of the railway bridge as a possibility of doubling the line in the future. The distance which Mr. Maya Das suggests is too small is between the road bridge and rail bridge. It is true, it is smaller than Government would have desired, but the dimensions are unfortunately fixed by the size of the piers on which the bridge rests and these piers are built primarily not for the road requirements but for the Ferozepur weir.

If experience shows that animals are frightened by railway trains crossing so close to the animals, endeavours will be made to put up a partition between the train and the roadway. Whether this will be successful or not remains to be seen but this is the best that can be suggested at this moment.

Mr. E. Maya Das : Do I understand that the road on the old bridge will remain till such time as the new bridge is proved satisfactory?

Mr. A. R. Astbury : I am sorry that it is not so.

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan) Rural] : Sir, my friend the representative from Jhelum has fully drawn the attention of the Government to the communications of the Jhelum district. I on behalf of my constituency beg to draw the attention of the Government towards another point. A great delay has been caused in the construction of the Lahore-Loralai road. It is a very important arterial road in the Province. Its construction has been delayed for very many years and the work which is started on that is still not satisfactory. I would have liked that road to have been completed by this time. It is very important politically inasmuch as it will connect Baluchistan with the Punjab and secondly it is very important economically. It connects every *mandi* in the Lahore district as well as in the Lower Bari Doab. ✓

Mr. A. R. Astbury : On a point of order, Sir. This road is not being constructed from capital expenditure, but from revenues and the honourable member will have an opportunity of discussing that point when we come to that item which deals with the expenditure from revenues.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Very well, Sir, I shall leave this point for that grant.

Mr. President : The question is.....

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Sir, I have to speak on other items. The other point of principle on which I was opposing this item was the motor vehicle tax. (A voice : that cannot be done here.) I think it can be done, that is capital expenditure and we are the tax payers. It is in our interest to discuss the point. Sir the Motor Vehicles Tax was passed as a counterpart to the *abiana* to give relief to the poor zamindars and to touch the pockets of the rich.

Mr. E. Maya Das : I feel this speech can be made when the question of repairs is under consideration.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I think it can be made now.

Mr. President : To which item in the grant under discussion is the honourable member speaking ?

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am speaking to the whole grant on capital expenditure, which is now under discussion. The people in general have to bear the capital expenditure.....

Mr. President : I do not question the honourable member's right to speak to the whole grant, but if he is speaking to an item I would like to know the particular item to which he is speaking.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am speaking to grant No. 25 which is under discussion. I am speaking against the total grant. Supposing I have to discuss the Motor Vehicles Tax, have I your permission to speak ?

Mr. President : The difficulty is that that expenditure is not to be met from the capital expenditure. Thus the honourable member is not quite relevant.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : The interest is from the ordinary revenue, because we pay the interest I believe we are right in speaking to this grant.

Mr. President : I would request the honourable member to confine his remarks to the grant under discussion.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I shall only discuss here the Motor Vehicles Tax which was imposed in this province to meet the deficit caused by the remission in *abiana*. It was given assent to by this House as a counter-part to the increase in *abiana* or the water tax because water tax would touch the poor and the motor tax would touch the pockets of the rich. Since then things have changed considerably. In the first place the water tax has been increased and notwithstanding the resolutions which were passed by this Council this enhanced rate still prevails in the province. Secondly the Motor Vehicles Tax not only touches the pockets of the rich, but it has begun to touch the pockets of the poor. Several poor people of this province, mistries, ordinary motor drivers have got motors on hire purchase system and they ply them on hire. The industry is increasing to such an extent that even the railway people have begun to cry and to ask the Punjab Government not to construct roads parallel to the railway lines. It is now a burden not so much upon the rich as it is on the poor. In their interest I will ask that this tax should be abolished.....

Mr. President : Abolition of taxation is not directly under discussion.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Very well Sir, I shall discuss it indirectly (Laughter). Where most of the people are spending money in lakhs, in their interest I must state that this tax is unbearable.

Mr. President : The law is there. It is not the repeal of that law that is under discussion. The budget has to be discussed and voted upon on the understanding that the law in force is there.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I want to oppose this grant so long as this tax is there. This is my principle. From yesterday we notice that the price of petrol has increased. I attribute it to the Re. 0-4-0 share which will go to the share of the Punjab Government for the maintenance of the roads. This is true. I attended the meeting of the All-India Road Enquiry Committee here. In that committee it was pointed out that a further addition in the price of petrol should be made and that should go to the Punjab Government. I hope the Honourable Minister for Agriculture will enlighten me.

Mr. J. D. Penny : Mr. Owen Roberts has given notice of a cut on the question of petrol. The matter may be discussed there. This point should not be raised now.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Has the duty upon petrol been enhanced ? If so, then it is my duty to impress upon the public that so long as the motor vehicles tax is not repealed we shall not accept this demand. These are my principles on which the grant should not be accepted by the Council. If the Minister of Agriculture wishes that the grant should be passed he should stand up and say that he will reconsider the policy about motor vehicles tax.

Mr. Owen Roberts : Sir, can a reference to the new petrol tax be made under this head or under the next ?

Mr. President : That new tax is intended to be spent mainly on improvements to communications and roads and I think it will be right to discuss it when demand No. 25 is under discussion. Item No. 24 deals directly with communications, so it would be perhaps more convenient to discuss it then.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : I just want to ask one question from the Honourable Minister for Agriculture or the Chief Engineer. In this review it is stated that the following arterial roads are metalled from end to end and among those are Fatehjang-Mianwali Road. May I ask if it is completely metalled from end to end.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : No, Sir, it is not completely metalled from end to end.

(*Mr. Maya Das then rose to speak.*)

Mr. President : The honourable member has already spoken.

Mr. E. Maya Das : Not on this subject.

Mr. President : The honourable member cannot be allowed to speak again.

Sardar Hira Singh [Lahore (Sikh), Rural] : (Urdu) Sir, as a large number of members were anxious to speak, I therefore in order to have a quiet time preferred to give expression to my views after they had finished. From the huge amount of money spent annually upon buildings and roads and expensive works for the public welfare it gives a specious appearance of the Government being very rich. But, Sir, it is not so in fact. All this large amount is not really spent on works for the public good, a large portion of it goes to fill the pockets of the contractors. It is the contractor who profits by it and not the public. Whenever a contractor succeeds in having a contract people regard him lucky and congratulate him. Strict supervision in the matter of giving contracts at reasonable rates which have only a moderate margin of profit for the contractor is imperative, and it is the duty of the Government to take some early and effective steps in this direction. If a contractor makes a profit of five or six per cent., it is reasonable and should be allowed, but where he gains fifty to sixty per cent., it not only involves waste of public money, but is also another form of fostering corruption. These contractors for their gain bribe the engineers and other officers concerned and ask them to prepare estimates for sums larger than necessary. Therefore Government should employ honest controlling officers who may be above corruption themselves and be able to check this in others. At the time the general budget was presented to the House, I had requested the Government to undertake first repairs of the old roads, which are in a very bad condition before launching on the new road programme. Sir, even to walk over these old dilapidated roads to another village is a trial. To build Macadamised roads is more or less a luxury for the rich who require such fine metalled roads for their cars. From the point of view of the public it would be better if we first construct *kacha* roads so that a net work of these roads connecting all the villages with the main roads may be available, thereby facilitating the transport of his grains by a villager to the most profitable markets within his reach. To spend twenty or thirty thousand on a long metalled road is in no way advisable, and moreover the construction of such

[Sardar Hira Singh.]

big roads is a concern of the Central Government. The local Government should attend to the wants of the people who pay them land revenue and other taxes. If you would construct a few long metalled roads it would in no way lessen the difficulties of the population in the mofussil. Sir, to cover the table with gold and silver plates empty of eatables is in no way wise and no one would like it. Therefore I request the Government to reduce its expenditure on roads and buildings and instead take up the work of diffusing education amongst the uneducated masses. This would constitute the best way to discharge its duty towards the country and its inhabitants. If the inhabitants remain uneducated the blame will rest with the Government. Sir, to give education is a moral duty which a Government owes to the inhabitants of a country; and I find no reason why our Government should fail in its performance. Therefore I request the Government once again to reduce its expenditure over buildings and roads and instead take up in right earnest the work of the beneficent departments like education and industries which are more beneficial.

Then again, Sir, large sums are spent on building rest-houses and daks bungalows. Now-a-days motor traffic has rendered these buildings quite useless; for officials for whom they are intended do not use them; they go in cars and work there for five or six hours, and then return to their headquarters the same evening. So long as the inhabitants are uneducated the officers should work under the shades of the trees and the teachers should hold classes in thatched cottages. Later on when the duty of educating the people is satisfactorily discharged Government is free to attend to other works of construction. Education is the primary necessity while construction of roads and buildings is a secondary matter and does not affect in any material degree the essential welfare of the people.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan (Muhammadan, Landholders): Sir, I understand that there is a misprint in the memo. and the Chief Engineer has just informed me that the Fatehjang-Mianwali road has not been metalled up to now as stated in the memorandum. I just wanted to point out to the department concerned that it would be much more useful if the road which was originally proposed to be made from Hassanabdal to Fatehjang was made as it would go on to connect the Grand Trunk Road with the Mianwali arterial road and would also put the Talagang tahsil into communication with the rest of the district. This road is already on the programme of the Communications Board, but it has been overlooked, and I would request the department to extend the Mianwali-Fatehjang road to Hassanabdal. This would considerably enhance the utility and usefulness of this arterial road itself, by connecting it with the Grand Trunk Road and with the Abbottabad road.

There is one other point which I wish to make. In my budget speech I suggested the desirability of making experiments with cement concrete roads, and I hope experiments will be carried on in the various parts of the province to find out whether this kind of road is more suitable and lasting than the other kind of roads.

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal [North-East Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban]: Sir, in my budget speech I drew the attention of the

authorities to arterial road No. 18 from Hoshiarpur to Kangra and I beg again to urge with force that this road which is utilised mostly by the poor people should be built first. The roads in Lahore, Amritsar and other very big towns, where the claims of the various sections can be very well urged by the well-to-do people living in those places, have received more attention from Government than roads in places which are inhabited by poor people. For this road, as I submitted before, last year a sum of one lakh was provided in the budget of which Rs. 20,000 was to be spent in the current year and Rs. 80,000 in the year 1929-30. I now understand that the Rs. 80,000 has disappeared altogether from the next year's budget. Probably the Secretary in charge will make the point clear. As regards the Rs. 20,000 I find that two miles of the road from Hoshiarpur towards Bhiwani are being taken in hand. I do not know whether two miles will consume Rs. 20,000, but I understand that five miles will be metalled. That is the road to which I would draw the attention of the authorities in the hope that they will put it in proper order.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram [South-East Rohtak (Non-Muham-madan), Rural]: Sir, I stand to oppose this grant not because I do not believe in the usefulness of roads. I firmly believe that good communications result in direct benefit both to the State and the subjects. The only reason which has induced me to oppose this grant is this that the Public Works Department is spending huge amounts on roads and the rate per mile is so enormous that even after allowing a high percentage of profit to the contractors that rate is not justified. I drew the attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture last year and also discussed the subject with him in private. Of course I do not think it would be right for me to disclose anything that I learnt from him in private or what I communicated to him in private. But the figures that are given in various Reviews that were placed on the table indicate clearly that in the Nili Bar the rate of cost per mile is in the neighborhood of Rs. 80,000. Now in a poor country and in a poor province where many people cannot get two square meals a day it is sheer waste of public money to spend as much as Rs. 80,000 on a single mile of metalled road. By putting questions I have tried to draw the attention of the Minister for Agriculture to the waste that is occurring. His answers have not been at all satisfactory. Those answers are generally evasive. So the only course left to me is to oppose the grant now and persuade the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to give some definite answer to the charge that the Public Works Department is very lavish and very wasteful. It is spending money on a scale which cannot be justified and as the money that is being spent both on roads and buildings made for officers seems to be wasted, therefore I am opposing this grant. In answer to a question which I put as to the relative cost of a house built privately and of a house built through the agency or under the supervision of the Public Works Department, the Honourable Minister told me that he had no means of access to private budgets and therefore he was not in a position to say whether the money that was being spent by the Public Works Department on roads or buildings was in excess of the amount that would be spent by a private gentleman to execute the same work.

It is true that private people do not present their budget to the Honourable Minister for Agriculture or to the Honourable Member for Finance or

[R. S. Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.]

to the Honourable Minister for Education. But I am sure the Honourable Minister for Agriculture knows quite well that there is a very serious disproportion between the amount of money that is spent by the Public Works Department and the amount of money that would be spent by a private individual on a work of a more or less equal usefulness, equal dimensions, etc. I oppose this grant in order to elicit a more satisfactory answer and in order to induce a more reasonable attitude on the part of the ministry to objections which are raised in good faith by private members in this House.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member) (Urdu): Sir, I have not stood up to express myself on the matter under the consideration of the House, but to raise a point of order. The honourable member who has finished his speech just before me has stated that he objects to the general expenditure and to the money that is being spent so lavishly on the construction of roads. He does not mean by it to abolish the Public Works Department. I gather from his speech that he does not appear to oppose this grant but only wants to get his complaints regarding it removed. But apparently he did not seem to have any strong views on the subject for he did not even take the trouble of sending a notice of an amendment to press his point. It is not only he who has failed to do so, but none of the other members who have taken part in this discussion have shown any keen sense for doing so. To oppose a grant means to oppose it to the last stage for the sake of opposition to some of the principles involved in it, but to take up this attitude on the sole ground of expressing dissatisfaction with the working of only a few of the items included in the grants, without giving any previous indication by way of amendment of the features objected to is, in my opinion, no very tangible proof of the sense of responsibility which is required of the honourable members of a dignified House like this. To give frank expression to one's feelings on a public matter is one thing, but to indulge in the wholesale condemnation of a department or a scheme without proper perspective is to bring the fair name of the House into disrepute.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture): Sir, there are one or two points which I should like to explain to the House. I think I must begin by paying a tribute to Sir Malcolm Hailey and our Chief Engineer who took up the scheme of road classification and they were so thorough that most of the roads that have been mentioned by honourable members to-day have been considered in this roads classification scheme. I think it was my honourable friend, Nawab Talib Mehdi Khan who referred to a road in Jhelum. This road, I know has been under investigation. Regarding Loralai-Delhi road I can speak from personal knowledge. I have travelled on this road and have taken a keen interest in its construction and I am glad to tell the honourable member that this road has now been completed from Hissar to Delhi on the one side and the work is in progress on some other sections. I agree that it is a very important road and I assure honourable members that the Government is pushing on the work as fast as possible.

There has been a good deal of criticism regarding the costs on roads and buildings. I think my predecessor knows better than any one else

that it is not possible to get any one to work under cheaper conditions. If he would bring any contractor who would be willing to do the same kind of work under the same conditions at a reduced rate than we are paying, I have no doubt such an offer will be very carefully considered. Regarding the road mentioned by the honourable member from Hoshiarpur, I may tell him that the work is in progress. ✓

Regarding the suggestion made in the House that we were spending a good deal of money on the roads there has been no definite proposal of curtailment. Indeed new roads have been mentioned and it means that more money will be required to complete them. The only course seems to me to be to adhere to our road programme and proceed according to the order of urgency. My honourable friend Chaudhri Chhotu Ram remarked that we were spending Rs. 80,000 per mile on the construction of our roads. I may tell him, the average cost for the province is about Rs. 25,000 for a mile of metalled road. As for *kacha* roads, I was mentioning the other day that the Communication Board was taking up a large *kacha* road programme. It will be seen from the budget that we expect eventually to complete 700 miles of *kacha* roads. Therefore it cannot be said that the Ministry has been neglecting *kacha* or village roads. The honourable member Sardar Hira Singh pointedly referred to the village roads and no one is more anxious than I am, that every village should have access to the arterial road. But I hope the Sardar will realise that in the first place we must construct the main roads and then take up the village roads. In some districts we are making experiments with these village tracks, making enquiries in co-operation with the Revenue Department to get them properly laid out. I need hardly assure the House that the department is making every effort to spend as wisely as possible and as economically as possible, in the working out of the programme which has been accepted by the House and is being carried out.

Sardar Buta Singh [Multan Division and Sheikhupura (Sikh), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I wish I were allowed to have my say before the Honourable Minister for Agriculture had replied to the debate on this demand. However, let me avail myself of this opportunity to place my grievances before the Government and the House. The other day, an accusation was brought against the Honourable Minister by some of my honourable friends here to the effect that in the Department of Co-operative Societies the Muslim interests were not properly safeguarded by him. Perhaps it was sought to allege that he was showing undue favour to the Hindus or Sikhs at the expense of the Muslim community. But let me quote a few instances to show how the Ministry of Agriculture has been turning a deaf ear to some very legitimate demands of the Sikh community. It is a well-known fact that Nankana Sahib is a very sacred place of the Sikh community. But I am sorry to say that the Sikh Minister has so far paid no attention to the fact that there is no road worth the name leading to that place. Every year hundreds and thousands of Sikhs go to Nankana Sahib. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture also went to that place on the occasion of the last annual fair and it was with the greatest of difficulties that his car reached there. At that time too he was requested to take steps to connect Nankana Sahib with the headquarters of the district by means of a good road, but so far no steps have been taken in this direction. Another road called the

least a little wideawake. I do not oppose the demand Sir, but let me say that it is the duty of the Government to see that these grievances of the people are removed as soon as possible.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri [Amritsar City (Non-Muhammadan), Urban]: Sir, I should submit at the outset that I had not the intention to oppose the demand, but the road conditions as one proceeds from Lahore to Amritsar and the enormous dust that the traffic in the road raises makes me say a few words as to the way in which the road is being kept up. If one were to travel in a motor car from Amritsar to Lahore, one will find that there are at least three or four miles on the way where one can have dust to one's satisfaction or heart's content. There is a danger also to the persons travelling. If it were merely the columns of dust, no danger at least need be apprehended, but when two lorries one after the other pass there is a regular screen of dust and you cannot see the second lorry coming behind. There is always chance of accident and it is for that reason that I rise to oppose this demand. Either they should widen the tarred portion of the road so that two motor cars could pass side by side without raising this cloud of dust (*Shahid Muhammad Sadiq*: Come by the railway). One cannot always take the train Sir, for the trains leave at such inconvenient hours that my honourable friend opposite always likes to have a ride in a motor car. I submit, Sir, there is another road which we have between Amritsar and Rajasansi. I was given to understand that this road was also provincialised about a year ago. Nothing has been evidently spent on that road and it is impossible to take a motor on it now. I would submit that the Honourable Minister in charge would take into consideration that motor traffic has increased according to his report from 468 to 18,418 in the province and he should see that the roads are correspondingly improved to stand the traffic. I hope he will give some attention to this side of the question.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,10,000 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 March 1930 in respect of Civil Works (Capital Expenditure.)"

The motion was carried.

CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,59,88,000 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 March 1930 in respect of Civil Works (Transferred)."

Mr. President: The demand moved is:—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,59,88,000 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 March 1930 in respect of Civil Works (Transferred)."

Mr. Owen Roberts (Non-official, nominated): Sir, I desire to draw the attention of the Government to the great importance of seeing this province obtain its due share of the revenue that will arise out of the tax which

[Mr. Owen Roberts.]

has been recommended by the Roads Committee. I think it is very necessary that we should arm ourselves beforehand because in the report published by the Committee, I read from the *Civil and Military Gazette*, dated the 22nd November 1928, they wrote on the subject of apportionment of grant as follows:—

"It was strongly urged by the representatives of Local Governments and others that it was imperative that the apportionment of any grant among the provinces should be determined in advance according to a fixed formula, and should not be subject to annual discussion and dispute.

We accept this principle of apportionment subject to certain qualifications. In the first place, it is, in our opinion, necessary that a part of the proceeds of the additional duty on motor spirit should be retained by the Government of India as a reserve.

Apportionment according to petrol consumption means that the larger share will go to provinces in which there are large towns. But the terms of reference to the Committee require consideration of the road system of India as a whole, and it is desirable, therefore, that there should be a reserve available for special grants where for some reasons there is need for special aid. We propose that one-sixth of the total proceeds in each year should be retained by the Government of India as a reserve."

Sir, I for one, cannot agree with the suggestions made in this paragraph and I do not think they are fair and just. The line I took before the Committee was that if we were to have petrol taxes, the whole of the tax or that portion of the tax which is paid by the Punjab should be given back to the Punjab. Anybody who recalls the genesis of this Committee will remember that it was the outcome of a letter from the Bombay Government in which they complained that they had no money for their roads, and proceeded to suggest that petrol should be taxed. I am perfectly certain that if we agree either to the retention of one-sixth or the adoption of any other formula than that each province will get exactly what it contributes, we shall never get our dues. That we want the money there can be no doubt. A great deal has been said here about the cost of road development. The need is admitted by everybody and perhaps road development by means of road graders will be generally accepted as the most promising line of development. It cannot be argued that the class of road is for the benefit of the well-to-do motorist who would probably be the first to avoid it if possible. For this purpose alone we require a number of graders. At present I understand that there are 5 of these in the Province. They are to be found in 3 districts, that is, Sheikhupura, Sialkot and Hissar. Three other district boards have ordered them and six have passed resolutions to provide themselves with graders in the coming financial year. This movement requires encouragement. The Honourable the Finance Member has told us that the end of our resources is in sight. Well he has the new resources opened up before him and I hope the Government will give us the assurance that it will do its level best to see that we get a return for what we contribute.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture): Sir, I am not in a position to make a clear statement on the subject. But the matter is under discussion between the Government of the Punjab and the Government of India, and I can assure the honourable members that the Punjab Government is in entire sympathy with the object he has in view.

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, I am in possession of certain facts as regards this tax newly imposed by the Government of India. I want to draw the attention of the House to the taxable capacity of the people of the Punjab as compared with other civilized countries. This tax, I think, will bring to the Government of India not less than 80 lakhs of rupees, something between 80 lakhs or a crore of rupees. Out of this the share of the Punjab must not be less than 10 lakhs or 15 lakhs of rupees. This tax will be paid from the poorest of the poor to even the rich. I want to show the condition of a poor man who buys a car or gets it on the hire purchase system as compared with the poor man, say of America. The Ford Car is the poor men's car in every country. The Ford car in India costs Rs. 2,700; in America it costs 400 dollars, which comes to something less than Rs. 1,200. The workman in India gets twelve annas per day, an unskilled labourer in America gets from 4 to 5 dollars a day, which works out to Rs. 12 and Rs. 15 per day. The cost of petrol in India is Re. 1-9-0 per gallon and the cost of petrol in America is twelve annas per gallon. This means that the taxable capacity of an unskilled labourer in America is thirty times more than it is in India or in the Punjab. Is it right, Sir, for the Government of India to keep that tax for themselves and not give it to us? No stone should be left unturned by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Punjab Government to draw the attention of the Government of India that this tax must be given back to the Punjab, and when that tax amounting to not less than 10 lakhs of rupees comes in there will be no necessity then for the Government of the Punjab of retaining the motor vehicles tax. The only income from this tax is about 90 lakhs. The Punjab Government is always for taxation and not for retrenchment. Here they have got the money. We have to ask and fight with the Government of India for this money. We must put our case properly. It is upon the Ministry of Agriculture, upon their authority, upon their strength to press the Punjab Government in general and to lay their case before the Government of India. After getting this money back from the Government of India, the first act of the Punjab Government should be to repeal the motor vehicles tax. With these few remarks I oppose the grant.

Mr. E. Maya Das (Non-official, nominated): Sir, I wish to say a few words on the matter under discussion. This announcement of two annas is something quite recent. The possibility of the Punjab Government getting a contribution out of this two annas is also quite recent. When the budget was prepared at that time, I speak subject to correction, it was not expected that the Punjab Government would receive something out of this two annas. This two annas will go out from the pockets of tax-payers, and if a part or the whole of it comes back to the Punjab Government as an extraordinary receipt, unforeseen receipt, the income from this source will be between 3 lakhs and 4 lakhs of rupees. Even if it is that much, and if the amount expected from the motor vehicles tax is between 8 or 4 lakhs of rupees, it seems fair and just that in these circumstances the motor vehicles tax be abolished. After all, if supposing some responsible man from the Punjab comes forward and says to the Punjab Government, "You expect something like 8 lakhs from this source; I offer 9 lakhs; abolish this tax", it will be very very

[Mr. Maya Das.]

difficult to say "No, we take also your 8 lakhs and we will keep the tax on as well." Now as this sum will be going out of the pocket of the tax-payers, therefore, to have the same income twice over, I find it difficult to understand, and I would, therefore, request the Government to take this matter into consideration.

Honorary Lieutenant Sardar Raghbir Singh [Amritsar (Sikh) Rural] (Urdu): Sir, it has been urged by several honourable members that the motor vehicle tax and the petrol tax are undesirable taxes and that, therefore, the Government must see its way to abolish them at the

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earliest opportunity. It has also been remarked that the petrol tax affects the poor as well. Sir, I am free to admit that there is some weight in the argument put forward by my honourable friends, but let us remember that if the Government is to accept even a few of our recommendations it must require money. We are always urging upon the Government the necessity of constructing new roads and bettering the condition of existing ones but when the Government tries to find money for the purpose we at once rise to oppose it with all our main strength. Is that a good policy to follow?

It is well-known that the motor lorries running on hire are responsible for much more damage to the roads than the private motor cars. But the rate of tax in their case is lower than in the case of private motor cars. Therefore, I suggest that the same rate be fixed for both kinds of motor vehicles. I do not mind whether the existing rate for motor lorries is raised or that for the private motors is lowered for the purpose.

As regards the petrol tax, it was introduced to increase the income, and you know, Sir, that with the increase in expenditure for various purposes there must be an increase in taxes. Therefore, in my opinion these taxes are absolutely necessary. I have five motor cars of my own and have to pay some five or six hundred rupees a year by way of motor tax. We are always complaining of dust and various other defects in our roads. Therefore, if we want the Government to remove these defects these taxes should not be grudged. &c.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,59,88,000 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 March 1930 in respect of Civil Works (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

CIVIL WORKS (RESERVED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,14,200 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 Civil Works (Reserved)."

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,14,200 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 Civil Works (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

SCIENTIFIC AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,20,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred)."

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,20,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred)."

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadsan), Urban] : Sir, if we study the various items comprised in this grant we will see that one of the items is a 'huge' sum of about Rs. 28,000 for development of libraries in the Punjab. Out of this sum about Rs. 20,000 goes to the Punjab Public Library and the remaining grand sum of about Rs. 8,500 has been allotted for all the libraries in the Punjab. I ask, Sir, the learned Minister who is famous for his learning and literary abilities to say whether he has ever looked into this thing and whether he has not thought it his duty to encourage the establishment of libraries in the Punjab, and whether he could not fish out from the Finance Department anything more than Rs. 8,500 for all the libraries of the Punjab. It were far better to have put in nothing in the budget instead of shaming this House and this Province by putting such an insignificant sum in the budget. I hope, Sir, the learned Minister has not forgotten his arithmetic ; if he has, I would ask him to take lessons from the Minister next to him. Then he would be able to know how many towns in the Punjab could have a share of this magnificent sum of Rs. 8,500. I suppose he knows that these libraries have to be built and equipped. Or does he think that they can be established under the trees ? I cannot understand what is the object of providing such a small sum in the budget under the Miscellaneous Departments. I think it is a kind of joke played on the House. I am really sorry that the Government of the Punjab is not taking steps to afford facilities for the opening of public libraries. Out of a total revenue of 18 or 14 crores, when the Government is spending Rs. 40,000 for a bungalow of an officer and spending large sums of money in various other directions, there should be at least something like Rs. 2 lakhs spent on public libraries. Go to Berlin, to London or to any civilised country, you will find that lakhs and lakhs of rupees are spent on libraries. Here you provide Rs. 8,500 and this shows to what extent the Government of the Province has got the advancement of the country in its mind.

Again, Sir, we find that a sum of Rs. 1,000 is allotted for donations to scientific societies. I wonder where these societies are, how many of them there are and how the Government proposes to help them with this sum of Rs. 1,000. Now-a-days you give liberal allowance to municipalities and local bodies in the matter of encouragement of education. Libraries and scientific societies are important means of spreading education in the Province and unless you give more grants to them education will not spread quickly and easily over a wide area. I hope that my request will not fall on deaf ears and that the Government will accede to my request.

[Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq.]

As regards the museums in the Punjab, I do not think that any improvement has been made in them during the last forty years. I recently went to the Lahore Museum. I saw the same old crocodiles there and the same old mud houses in the glass case which have been adorning the museum for the last forty years. Probably now a few more mud houses have been added. In other countries you find better museums even in villages. The system of Government in this country is such that the people of the country are not allowed to take part in the government of the Provinces. If the Government takes the advice of the people who are willing to co-operate with it, it would do good. The Finance Department of the Government is—I do not want to say anything to wound the susceptibilities of the Finance Department—very miserly in such cases. So I urge that something should be done to improve the condition of these museums. It is not only from the point of view of fine arts, but also from the point of view of commerce and industries. Batala is a small town which is the centre of iron industries. If we build a small museum there and keep the latest implements for household and agricultural purposes for show I am sure the foundries of Batala will be immensely benefited. The poor factory owner cannot afford to spend large sums of money in buying machinery and implements to serve as models but if we get these exhibits from other countries and keep them in the museums, our people will be able to copy them and manufacture equally good articles for agricultural and other purposes. The poor people cannot afford to get these articles from other countries and they cannot afford to go to other countries to see what developments have been made in the various directions. But if we collect them and exhibit them in a central place our people will be quick to take advantage of them. For instance they imported a sugar crushing machine from England and introduced it in Batala; since then any number of them have been made by these people. So also with the husking machine. If a commercial and industrial museum is established in Amritsar, or Batala or Jagadhri which are centres of industries, it will be of great help to the people. I hope the Government will do something in establishing such museums at an early date.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal [Minister for Education]: Sir, reference was made to certain matters which concern my department and I should like to say a few words. Sir, I am absolutely at one with the honourable member that the provision actually made for learned societies and otherwise for affording facilities for those who seek the assistance of libraries is none too adequate. It is not a matter on which we can congratulate ourselves. But so far as the village libraries are concerned, I wish to inform the honourable member that a considerable provision is made elsewhere for helping village libraries. I refer to help by the Rural community Boards.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq: What is the sum?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: About Rs. 50,000. This is apart from such facilities given to school libraries as are given by municipalities. For instance the Punjab Public Library for which an additional allotment of Rs. 4,000 is made gets also a certain amount of assistance from the Municipality of Lahore.

I wish to correct the honourable member with regard to certain remarks he made about museums. It is not quite fair to say that this institution is exactly where it was many years ago. If the honourable member will kindly go to the Museum he will see that considerable improvements have been made during the last two years. Two very good rooms have been added; exhibits have been re-arranged on scientific lines. We had recently a session of the Oriental Conference in Lahore and it is a matter of gratification to us that the Oriental Conference thought very highly of the arrangements that we had made with regard to our exhibits and altogether the way in which the Museum exhibits have been recently arranged, particularly those that interested the oriental scholars and historians. That section of the Museum containing historical exhibits has been recently re-arranged and it will be of interest to the honourable member if he visits the Museum when it is opened shortly. So far as crocodiles and things of that kind are concerned they will soon be removed from the Museum. Efforts are being made to make the Museum not only of historical interests, but also of interest from the industrial and commercial points of view, as remarked by the honourable member.

Sardar Hira Singh [Lahore (Sikh) Rural] (Urdu): Sir, this demand includes provision for Gurdwara elections and the Gurdwara Tribunal. Therefore, with your permission I wish to say a few words in this connection. When the Gurdwara Act was in the making the officials concerned with it promised that when the Bill became an Act all the Gurdwara prisoners would be released. But, Sir, we have waited in vain for the fulfilment of that promise. Similarly when the matter was being discussed in the Central Legislature, our former Governor, the then Home Member of the Government of India, was pleased to remark that the Government had extended the hand of friendship and it was now for the Sikh Community to accept it or reject it. Here again, Sir, I am sorry to say that the hand of friendship extended by the Government has proved a mirage. The nearer we try to go to take hold of it the further it moves away from us.

Next, Sir, let me draw your attention to another point with regard to the Gurdwara prisoners. There is a saying—

پرے میان سو پرے میان چھوڑے میان سبحان اللہ

The Sikh Rulers of the Indian States are quite an improvement upon the British Government in this connection. The number of such prisoners in British India is much smaller than that in Indian States. There are about fifty prisoners in the jails of these States and the Rulers are waiting for the time when the British Government will release its prisoners so that they may follow suit. Sir, the Government put people in prison when justice demands it or on account of some public reasons. But these people were put in jail without a fair trial and even the benefit of legal advice was not allowed to them.

Mr. President: Order, order. The honourable member is not now speaking to the demand before the House.

Sardar Hira Singh: Sir, the demand includes the item of Gurdwara Tribunal and.....

Mr. President: That is irrelevant.

Sardar Hira Singh : Sir, I was under that impression. However, I bow to your ruling.

Mr. President : The honourable member's speech is not relevant to the demand under discussion.

Sardar Hira Singh : Now Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to another point with regard to the Gurdwara elections. As everybody knows people still stick to purdah in a greater part of the country and also that women have been given the right to vote in connection with the Gurdwara elections. Therefore, I suggest that separate polling stations with female polling officers may be provided for women voters at the time of these elections and the number of polling officers should also be increased because the number of voters is considerably large. Moreover, the people who come to get themselves registered as voters have to face many difficulties. If the country is to be taught the Parliamentary rules and practices it is absolutely necessary to see that the people, especially the illiterate among them, are provided with every facility on such occasions.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,20,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and 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 Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments."

The motion was carried.

GRANT BE MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS (RESERVED) AND REVENUE RESERVE FUND.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,57,300 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 Departments (Reserved) and Transfers to the Revenue Reserve Fund."

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,57,300 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 Departments (Reserved) and Transfers to the Revenue Reserve Fund."

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan (South-East Towns (Muhammadian), Urban) (Urdu) : Sir, The demand under discussion includes the item of donations for charities and a sum of Rs. 8,000 has been set aside for the purpose. Then there is to be found another sum of Rs. 6,500 against the charges for European vagrants. Well Sir, I have no quarrel with the Government with regard to the purpose for which this money is to be utilized. If the Government finds it necessary to help deserving Europeans let it do so by all means. What I object to is that not a single pie has been set aside for helping the deserving children of the soil. The serious shape that the question of unemployment has assumed in the Province is well-known to everybody and the fact that it is responsible to a great extent for the increasingly great number of beggars cannot be denied. Under these circumstances, Sir, is it not a pity that in a Province whose yearly income is no

less than 12 crores of rupees and where huge sums of money are spent on various works and in different departments, nothing has so far been done to solve the problems of unemployment and begging? In other countries the question of unemployment is made an election cry. Only recently Mr. Lloyd George delivered a speech in the course of which he assured his audience that if the Liberal Party came to power in England the complaint about unemployment would be completely removed. This Sir, is the importance attached to the question of unemployment in a country where the number of the unemployed is certainly not very large, for, I assure you that had it been as large as in this country the people would have razed the Houses of Parliament to ground.

Now coming to the question of beggary, there are some 18 lakhs of beggars in the Provinces. It is not only in larger cities that beggars are found in great numbers; the conditions in villages are in no way better. On whatever day of the week and at whatever time of the day you happen to go to a village you are sure to find a good many beggars in the streets as well as in front of the houses. What has the Government done in this direction? Last year the attention of the Government was drawn to this problem by means of a one rupee cut and as a result of that a committee was appointed to enquire into it. That committee must have held at least a few meetings during the year, but we are absolutely unaware of its achievements if any. I was under the impression that the Government must have set aside some money this year to be utilized in this direction but to my amazement, and certainly to the amazement of this House as well, not even a mention of it is to be found in the present budget. Under these circumstances, Sir, unless any satisfactory announcement is made by the Government in this connection I must request the House to strongly oppose the demand under discussion.

Sbaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, last year the attention of the Government was drawn to the all important question of unemployment and beggary by means of a one rupee cut. But I am sorry to say that all our efforts in this direction have not borne any satisfactory fruit up to this day. It is a well-known fact that the missionaries from countries like England, America, Germany and France are doing much towards the uplift of the unfortunate people of this poverty-stricken country. They say to the people: "Let us do something for you. We will provide hospitals and dispensaries for your sick. You are poor, backward and illiterate and, therefore, we will make arrangements for the education of your children." They do this as a religious propaganda and as such it is resented by the public. Thus Sir, these kind-hearted missionaries—for I must call them kind-hearted—are prepared to help us through for their religion, while our Government is absolutely unmindful of our sad plight.

In whatever part of the Province you happen to go you will find many a seventy or eighty year old blind man and woman who have no food to eat and no clothes to put on. They have no one to help them in their old age. Similarly there are many orphans absolutely helpless and uncared for. Has the Government ever thought of doing anything for them? In countries like England, Germany and France, you will find that

[Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq.]

not only in big cities but in villages also there are many orphanages and poor houses. Our Government grants hundreds of squares of land to police informers and others for helping the Government in arresting the Akalis or other people for waving flags on the occasion of the arrival of the Simon Commission. Is there not a single square of land to spare for the poor and helpless children of the soil? Has the Government ever come forward to say that it is prepared to grant fifty squares of land on temporary cultivation if some one society undertakes to utilize their produce for helping these people? Fortunately, private charity is not extinct in the country. Even the poorest man or woman will not disappoint the helpless beggar if he happens to come to his or her door for a handful of flour, while on the other hand, the Government has never thought it fit to set aside a single pie for such purpose. I ask Sir, that if a man who has been paying various taxes for seventy long years, is visited by poverty and there is no one to look after him in his old age, is it not the duty of the Government to help him?

In England, Sir, the unemployed do not have to face such a sad plight as in this country. They can afford to eat their fill of bread and butter. Similarly once I happened to meet an unemployed Indian in Australia who told me that he got half a *chhatak* of butter, three loaves of bread, one quarter pound of tea and a sufficient quantity of jam and other things. He was tolerably well dressed and, as far as I could judge, had nothing to complain of so far as his daily wants were concerned. Thus, Sir, the unemployed men were enjoying things which most of our rich men would look upon as luxuries. On the other hand, in this country a great majority of the educated people find it absolutely difficult to make both ends meet and the condition of the artisan classes too is by no means better. But in spite of all this our Government has never paid any serious attention to the question of unemployment which in England often proves the cause of the ascendancy to power or the downfall of a Government. There the Government cannot even think of ignoring the popular voice while in this country if a discussion is ever raised on such questions it is simply laughed away by the official members. But in my opinion, Sir, our official members have the very best of reasons for adopting such an attitude. Everyone of them is drawing four or five thousand rupees a month and therefore, you cannot expect that while sitting comfortably in their magnificent motor cars they would care to think of hundreds and thousands of wretched people dying of hunger or cold.

Let me make it clear, Sir, that we do not want the Government to encourage beggary by helping those who can earn their livelihood independently. What we want to impress upon the Government is that something must be done for the orphans, the unemployed and such other people as have no one to look after them. Moreover it is well-known that not less than 25 thousand students are sent out every year by our schools and colleges just as goods turned out by machines and that a very great majority out of them cannot get any employment whatever. Therefore, if no efforts are made to solve this problem the Government will have only itself to thank for the consequences. The Punjab is very often described as a troublesome Province, but let it be remembered that the present troubles are nothing compared with those that you will have to face as a result of the

Present state of things. If the Government is anxious to see communal riots and the present unrest to come to an end it must be up and doing something in this direction. Very large tracts of land are often granted by the Government to such persons as are fit for nothing but are flattering the high officials and singing their praises day and night though often to the disgust of these officers. So allow me to say Sir, that it is high time now that the Government began to think of helping the needy and the unemployed instead of making big grants to these worthless creatures.

Sir, both the Government Members are not paying any attention to what I am saying with regard to this most important question. They are enjoying a talk between themselves and they can very well afford to do so because they know that they are quite secure and that this Council has no power to compel them to pay attention to the voice of the public. But let me warn them that the present state of things cannot last very long and that as a result of this attitude the present or the next Government must come to grief. The unrest in the country which at present looks no greater than a mere speck on the horizon will before long assume the form of such a storm as it will be absolutely impossible for the official members to resist in spite of all the various resources at their command.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : [Minister for Local Self-Government] (Urdu) : Sir, let me assure the House that the Government is as anxious to find a satisfactory solution of the question of unemployment and beggary as anyone of the honourable members. Last year when my honourable friend Chaudhri Afzal Haq drew the attention of the Government to his question by means of a one rupee out a committee was appointed to enquire into the problem of begging in the Punjab. That committee has been holding its meetings and discussing the various aspects of the problem most thoroughly and carefully. We requested the various Provincial Governments who had made enquiries with regard to the problem to supply us with their reports so that we might be able to know what the other Provinces have been doing in this direction. These reports and other papers relating to the matter took long in coming and that is the cause of the delay in the preparation of our report. However, the committee has now completed its report and it will be circulated among the honourable members when ready. I hope Sir, that my honourable friends will be satisfied with the action so far taken by Government.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : So far as beggary is concerned, yes.

Mr. H. M. Cowan : (Home Secretary) : Sir, I understand that the honourable member objects to the charges which are shown in the budget on account of European vagrants.....

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I never did.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member's name was never mentioned, and he is not the only one who has spoken.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Nor did I object to it.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member while starting the discussion said that on page 402 there was a provision of Rs. 6,000 for maintenance of indigent and insane persons and lower

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

down for European vagrants. He added that no provision had been made for vagrants of the swadeshi type. Am I wrong?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : But I never objected to these items.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : You did say that.....

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I did make a speech, but I did not object to these items, I simply referred to them.

Mr. President : When questioned as to which items the honourable member was referring he gave the same answer as the Revenue Member has now put in his mouth.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I did not refer to these items.

Mr. H. M. Cowan : The question, I understand, is why should provision be made for the European vagrant. The reason is.....

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : No, we never objected to that.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : What is the use of making allegations which we refuse to have made.

Mr. President : It is not right to interrupt a member who is in possession of the House. Besides, when the whole demand is under discussion a member may refer to an item in it.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : But then it should not be attributed to us. The honourable member has pointedly attributed it to us.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I do not know what the honourable member means by saying that, when he pointedly referred to this very subject.

Mr. President : I have ruled that Mr. Cowan is in order in referring to any item of the grant.

Mr. H. M. Cowan : The reason for the provision is this that there are a number of European vagrants, not very many I am glad to say but a certain number, whose characters are not so good as to justify them being helped to a great extent by voluntary effort but whose characters, on the other hand, are not so bad or at all events proof is not obtainable as to justify their being placed in jail. They could not be convicted as there would be no evidence. They are, as it were, the *flotsam* and *jetsam* of the European community and it is very desirable that they should be segregated. Therefore a work house exists in Lahore and when the District Magistrate finds a European of the type which I have described knocking about in Lahore and saying he is unable to get employment, it is in the Magistrate's power to send him to the Lahore Workhouse. This method is only resorted to where there is reason to believe that the man is absolutely destitute and probably not of a good type. If a man is of a good type, there is a very good institution, a voluntary institution, in Lahore, I do not know whether Government gives any grant-in-aid to it or not, and that institution is known as the Strangers' Home. If a European gets into a poor condition, and he is out of employment and is a good man, then he is sent to the Strangers' Home, if he is ready to go there, and there they help to get him employment. But if he is not a good man, then he is sent to the Workhouse. I think this is a very necessary provision, as it is very objectionable to have vagrant

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Europeans roaming about in bazaars and cantonments doing mischief and getting others into mischief.

I may give an illustration of a particular case which came to my notice. A European, certainly not a desirable figure, once came straight to my court in Mianwali. I asked him, what do you want? He said, he wanted help, he had no money, nothing. I asked whether he would go to the Strangers' Home and he said no. I at once suspected that he was not a good character, and instead of allowing him to remain at large and commit mischief, I passed orders that he should be taken to the Lahore Workhouse and there kept out of harm's way and doing harm to others. What could have been done in a case of that kind if there had been no European Vagrancy Act?

Sardar Buta Singh [Multan Division and Sheikhpura, Sikh, Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I think it is necessary to make it clear that my honourable friends on this side of the House never objected to the provision made for the European vagrants. They made a reference to it only to impress on the Government the necessity of making a similar provision for paupers of this Province.

While justifying the provision made for the European vagrants the honourable Home Secretary was pleased to remark that Europeans of good character, but destitute and wandering without employment, are sent to the work-house in Lahore by the order of the District Magistrate concerned where food and lodging arrangements exist for such persons. We do not object to that, but our complaint is that Indian *sadhus* and religious mendicants, whose character is above reproach and who are very religious from the point of view of their own religion, are not treated like that. If they are found travelling without ticket by the railway authorities, they are handed over to the police. The police in its turn presents them before a first class magistrate who invariably convicts them. Then they are taken to the bar rooms and other places and compelled to beg for a pice here and a pice there to make up the railway fare due from them. They are put to all sorts of troubles and disgrace. No consideration is paid to the fact that these *sadhus* are of noble character, have no desires and do not like to keep a penny with them. But every consideration is paid to the European vagrants and it is for this invidious distinction that a reference had to be made to that provision. My friends on this side only contended that such provisions should be made for all mendicants alike whether they be Hindus, Muhammadans, Sikhs or Parsis whether they belong to this country or to some other country. I think I have made it clear that it was not in a spirit of recrimination or antagonism that my honourable friends made a reference to this provision for the European vagrants. However from this my friends should learn a lesson. This shows how much our rulers love their country and their countrymen. They are able to make such provisions from the revenues which we pay. But what a pity it is that we, who fill the coffers of Government, do not and cannot help our own brethren. It will be in the fitness of things if we insist on equal treatment being accorded to all mendicants without any distinction of caste, creed or colour.

The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government has been pleased to inform the House that a beggary committee is sitting and considering

[Sardar Buta Singh.]

the whole problem. I should think that the Honourable Minister is the President or at least incharge of that committee. If so, I would request him to place before the committee one suggestion for its consideration among other things and that is that the committee should recommend to Government to encourage industries in the Province. The provision of ten or twelve lakhs for the development of industries will not do. At least a sum of one crore of rupees should be set apart for the purpose. It was a good suggestion that Dr. Gokul Chand made the other day and that is that all parts of machinery required in connection with the Hydro-Electric Scheme should be manufactured in India and in the Province and people should be encouraged materially to start factories for the purpose. That will, undoubtedly, give employment to a large number of people. I remember that the Honourable Minister for Agriculture said the other day that the number of motor cars in the Province had increased very much and that it had gone up to about 25,000. When asked as to whether any of the motor accessories were being manufactured here, he replied in the negative. It is a thing to be very much regretted. In the improvement and development of industries in the Province lies the solution of our difficulties and it is the only way in which the question of increasing unemployment can be successfully tackled. With these words, I support the motion under the consideration of the House.

Lala Bodh Raj [West Punjab Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, if I am not mistaken, I think that in every budget session of the Council Government has been requested to take some steps in this direction. In 1927-28 a one rupee cut was unanimously passed by this Council relating to the demand under this head. Two years have since elapsed and nothing appears to have been done so far to carry out the unanimous wish of the Council. The Honourable Minister has been pleased to tell us that he has appointed a beggary committee to go into this question, and that he is collecting figures from all other provinces relating to this matter to be placed before that committee.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: I said that the figures had been collected and had been placed before the committee.

Lala Bodh Raj: So much the better. But the Honourable Minister should have given us some idea as to when the report of the committee is expected and when the final decision is to be made.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: The report is ready but the members of the committee have yet to sign it.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq: That is, no doubt, a very difficult task.

Lala Bodh Raj: But the Honourable Minister did not care to give us all this information.

Mr. President: The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government said all these things. Perhaps the honourable member was not attentive.

Lala Bodh Raj: The Honourable Minister should have further told us definitely, if possible, for how long should we keep quiet and wait for the final decision of the Government. Two years have already passed and yet we do not know when the final decision is to be made. I

am afraid that this committee may not be of the type of other committees which have been appointed from time to time only to silence the people agitated over a particular question for the time being. We could be confident of the success of the committee and solution of this problem if we had seen that some practical step had been taken in this direction. If we are to keep waiting and waiting ultimately to be disappointed, I think it is no use coming here and wasting our time like that. ✓

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I am very grateful to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government for his very kindly appointing a beggary committee. With your permission, Sir, I would like to make a constructive proposal which I hope will be considered by the committee along with other proposals. As the Honourable Minister will be aware, thousands of poor parents die every year leaving behind them their children without any means of livelihood and with no one to look after them. Many of these children die of starvation and the rest are picked up by the Christian missionaries to be brought up and to be converted into Christianity. We should be grateful so far as the bringing up of these forlorn children is concerned, but it must be remembered that their conversion into another religion creates heart-burning amongst the people of the Province. I am ashamed to acknowledge that at present we cannot boast of any organisations which may be in a position to take care of these orphans, but we all wish that the orphans belonging to different communities in the Province should not be lost to them. If they are Muhammadans, they should grow up as Muhammadans and if they are Hindus and Sikhs, they should grow up as such. I would, therefore, request the Honourable Minister to give substantial grants-in-aid to the orphanages of different communities if they already exist, but if they do not exist already, he should encourage the establishment of such orphanages.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: I think I will save the honourable member a good deal of trouble if I just let him know that all these proposals have already been considered by the committee.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: Well and good, but how are we to know that a thing has been done unless we are told that it has been done? However I am glad to learn that my proposal has already been considered and I hope that sufficient money will be provided for the purpose.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,57,300 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 Departments (Reserved) and Transfers to the Revenue Reserve Fund."

The motion was carried.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education): Sir, I beg to move—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,22,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1930, in respect of Capital Outlay on Industrial Development."

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,32,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1930, in respect of Capital Outlay on Industrial Development."

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, (Muhammadian), Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, this Council has been drawing the attention of Government to the urgent need of industrial education in the Province for the last so many years and also to the inadequacy of the provision that has been made year after year for this purpose. Sir, every one knows that the lands alone cannot bear the strain of ever-increasing population of the Province.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It should be prevented from increasing.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : However, the fact remains that the population of the Province is on the increase and the lands or their produce is not increasing in the proportion in which the population is increasing. The result is that about 18 lakhs of the population are wandering without employment and depend for their maintenance on the charity of others. That is not the whole of it. The number of persons who cannot find employment is daily increasing and the question of un-employment is becoming more alarming every day. But Government appears to be as indifferent as it was. I will not be wrong if I say that it is guilty of criminal negligence so far as this question is concerned. It is the duty of every Government to collect facts and figures relating to unemployment whenever need be and so far as I know, all civilised Governments do collect such facts and figures. It is our Government alone that is sleeping over this matter. But it is not a responsible Government. I may mention here that zamindars have also nothing to do for about six months in a year and because they cannot find any useful employment, they idle away their time. The development of industries will give employment to these zamindars as well during these months. But this small sum that has been provided in the budget will not develop industries. Fortunately for us our country produces raw materials in abundance and if we manufacture all the goods here instead of sending the raw material to foreign countries, the huge profits that at present go to make other countries rich, will remain with us and save many of us from begging and starving. I may point out in passing that whatever little money is provided for industries is not usefully spent for lack of proper supervision. If Government wishes that Bolshevism should not find favour with the people of this Province, and that there should be no agitation against it, it should lose no time in encouraging and developing industries. It cannot claim any credit for the small provision that it has made. At present the Department of Industries is only in name and I think that the money that is being spent on its maintenance is being wasted. If Government is in right earnest to do something for its subjects, it should make a liberal provision for the development of industries. If that cannot be done, I should like the present grant also to be rejected.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City, (Muhammadan), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, it appears that my honourable friend on my left has been labouring under some misapprehension. A sum of two lakhs of rupees has been promised to be spent and invested on the sugar factory to be started at some place in the Karnal district. Now this item relates to the Department of Industries which is under the Honourable Minister for Education. I need hardly say that there is a Standing Committee on Industries which exists to control the policy of Government and to advise it on all important matters relating to industries. This important question of investing the money on a sugar factory was never placed before that Committee. The Committee was not consulted on the point and its advice was not sought. This demand has been presented before the Council without its being first allowed to be considered by the Standing Committee. That is a wrong procedure which the Minister has adopted. I should say that in departing from the usual procedure, the Standing Committee and, as a matter of fact, the Council has been insulted. Let me not be misunderstood that I insist on such matters being placed before the Standing Committee before they are presented to the Council because I am a member of that Committee. I am no longer a member of that Committee as it has since been dissolved. But I cannot help saying that the action of the Minister in daring to ignore the existence of the Standing Committee deserves our severest condemnation. It may be said, in defence, that as the matter was not entirely the concern of the Honourable Minister for Education, it could not be decided as to whether it should be referred to the Standing Committee on Industries or to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, and that it was, therefore, referred to the Joint Development Board. That explanation may appear plausible, but it does not appeal to me. If the Joint Development Board was to be consulted, the members of the Standing Committees on Industries and on Agriculture should have been co-opted with it. Some members of the Council may think that I have been anxious to be a member of the Joint Development Board. Admitting that I cherish such a desire, may I ask whether it is a sin to cherish such a desire? If the Honourable Ministers can have the desire to become Ministers and to draw a fat salary of Rs. 5,000 a month, it is not unjust on my part to desire to become a member of the Board, which carries no pay, thus to help my countryman and the Government. ✓

Besides, the sum of Rs. 1,32,000 provided for the development of industries in the Province is inadequate and very small. We cannot be satisfied with this petty sum. Let Government understand that we shall not keep quiet unless a much larger amount of money is allotted for such a purpose. We will not mind if Government were to borrow money to meet our demand. In England and in other countries industries have been and are being encouraged to the utmost extent. I understand that whenever the manufacturers in England hesitated to export goods to foreign countries like China and Russia fearing that they would not be able to realise the price of the goods exported, the British Government undertook the risk and promised to make payments in case the importers failed to pay the prices. In a word, industries in England have been encouraged on the credit system. The British Government and other responsible Governments realise that it is necessary to encourage manufacturers so that they may not close down their

[Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq.]

factories and throw many people out of employment. The Minister in charge of the Department of Industries should insist on the Government taking some steps to protect and help industries. He should be able to persuade the Government to allot a sufficient sum of money for the development of industries in the Province, and if he is unable to do that, he should better resign at once. It is no use his occupying that seat if he is to continue to be dictated by the Finance Member or by the Government of India or even by the authorities in Whitehall in England. Government and the Ministers should know, if they already do not know it, that as long as agriculture which is the mainstay of the people remains liable to be affected by famine and so long as industries in the Province are not developed, the people of the Province will not be safe from the danger of famines. The failure of crops for the last two or three years is being keenly felt by a majority of the population and the reason of it is that they have nothing else to depend upon. The development of industries is the only way to avoid famines.

(At this stage the Honourable President left the Chair and Deputy President occupied it).

I wonder why Government is so indifferent to this important question. I know that in France Government has guaranteed a profit of 8½ or 4½ per cent. on the capital outlay for big enterprises like the P. L. M. Railway. If in far advanced countries like France, Governments can and do help the people to start big industries, I do not see any reason why our Government should not finance industries like that. It should rather give more help as we are very backward from the commercial point of view. There are a hundred and one industries that can be profitably encouraged and developed in this country. As many as 15 lakhs of blankets are imported into the Punjab every year and if these blankets are prepared here, a large number of people will find employment; besides, big profits will accrue to the persons who invest money in this direction.

The Honourable Minister is just coming in and he has not listened to what I have been saying. But I will not repeat what I have said. In fact, I cannot waste the time of the Council in this way. However, he should note that we must have at least one crore of rupees for the development of industries to begin with. I also hoped that he will not disregard the existence of the Standing Committees of the Council with which he is concerned.

Pandit Mehr Chand [Jullundur-own-Ludhiana (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, only a few days back I had had an occasion to visit an industrial school at Lahore. Rai Bahadur Lala Tej Ram, who took me round the school, pointed out to me a man who, he said, was making

Rs. 900 a month. I was further told that this man was unlettered and could hardly write his name. This man used to earn only Rs. 100 per mensem in the beginning and a few years' practical training had enabled him to augment his income to that extent. Undoubtedly industrial training is very paying. On the same occasion Rai Bahadur Lala Tej Ram informed me that he intended to open an industrial school at Lahore which, according to the estimate prepared, would cost at least one lakh of rupees to start with. I have no reason to doubt the correctness of this estimate,

and it is evident that the sum of money proposed to be spent by Government on the development of industries is too small for the requirements of the Province where not one but many industrial schools will have to be opened. To solve the question of unemployment and to improve the economic condition of the Province as a whole, it will be necessary to give industrial education and to encourage industries. We cannot depend on agriculture alone in regard to which sufficient progress has already been made. In fact, agriculture will become more profitable if industries are also developed. But it should be understood that book-binding and tailoring are not industries. They are too insignificant to deserve the attention of the Government. I will, therefore, request the Honourable Minister to take steps to encourage industries worth the name. If Government is really anxious to make the lives of our young men useful for them as well as for the country, it should arrange to train them as engineers and mechanics so that they may be able to manufacture machinery and parts thereof without the help of others. But it requires a huge sum of money to accomplish all this. It will not serve any purpose to provide a few lakhs of rupees. The opening of an ordinary Intermediate Arts College requires a sum of 2 lakhs of rupees and you can imagine how much money will be required to open industrial institutions at different places in the Punjab with workshops attached to them. Workshops are essential because mere theoretical education is not very useful. Without using any harsh words against the Minister or against the Government and without taking more time of the Council, I will conclude by saying that Government should immediately attend to the development of industries so that our young men may be able to find means for their livelihood and may be saved the sufferings which unemployment brings with it.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan [South-East Towns (Muhammadan), Urban], (Urdu): Sir, if I mistake not, there appears to be some misunderstanding about the Demand under discussion which is numbered as 20 in the list of Demands for Grants. Immediately after this demand comes Demand No. 19 in the same list which is in respect of Industries. It appears that some of the members have been offering criticism as if Demand No. 19 was under discussion. Although most of the objections raised by the previous speakers are equally true in regard to both of these demands, yet the debate at present ought to have been confined to Demand No. 20, which is before the House. Now we find that a sum of Rs. 1,92,000 has been provided for industrial development and, as will appear from the demand following, Rs. 10,18,200 have been provided for industries or industrial education. Roughly speaking, the money set apart for industrial education is ten times more than the provision made for the development and promotion of industries. To me this appears to be fundamentally wrong. In my opinion the position ought to have been the reverse. If for industrial education a sum of Rs. 10,18,200 had been provided, ten times more than this sum ought to have been provided for industrial development. That is not the only complaint. Another and I should say the real complaint is that the money set apart for industrial development bears no proportion to the importance of this subject. It is too small to take us even one step further in the direction of industrial development. We have been pressing upon the Government the necessity of making liberal provision for this purpose ever

[Bana Firoz-ud-Din Khan]

since the Reforms were introduced. We remember no occasion when we did not request the Government to take immediate steps for the promotion of industries, but no step has been taken in this direction except that a weaving school was opened at Shahdara. That is the only fruit, if we can call it, that our efforts have borne. After so many years Government has been able to reserve Rs. 50,000 for industrial development because the remaining portion of the grant has been added this year. If this is to be the pace of the progress and if money for the promotion of industries is to be given in a tardy manner like that, I think, according to the Persian proverb :

تا توباق از عراق آورده شود مار گزیده مرده شود

we will find it too late to rectify the mistake.

The economic condition of the people of the Province is becoming worse every day. As Mr. Calvert and Mr. Darling, who are admitted as authorities on the subject have clearly set down in their books, the holdings of the zamindars in general do not exceed 5 acres in area and added to it is the difficulty that not one man, but a large family, consisting of 4 or 5 or even more members, depends upon these five acres for their maintenance. As a result of it the zamindars live from hand to mouth. A failure of one crop makes them miserable. Agriculture cannot support the whole population. It will have to be supplemented by some other source of income. And industries are the only other material source on which people of a country can depend. It is, therefore, in the fitness of things that industries are developed in this Province. Indifference to the development of industries on the part of Government will lead to unpleasant results both from political and economic points of view and if I may say so, to the growth of communalism. If Government wishes to make it impossible for communalism to grow in the Punjab, it should take up the question of the promotion of industries seriously and should make liberal grants for the purpose. Let it be remembered, however, that tailoring and carpentry are not industries worth the name, as was pointed out by my honourable friend Pandit Mehr Chand. Government need not spend money on training a few tailors or carpenters. That will not solve our difficulties. It will rather go to increase unemployment. There are already too many tailors and it does not pay to become a tailor now. Only such industries should be promoted and encouraged which are likely to flourish. Our young men should be trained and employed on the manufacture of goods for which there is great demand and which are, at present, purchased from foreign markets so that the drain on the wealth of this country may be stopped. The weaving industry also does not deserve very great attention on our part in the present circumstances. Not to say of handlooms, the few cotton mills that have been started in India, are not and in fact cannot compete with the big foreign mills. It is, therefore, no use training weavers. At present any increase in the number of weavers will surely go to add to the number of unemployed men. Of course if protection is afforded to country-made cloth, the weaving industry can be of great help to us. But the local Government is not in a position to give us protection. The decision of this question rests with the Central Government. Therefore, for the time being we should devote our attention to the development of industries which can flourish without protection. For example, soap-making, manufacture of bulbs and glassware.

can be undertaken with advantage. A few factories are already in existence in which such articles are being manufactured and I understand that they are making good profits. With a little encouragement from Government, more factories are sure to come into existence in which case many of the unemployed persons will be able to find employment.

(At this stage Mr. President resumed the Chair.)

There is one thing more to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government and it is that industrial training should be given to young men who are educated and capable. It will not be so useful to pick up men in the street for being given industrial training. Matriculation should be the least standard for admission to training classes in industries. Then it is very necessary to open workshops on a large or small scale and attach them to the industrial schools that may be started. As has already been pointed out by another member, mere theoretical education is of no value unless it is accompanied by practical training for which workshops are necessary. This is the least that should be done at present in this direction. But the money provided is too little for the purpose. I realise that it cannot be increased now, but I hope that the Minister will see that we get a liberal grant for the promotion of industries as soon as possible and I think he should come up with a supplementary demand in the next session. I can assure him that the Council will willingly support that demand in case it is not unreasonable.

Sayad Muhammad Husain (Montgomery, Muhammadan, Rural), (Urdu): Sir, I pity the condition of Ministers in the budget session when any and everybody find some subject or other to criticise them mercilessly and sometimes unnecessarily. The sugar factory in which the money demanded is proposed to be invested, is directly the concern of the Minister for Agriculture and the poor Minister for Education is being censured for not consulting the Standing Committee on Industries. As I happen to be in possession of the detailed information about this sugar factory, I think that the present demand should be sanctioned without demur. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Fatch-ud-Din of the Agricultural Department explained to me at some length the usefulness of this factory. Perhaps the members will be aware of the fact that this factory has been started at some place in the Karnal district which produces sugarcane in a very large quantity. In Lyallpur and in Montgomery districts also sugarcane is now produced in large quantities. Now this factory, as I understand, is going to make the best use of the sugarcane that is produced in the Punjab. It is estimated to manufacture sugar sufficient for the requirements of the people of this Province. When this factory is working in full swing, we will not have to import sugar from Japan and other sugar producing countries. It must be remembered that this factory can stand competition only if a large number of persons buy shares in it and Government gives substantial financial aid for its maintenance. It is, therefore, necessary that the grant for this purpose should be sanctioned. There is no occasion to criticise or censure the Minister so far as this grant is concerned. The appointment of Khan Bahadur Maulvi Fatch-ud-Din as a supervising officer of this factory is another indication of the fact that this factory is going to be very useful to the people of the Province. I have no hesitation in saying that he is the ablest officer in

[Sayad Muhammad Husain.]

the Agricultural Department and under his care and supervision, this factory will turn out to be a boon to us, I, therefore, really pity the Minister being criticised.....

Mr. President : To which item does the honourable member's speech relate ? (*laughter*)

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am relating the pitiable condition of the Honourable Minister in these days.

Mr. President : No motion relating to Ministers is at present before the House.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Very well, Sir. I shall leave it alone. I understand that the investment of this money that is being asked for will bring good profits to the Government as well as to the people who will subscribe towards the capital to be raised for the factory. I was also advised by Maulvi Sahib to buy some shares. It is a very profitable business and I learn on good authority that Sir Sundar Singh, who was our Revenue Member some time back, was lucky to get three lakhs of rupees in a year as profits from a sugar factory in the United Provinces in which he owns some shares. We should not refuse this grant simply because the Minister did not consult the Standing Committee of the Council. I do not mean to say that it was not necessary to place this matter before that Committee. The Minister ought to have done so before coming up with this demand to the Council. But as we know that this money is going to be usefully spent, we should overlook that mistake on the part of the Minister. Every year in this session of the Council, the position of the Ministers becomes pitiable as ours becomes after every three years when we have to salaam every voter (*laughter*). They are at our mercy during this session because we spare no pains to find out the shortcomings in the working of the departments under them. And we in fact cannot help it because we hold a public trust. However, for this step we should be grateful to the Government and the Minister in charge and should not hesitate to sanction the grant under consideration.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education) : Sir, I do not wish to address the House on the very large ground that has been covered by honourable members as regards the inadequacy of provision for industrial development as shown in the budget. But an unfortunate remark has been made by the honourable member from Amritsar that the Minister for Education took up an attitude which was not fair to the Industrial Committee. That I think I must repudiate. If you will kindly refer to the memorandum with this present budget at page 89, you will see that so far as the item of Rs. 75,000 for the sugar factory is concerned, what did actually happen was that a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government last year and that was a portion that was accepted by this Council. During the current year, i.e., the year 1928-29 it was only possible, because of the manner in which the flotation of the company was proceeded with and the subscription was coming in, to advance to this sugar factory a sum of Rs. 1,25,000. Therefore, the provision now being made in next year's budget is simply to complete the amount which the Council was pleased to grant last year. Similarly with reference to what has been now asked with

regard to the Demonstration Weaving Factory at Shahdara an amount of Rs. 8 lakhs was provided for working capital for that factory of which it was only possible during the current year to place at the disposal of that factory a sum of 2½ lakhs. They are now asking for the further Rs. 50,000 which this Council has otherwise already sanctioned. There was, therefore, no occasion for me to take this matter to the Industrial Committee as something for them particularly to consider and advise on. These items are there simply to carry forward an already expressed wish of this Council. Nothing can be further from my wish than to offer any kind of affront or not to consult a very important committee that we have and we have invariably consulted that committee on all matters of any importance.

Mr. President : The question is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,32,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.”

The motion was carried.

INDUSTRIES GRANT.

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

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,13,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Industries.”

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,13,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Industries.”

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

“That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.”

As I have mentioned in the object for moving this motion, it is to impress upon the Government the necessity of reviving indigenous industries and meeting the problem of unemployment. Sir, I shall not be wrong if I say that the Punjab Government, Department of Industries, has been and is still indifferent towards indigenous industries. Sir, the course which they have adopted is not right. The money which they have set apart for the revival of the indigenous industries is not adequate. The number of people unemployed is increasing day by day. The local indigenous industries of the province under the economic pressure are dying one after the other and the attention of Government has not hitherto been paid to the revival and upkeep of the industries to the extent to which it ought to have been paid. There was a time when many of the industries, weaving industry, dyeing industry, copper industry, iron industry and several other industries were carried on and flourished in our province. Thousands and hundreds of thousands of the inhabitants of this country were fully employed. But now those industries have practically died out or are about to be extinct with the

[Sayad Muhammad Husain.]

result that unemployment has greatly increased in this country. During the time of the War when Government needed swords and other weapons, the armoury industry of Sialkot supplied the Military Authorities with swords, *khutris* and other weapons. If there were any necessity for arms, Nizamabad could supply Government with as good arms as any other country or any arsenal in the world.

This is not all. The weaving and textile industry of Jalaipur Jattan is another industry which has died out. The Kashmiri inhabitants of that place were at one time producing shawls; they were producing woollen textiles and cotton textiles so beautiful and so unrivalled that Jalaipur Jattan could be called the Lancashire of the Punjab, but the industry has now disappeared under the economic pressure and owing to the indifference of the Minister for Agriculture or the Minister for Education whoever is in charge of industries. (*A voice* : Neither is to blame ; *Another voice* : Both are to blame). (*Laughter*).

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : This is an old tale of Jalaipur Jattan.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : We want to revive that industry. If an industry has died out, if those who were engaged in that industry have become unemployed, the Minister should not adopt the attitude of indifference.....

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Not at all.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : If that is not the case then it is my duty to point out that there are thousands and thousands of weavers,—Kashmiri weavers—in that place. They were rich at one time, so rich that it was said of them that in their *hugga* they used milk instead of water. So rich they were said to be, but now those very men are living without any livelihood. They have had to give up their industries. When they were prosperous they used milk instead of water in their smoking pipe, and now they are begging. Some of them have become tonga drivers, some are doing the work of ill paid coolies, some have taken to begging, and some having left their business have gone away to other places.

Take now the tanning industry. Once upon a time there were 84 hide markets in the province. In these, three or four thousand men were employed but they have become now absolutely poverty stricken. They cannot afford to continue their industry. They are miserably involved in debt and the only thing which Government have done for them is to appoint certain demonstrators. I happened to travel with one such demonstrator and he showed me certain hides that were being prepared in their factory at Shahdara. That factory, I read an advertisement in the papers the other day, is now being closed down because it was not being run on a commercial basis but was running at a financial loss to Government. It is being sold or auctioned as the country is not fit for any high grade tanning industry. Is it not still in the power of Government to carry on for some time in the hope that in a year or two several people will come forward to take training in tanning? We the representatives of the people cannot tolerate, we cannot see unemployment grow from bad to worse. We cannot see local indigenous industries die out.

Then there was the weaving industry. Thousands of weavers were employed on the handlooms in the villages. What are they to do? They are becoming poor. There is a saying to the effect that the poorest man in the province is a weaver. With regard to the miserable condition of the weavers, I am reminded of a speech of Sir Michael O'Dwyer when he asked; What have you people done for these weavers? I am referring to a speech made ten years ago when the industries were considerably advanced. If I were to ask the same question to the Honourable Minister: "What have you done for the poor people?" what will he say? Sir, it is not only a Lieutenant-Governor who drew our attention to the fact, but everyone of these poor men will draw our attention to it, for the time is not far off when universal suffrage will be granted to the people and when everyone of them has got a vote what will be our condition who call ourselves the representatives, and of the Minister who is our representative? Our condition can be better imagined than described.

The amount of money spent on industries is very small. We require much more of it for the object of reviving our industries. We want that these poor people who are unemployed may find work to do, we want that they should be supplied free with all the necessities whether they are working on handlooms as spinners or weavers, in markets as tanners, or in their shops as carpenters, we want that they should be educated and that the education given to them should not be ordinary education but that it should be education combined with industrial education. Everyone belonging to the industrial class who goes to a school should have all the necessities for learning the work in which he is interested. We have here in our country people belonging to the industrial classes, thousands and thousands of them are expert weavers and they are not weavers of to-day, but they have been weavers for generations. Consider the amount of great experience going up to thousands of years back, and if Government could only help these men they would make the best weavers in the world.

Then there are industries which are still living. There is the copper industry, for instance, which is still a living industry. If Government gives some attention to that industry the *thakurs* of the province will derive great benefit from it. Similarly there is the brass industry, and also the aluminium industry which is only now coming into being. You will find that among the ashes there still shines the fire of industry which if not extinguished can be rekindled again if Government is willing to help.

With these remarks I move this one rupee out in the confidence that this House will condemn the present policy of Government in the matter of the development of industries. This cut is in no way a reflection upon any Minister but it is directed against the policy of the Ministry. So I hope that every man, be he a Khilafatist or a Congressman, be he a member of the Zamindar Party or a member of the Nationalist Party, one and all will join with me and express in the strongest terms that Government may not remain indifferent to the industries of the province.

Mr. President : Demand under consideration, amendment moved is—

"That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1."

The question is that that amendment be made.

The motion was lost.

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh Urban) : Sir, I beg to move—

“ That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.”

(To discuss the policy of the Government with regard to the promotion of industries).

Sir, I want to make it clear in the beginning that I did not stand to offer any criticism or to make any suggestion on the last amendment as the idea was not to oppose the total grant but to offer criticism and press for a division and censure Government by moving a one rupee cut. Sir, it is commonplace that our economic dependence is much more complete than our political dependence. From a small needle up to the biggest motor car or the most powerful locomotive we have to look towards foreign countries for supplying our needs. Government has done practically nothing during the last six or seven years to put us on the path of economic independence. Sir, it is said that Government is devoting much attention to the development of agriculture which is a staple industry of the province. I submit with due deference to the opinion of Government members that you cannot develop agriculture unless you develop industries side by side. The development of industries and agriculture are very intimately connected with each other. Take, for example, a place where no ginning factory exists. You will find the price of *kapas* at that place much lower than prices in a place where a ginning factory exists and prices are still higher at a place where a spinning and weaving mill exists. Take the United States of America. It is one of the most advanced countries in agriculture. It is the biggest cotton producing centre in the whole world and in the matter of production of other cereals also it is one of the greatest producing centres. But still with all her development in the matter of agriculture she has taken a very big step towards the development of her industries. During the last few years the consumption of cotton in the United States has advanced considerably. With the production of cotton crop between 12 million and 15 million bales she is now able to consume in her own mills more than 50 per cent. of her cotton crop that is, the total production of the cotton crop in India.

The Council then adjourned till 8 A.M., on Friday, the 8th March, 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

3RD SESSION OF THE 8RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 8th March, 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at 8 A.M.
Mr. President in the Chair.

GOVERNMENT DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT.—*contd.*

Mr. President: The Council will resume discussion on the motion of Sardar Buta Singh.

Sardar Ujjal Singh [Sikh, Urban]: Sir, when the Council adjourned yesterday I was just mentioning how the United States of America developed her textile industry during the last few years. In the matter of manufacture of cotton spinning and weaving machinery the United States of America has made the same progress. The textile machinery is now manufactured on a very grand scale. Not only is she able to satisfy her own requirements in the matter but she is able to export a considerable quantity of textile machinery to foreign countries. Sir, Japan has made the same progress in putting her industries on a satisfactory footing. There are now about 200 cotton spinning and weaving mills in Japan and a greater portion of the cotton produced in this country is exported to Japan. In the matter of pottery Japan has been able to develop that as a cottage industry and we find that it is a very successful industry there. Sir, the Famine Commission in India reported that if the Government wanted to avert famines it could only be done through the development of industries. It is not only in the interest of the people but it is to the interest of the Government that industries of various description should be established here. For, if the Government wants to increase its revenue it can only do so by the promotion of industries in the country. But instead of doing that, the Government has shown no impatience to set up or to promote industrial concerns or shown any interest with regard to the concerns that exist now. There are certain industries which existed, but which have closed down for the time being for want of patronage from the Government. I know during the War and some years after the War glass industry was started and some of the glass factories worked quite satisfactorily. But after the War the industry had to face foreign competition and almost all glass factories had to close down.

Coming to the small industries, the cotton ginning industry which though by no means is a complete industry, yet is one of the chief industries of the Punjab, shared the same fate. For the last three or four years cotton factories are being closed down for want of support or regulation in regard to their number on the part of the Government. There is a very unhealthy competition in this industry. If the Government wants to show any

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Promotion to Superintending Engineer rank is made by selection from the best executive officers of the Province, seniority being only regarded where other qualifications are practically equal.

The same principle applies to promotion to the rank of Chief Engineer.

DEPUTY COLLECTORS OF CANAL DEPARTMENT AND REST HOUSES.

***1992. Sardar Buta Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Deputy Collectors who are gazetted officers of the canal department cannot put up in the rest houses unless they apply for this each time and get the permission of the Executive Engineers;
- (b) whether sub-divisional officers who are gazetted officers of the same department are entitled for the occupation of the rest houses;
- (c) if so, whether Government intends to revise the rules; if not, why?

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

(c) The efficient performance of duties by Deputy Collectors requires that they should camp out near villages and for this purpose they are provided with tents and camping arrangements. The Government does not propose to revise the rules.

RECRUITMENT OF ZILLADARS AS EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

***1993. Sardar Buta Singh :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the practice of taking zilladars as Extra Assistant Commissioners has been stopped while the names of Naib-Tahsildars and clerks of offices are accepted for the post of Extra Assistant Commissioner;
- (b) if so, why are zilladars deprived of this privilege?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) Zilladars like officers of other departments, such as the Education, Police and Co-operative departments, have their own avenue of promotion to a provincial service and Government see no reason why they should look outside that service for promotion.

KHAL KHUDAI, UPPER CHENAB CANAL.

***1994. Sardar Buta Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of money was realised from the zamindars of Shalkhupura district under the head *khal khudai*, especially in the area watered by the Upper Chenab Canal;

[Sardar Buta Singh.]

(b) whether it is a fact that *khals* (small water courses) were excavated by the zamindars themselves at their own expense;

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, what steps Government intends to take to pay back the amount mentioned above to the zamindars from whom it was realised?

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

(b) Yes, in a few cases.

(c) The Honourable member is referred to the statement made on this subject to the Council by me on 8rd December 1928.

Khalsa Girls' School, Sahiwal.

***1995. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khalsa Girls' School, Sahiwal (District Shahpur) has earned a total grant of Rs. 2,970 since 1924;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of this sum Rs. 800 only were paid to the school in 1924 and since that time no grant-in-aid has been paid to it;

(c) whether the management of the school made any representation to the Director of Public Instruction or to the Deputy Director in this connection;

(d) if so, what action has the Honourable Minister taken or proposes to take for payment of the arrears of Rs. 2,670 to the above girls' school?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a), (b) and (c). Yes.

(d) The committee is being pressed with all possible emphasis for the payment of the amount.

TEMPORARY ALIENATION OF LAND.

***1996. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether there are any orders or instructions requiring a Collector when directing a temporary alienation of land in execution of a civil court's decree to see that sufficient means of subsistence are left to the judgment-debtor's family after the temporary alienation of his land;

(b) whether on a reference by the Civil Court to the Collector for the temporary alienation of land belonging to one Nihala, minor son of Neta Jat of village Giji in the Rohtak tahsil of the district of Rohtak in 1925 or 1926, half of his land was spared for the subsistence of his family;

(c) whether on a similar reference in respect of a second case, the whole of the remaining land of the agriculturist referred to

in (b) was alienated to the decree-holder without taking account of the needs for subsistence for the family of the judgment-debtor ;

(d) what was the amount of decretal money in the two cases and the term of alienation decided upon in either case ?

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

(b) No. 15 bighas 12 biswas of land, belonging to Nihalu minor, son of Nota, Jat of village Giji and situated in Ismaila village, was temporarily alienated in 1926. This represented the total holding of Nihalu in that village. Half of his land was not left for the subsistence of his family, because it was found that the minor, together with his two sisters, was being maintained by Khub Ram, Jat, with whom Nihalu's mother was living.

(c) In 1928 in another case 2 bighas 15 biswas of land, belonging to Nihalu, was alienated for 4 years. Nihalu owned altogether 4 bighas 19 biswas of land in this village. A portion only of the land was alienated for a short period at the express wish of the decree-holder.

(d) The decretal money and term of alienation in the first case was Rs. 789 and 19 years, respectively, while in the second case they were Rs. 123-6-0 and four years.

VILLAGE PATROL ACT.

***1997. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) whether in 1926 or 1927 the inhabitants of the villages Lakhan Majra and Kharainti in the Gohana tahsil of the Rohtak district were required to guard the Railway line in order to prevent the theft of goods from the running trains or goods shed of a railway station in the neighbourhood under the Village Patrol Act ;

(b) whether the requisition referred to in (a) is warranted under the Village Patrol Act ; if so, under what section, and if not, what steps Government proposes to take to prevent the misuse of the Village Patrol Act ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Inquiries are being made and the honourable member will be informed of the result.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE PUNJAB CIVIL SERVICE.

***1998. Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

(a) the percentage of the three communities in the Punjab Civil Service (Executive Branch) on the 1st January 1926 and 1st January 1929 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the percentage of Muhammedans has materially deteriorated during the last three years ; if so, what are the causes ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) A statement is laid upon the table.

(b) No. On the other hand there had been an increase of 1 %.

	Statement.			
	Muhammadans.	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Others.
1st January 1926	42.02	38.08	14.89	10.51
1st January 1929	48.81	33.44	14.55	8.80

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF POLICE.

*1999. **Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honorable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Muhammadans in the rank of Deputy Superintendents of Police has gradually been decreasing during the last three years ;

(b) if so, what is its extent and what are the causes ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

MUHAMMADAN ASSISTANTS IN THE CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

*2000. **Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

(a) the percentage of Muhammadan Assistants in the Punjab Civil Secretariat on the 1st January 1926 and 1st January 1929,

(b) whether there is any depreciation ; if so, what is the cause ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) 18.5 on 1st January 1926 and 18.7 on 1st January 1929.

(b) There has been no decrease.

SPECIAL POSTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

*2001. **Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state the number of special posts in the Agricultural Department added in the course of the last three years, giving separately the number of posts allotted to each community ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jeggendra Singh : Four permanent special gazetted posts have been added to the Agricultural Department during the last three years and appointments to them have been as follows :—

European	1
Muslima	2
Sikh	1

In addition four temporary special gazetted posts have been added and are filled as follows :—

European	1 (on deputation from the Irrigation Branch).
American	1
Hindus	2

MUHAMMADAN AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANTS.

*2002. **Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the representation of Muhammadans in the rank of agricultural assistants has gone down during the last three years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) During the last three years the representation of Muhammadans in the cadre of Agricultural Assistants was—

	Percentage of total.
1926 ..	86.8
1927 ..	85.0
1928 ..	84.2

(b) Further Muhammadan candidates with the requisite qualifications were not forthcoming. In the years in question all B.Sc. (Agri.) graduates from Lyallpur were given appointments irrespective of communal considerations.

DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

*2003. **Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies perform exactly the same sort of duties with regard to their department as the Deputy Director of Agriculture and the Assistant Director of Public Health do for their departments;

(b) if so, how do the pay and status of all these three officers of development departments compare;

(c) whether it is a fact that the pay and status of Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies are lower than that of officers of similar status in other departments;

(d) have the Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies ever represented their case for increase of pay and status to the Government;

(e) if so, what reply has been given and how is it supported?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) It is difficult to draw an exact comparison between the duties of the three classes of officials mentioned in the question, but generally speaking, their status in their respective departments is analogous.

(b) and (c). The scale of pay of Deputy Registrars is lower than that of Assistant Directors of Public Health, who have to possess special professional qualifications. The scale of pay of Deputy Directors of Agriculture is not finally decided.

(d) Yes.

(e) The matter is under consideration of Government.

CANAL PATWARIS OF RAOWIND.

*2004. Mr. M. A. Ghani: Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that 18 Canal patwaris of Raowind Division, Upper Bari Doab Circle, have been lately dismissed from service;
- (b) if so, why were they dismissed;
- (c) was any charge framed against them and was any statement taken from them;
- (d) if not, why not;
- (e) is it a fact that out of these 18, 6 Canal patwaris have been dismissed without any notice whatsoever;
- (f) if so, why was no notice given?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain: (a) Yes, but 12 were given one month's notice.

(b) For tampering with khasras.

(c) No.

(d) No, because in the course of enquiry several cases were personally investigated by the Executive Engineer. Moreover, in the case of the patwaris who were given notice it was not necessary to frame charges.

(e) Yes.

(f) Because they were dismissed.

TAHQIQ-UL-ISLAM.

*2005. Mr. M. A. Ghani: Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of copies of a book called 'Tahqiq-ul-Islam' by the Rev. Ghulam Masih, Editor of "Nur Afshan" Lahore, was destroyed by the order of the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore;
- (b) if so, how many copies were thus destroyed;
- (c) was any judicial pronouncement obtained by the Deputy Commissioner to destroy the book;
- (d) if no, then on what grounds was it destroyed;
- (e) has any compensation been paid to the author for the destruction of the book;
- (f) if not, why has it not been paid?

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

(b) 488 copies of part I, 771 copies of part II and 689 copies of part III were destroyed.

(c) No.

(d) The author was offered the choice of withdrawing the book from circulation and promising not to republish it, or being prosecuted under section 153-A, Indian Penal Code.

(e) and (f). No compensation was paid as the books were surrendered by the author in order to escape prosecution.

CANAL PATWARIS OF RAHWIND DIVISION.

*2006. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the whole of the bonus of 70 Canal patwaris of Rahwind Division, Upper Bari Doab Circle were lately forfeited ;

(b) if so, the reasons for this forfeiture ?

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

(b) The reason is that they were found guilty of attempted fraud.

CANAL PATWARIS ASSOCIATION.

*2007. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) if it is a fact that the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department, ordered the Punjab Canal Patwaris Association not to apply for registration under the Indian Trade Unions Act ;

(b) if so, will he kindly give reasons for this order ?

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

(b) The position of Government servants in connection with the Trade Unions Act is under the consideration of the Government of India.

CANAL PATWARIS UNION.

*2008. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Canal Patwaris Union held a conference at Lyallpur in 1927 ;

(b) if it is a fact that Dr. Muhammad Alam, M.L.C., Bar-at-law, presided over this conference ;

(c) if it is a fact that the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department took the General Secretary of the Union to task for having elected Dr. Muhammad Alam as the president ;

(d) if so, will he kindly give reasons for the Chief Engineer's action ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) The Secretary was informed that the election was irregular, and could not be recognised.

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

(2) The Association must consist of a distinct class of Government employees,—vide rule 2 of Part A governing the official recognition of associations, given below :—

Part A.—Rules applicable to Government employees in departments other than the Police and Prisons Departments.

2. The Association must ordinarily consist of a distinct class of Government employees.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

*2009. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any representation was made to him in the beginning of 1927 by the Jamiat-ul-Ansar (the Weavers Union) Punjab, Amritsar, on industrial education and other industrial matters;
- (b) if so, what action has been taken by him on it?

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

(b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to part (c) of his question No. 1899^a which indicates the directions in which efforts are being made by Government to help the weavers and to develop the weaving industry. The question of giving further effective assistance is also under consideration, but it has its own technical and financial difficulties.

BOARD OF ECONOMIC ENQUIRY.

*2010. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of the Members of the Board of Economic Enquiry in the Punjab;
- (b) the names of the president and the secretary;
- (c) the names of its publications;
- (d) the number of its meetings ever since its establishment.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a), (b) and (c). Lists are laid on the table.

(d) 48.

List showing the names of the Members of the Board of Economic Enquiry.

(1) Mr. G. A. H. Townsend, C.I.E., I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Revenue.

(2) Mr. D. Milne, I.A.S., Director of Agriculture.

(3) Dr. R. C. Hawley, M.A., M. Sc., Director of Industries.

(4) Lt.-Col. G. A. Gill, I.M.S., Director of Public Health.

(5) Mr. M. L. Darling, I.C.S., Registrar, Co-operative Societies.

(6) Mr. D. P. Johnston, I.A.S., Professor of Agriculture, Lyallpur.

(7) Mr. W. H. Abel, Inspector of Factories.

- (8) Mr. W. B. Myles, M.A., Professor of Economics.
 (9) Rev. C. H. Atkins, Tarn Taran.
 (10) Mr. C. C. Garbett, C.M.G., C.L.E., I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner, Attock.
 (11) Mr. D. Roynell, I.E.S., Assistant Director of Public Instruction.
 (12) Mr. R. J. S. Dodd, I.C.S., Joint Registrar, Co-operative Societies.
 (13) Rev. E. D. Lucas, M.A., D.D., Ph.D., Forman Christian College, Lahore.
 (14) Professor G. D. Sondhi, M.A., I.E.S., Government College, Lahore.
 (15) Mr. J. W. Thomas, B.Sc., B.Com., Hailey College of Commerce, Lahore.
 (16) Prof. A. N. Bali, M.A., D. A.-V., College, Lahore.
 (17) Mr. W. Roberts, B.Sc., British Cotton Growers' Association, Khanewal.
 (18) L. Shiv Dyal, M.A., D. M. College, Moga.

Names of the President and the Secretary.

President.—Lala Harkishan Lal, Ferozepore Road, Lahore.

Secretary.—W. H. Myles, Esquire, M.A., Professor of Economics, Punjab University.

(On sick leave, Mr. C. Fazal, M.A., Assistant Secretary, officiating.)

List of Publications Published by the Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab.

RURAL SECTION PUBLICATIONS.

Rs. A. P.

(GENERAL EDITOR: W. H. MYLES, M.A.).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. An Economic Survey of Bairampur in the Hoshiarpur District, by R. L. Bhalla, M.A. | 1 0 0 |
| 2. The Milk Supply of Lahore in 1921, by Pt. Shree Datta, M.A., | 2 0 0 |
| 3. Questionnaire for Economic { Ordinary binding | 0 4 0 |
| Inquiries { Interleaved with blank pages | 0 6 0 |
| 4. The Size and Distribution of Agricultural Holdings in the Punjab, by H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S. | 0 4 0 |
| 5. An Inquiry into Mortgages of Agricultural Land in the Kot Kapura Uter Assessment Circle of the Ferozepore District of the Punjab, by Sardar Balwant Singh, B.A., edited by H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S. | 0 6 0 |
| 6. Rates of Food Consumption of Zamindars in the Tallagang Tahsil of the Attock District, by C. B. Barry, M.A., I.C.S. | 0 6 0 |

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal].

	Rs. a. p.
7. Sixty Years of Punjab Food Prices, 1861—1920, by Professor W. H. Myles, M.A.	0 10 0
8. The Economic Value of Goats in the Punjab, by Professor H. R. Stewart, I.A.S.	0 2 0
9. An Economic Survey in the Kangra District, by Mul Raj, M.A., edited by H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S. (in preparation).	
10. Catalogue of Economic Literature in Lahore Libraries, by Cyril P. K. Fazel, M.A. (in preparation).	
11. Cultivator's Holdings in the Punjab, by H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S.	0 4 0
12. Some Aspects of Batai Cultivation in the Lyallpur District, by Professor H. R. Stewart, I.A.S.	0 6 0
13. Eighty Years of Punjab Food Prices, 1841—1920, by Professor Brij Narain, M.A.	0 10 0
14. An Inquiry into Mortgages of Agricultural Land in the Pothwar Assessment Circle of the Rawalpindi District in the Punjab, by Raja Hasan Akhtar, B.A., edited by H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S.	0 6 0
15. Accounts of Different Systems of Farming in the Canal Colonies of the Punjab, by Professor H. R. Stewart, I.A.S., and Sardar Kartar Singh, B.Sc., L.Ag.	6 8 0
16. Punjab Village Surveys, No. 1.—Gaggar Bhana, a village in the Amritsar District of the Punjab. Inquiry conducted by S. Gian Singh, B.Sc., under the supervision of C. M. King, O.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.	4 0 0
17. Punjab Village Surveys, No. 2.—Gijji, a village in the Rohtak District of the Punjab. Inquiry conducted by Raj Narain, M.A., under the supervision of Professor Brij Narain, M.A. (in press).	
18. Punjab Village Surveys, No. 3.—Tehong, a village in the Jullundur District of the Punjab. Inquiry conducted by Anchal Dass Kandola, B.A., under the supervision of H. Calvert, B.Sc., C.I.E., I.C.S. (in press).	
19. Farm Accounts in the Punjab, 1926-27, by H. R. Stewart, I.A.S., and Ch. Karm Rasul, B.Sc.	0 8 0
20. Farm Accounts, in the Punjab, 1927-28, by H. R. Stewart, I.A.S., and Sardar Kartar Singh, B.Sc., L.Ag. (in press).	

URBAN SECTION PUBLICATION.

1. Family Budgets of Low Paid Clerks, by Mrs. Calob	1 8 0
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SALARIES OF REVENUE PATWARIS.

*2011. **Mr. M. A. Ghani:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the patwaris are treated as village servants for the purpose of pension under the Civil Service Regulations;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the patwaris are subject to the same incidents of service in the matter of pay, transfer, appointment, dismissal, etc., as other Government servants of similar grades;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons for treating them on a different footing from other Government servants in the matter of their pension?

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

(b) No. There are special rules for them in several cases.

(c) Because they are not Government servants.

VEHICULAR TRAFFIC IN LAHORE, ETC.

*2012. **Mr. M. A. Ghani:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the number of (A) Motor Drivers (a) plying lorries, (b) plying cars, (c) private cars, (B) Tonga drivers of plying tongas, (C) Drivers of bullock carts of (i) Lahore, (ii) Amritsar, (iii) Rawalpindi, (iv) Gujranwala, (v) Multan, who were (a) prosecuted, (b) convicted, (c) sentenced to (a) a term of imprisonment, (b) fine, and (c) acquitted in 1928 under (1) the Traffic Regulations, and (2) Section 337 of the Indian Penal Code?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The information asked for by the honourable member is shown in the statements which are laid on the table.

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

	Means of Transport					Who were injured this year 1928					
	Motor drivers paying licence	Motor drivers paying cart	Motor drivers of private cars	Twiga or drivers	Drivers of bullock carts	Prose cutted	Convicted	Seized to a term of imprisonment	Fined	Warned	Accident
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
RAWALPINDI DISTRICT											
I. Under Traffic Regulations	1,073	49	491	338	8	1,374	702	7	605		385
II. Under Section 337 of the Indian Penal Code	5	4	3	2		11	5	1			6
GUJRANWALA DISTRICT											
I. Under Traffic Regulations	325	2		724	17	1,000	939		523	96	181
II. Under Section 337 of the Indian Penal Code	1			1	1	2	1				2
					During summer months only.						

LAHORE DISTRICT.

I. Under Traffic Regulations..	303	24	377	4,726	1,341	6,774	6,259	1	6,231	27	695
II. Under Section 337 of the Indian Penal Code ..	..	17	..	12	..	20	9	..	6	..	13

MULTAN DISTRICT.

I. Under Traffic Regulations..	23	..	20	223	17	283	259	1	1,258	..	24
II. Under Section 337 of the Indian Penal Code ..	..	4	..	7	..	14	5	1	4	..	9

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

I. Under Traffic Regulations..	480	18	166	943	523	2,044	1,909	Almost in all the cases the drivers were fined.			195
II. Under Section 337 of the Indian Penal Code ..	..	..	..	..	..	58	31	12	19	..	25

*Under section 662, Criminal Procedure Code.
 †Out of 268 fined 14 men were only warned.

INDIAN TRADE DISPUTES BILL.

***2013. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Indian Trade Disputes Bill was circulated for opinion and criticism among the various Trade Unions and Labour organisations in the Punjab;
- (b) if so, to what unions of workers and employees was it so sent;
- (c) the names of the Unions which criticised the Bill?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : (a) and (b). The Bill was sent for opinion to the following unions and labour organizations :—

1. North-Western Railway Union, Lahore.
2. Upper India Homeopathic Association, Lahore.
3. The Punjab Labour Board, Lahore.
4. The General Workers' North-Western Railway Union, Lahore.
5. Punjab Provincial Trade Union Congress, Lahore.
6. North-Western Railway Audit Union, Lahore.
7. Hosiery Workers' Association, Ludhiana.

(c) It is not clear what the honourable member intends to ask by enquiring the names of the Unions which criticised the Bill. Opinions were received from the following in which certain provisions of the Bill were commented upon :—

1. Punjab Provincial Trade Union Congress, Lahore.
2. North-Western Railway Audit Union, Lahore.
3. Punjab Labour Board, Lahore.
4. General Workers' Union, North-Western Railway, Lahore.

REPORTS OF INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

***2014. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to question No. *1025,¹ asked on 2nd March 1928, will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether any teachers have since applied to the Inspector of Schools, Multan, to be supplied with a copy of the adverse reports against them;
- (b) if so, whether they have been supplied with such copies, and if not, why?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : There is no occasion for teachers to apply for copies of such reports. If the report is adverse, it is for the superior officer to inform the teacher concerned and to allow him to offer an explanation.

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY FROST.

***2015. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Multan division crops have been damaged on account of recent frost;
- (b) if so, what steps the Government has taken or contemplates taking for the relief of the sufferers?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply just given to Council Question No. 1 1984, by Sayad Muhammad Husain.

KANOOH MINOR.

***2016. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the level of the Kanoo Minor irrigating the lands of Wahi Salamatrai and Shahnal, etc., in Lodhran tahsil is $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the level of the lands meant to be irrigated by it even when the full supply of water is running in it;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the landlords of the ilaga have got a complaint that their lands cannot be irrigated by the said minor;
- (c) if replies to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps the authorities have taken to remove the complaint?

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

(b) There were complaints from one or two villages that their lands were not properly commanded by the Minor;

(c) The complaints referred to in (b) have been attended to and stop dams at suitable sites are in course of construction to raise supply in the minor for these villages.

KHARABA IN GIRDAWARI PAPERS.

***2017. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in suits for rent or produce the Khasra girdawari papers as prepared by the revenue patwaris are relied on by the revenue assistants trying the cases;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in a number of cases kharaba is shown by the canal patwaris in the girdawari papers prepared by them while the similar entry of kharaba does not appear in the girdawari papers prepared by the revenue patwaris for the same lands;

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

- (c) if replies to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative what steps Government has taken or intends to take for the relief of tenants in the way of allowing kharaba according to the canal patwaris' girdawari?

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

(b) Occasionally.

(c) Government has no reason to think that the adoption of this suggestion would help tenants.

PLURAL VOTING, MULTAN DISTRICT BOARD.

***2018. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the last election of vice-chairman of the District Board, Multan, the members were allowed to exercise plural voting;

(b) if so, under what authority or rule of practice;

(c) will the Honourable Minister please lay a copy of the said rules on the table?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Government have no precise information but have reason to believe that at the election in question each voter was allowed two votes.

(b) The chairman presiding at the meeting interpreted the rules governing such elections as permitting each voter to exercise two votes.

(c) A copy of Rule 3 of Part-II of the District Board Rules, 1926, is laid on the table.

Copy of Rule 3 of Part-II of the District Board Rules, 1926.

3. When there are two offices of vice-chairman of a district board and any such office has to be filled—

(a) Voting shall take place at the same election for both the offices of vice-chairman of the board, and any vice-chairman holding office, shall vacate office on the declaration of the results of the election;

(b) the two candidates who obtain the largest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected; provided that if owing to the fact that two or more candidates have obtained an equal number of votes it is impossible to decide which two candidates have obtained the largest numbers of votes, the matter shall be decided by lot by the Deputy Commissioner in the manner specified in clause (b) of rule 2.

Lala Bodh Raj : May I know whether any objection was made to the Honourable Minister challenging the validity of the election?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I want notice of this question.

LICENSES FOR SALE OF POISONOUS SUBSTANCES.

*2019. **Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang**: Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) what is the number of persons possessing licenses for the sale of poisonous substances like arsenic, mercury perchlor, etc., in the Lahore district;
- (b) how many out of these persons are qualified vaid, hakims or doctors;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government issued a circular in 1928 to the effect that licenses of such kind should be issued only to qualified persons, i.e., hakims, vaid and doctors;
- (d) whether it is a fact that in 1929 certain unqualified persons were also granted licenses, and, if so, why?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow: (a) Forty-ix.

(b) Twenty.

(c) No such circular was issued by Government, but in 1928 attempts were made by the local officers to limit licenses to qualified persons.

(d) No.

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY COLD WAVE.

*2020. **Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam**: Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that great damage was caused to the crops by the recent cold wave;
- (b) if so, whether Government intend to allow any reduction in revenue on account of this loss to the crops; if so, in what parts of the Province?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply just given to Council question No. 1984¹, by Sayad Muhammad Husain.

EXTENSION OF LIFE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

*2021. **Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam**: Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Punjab Government made any recommendation to the Government of India for extension of the life of the present Legislative Council; if so, when and with what results;
- (b) whether the Government of India asked for the opinion of the Punjab Government in this concern;
- (c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to extend the life of the present Legislative Council awaiting recommendations of the Simon Commission?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The matter has been debated in Council and a copy of the resolution adopted by the Council on the 26th February 1929, and a copy of the report of the Debate have been forwarded to the Government of India.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LICENSEE FOR FIRE ARMS AND OFFENCES.

990. **Sardar Hari Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of persons who possess licenses for guns and revolvers and have been accused in murder or dacoity cases within the last three years because of their having used the arms covered by their licenses ;
- (b) the number of convictions in those cases ;
- (c) the number of murder and dacoity cases during the last three year in which licensed arms have been used ;
- (d) the number of such cases in which unlicensed arms have been used ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The information asked for by the honourable member is shown in the statement which is laid on the table.

STATEMENT.

I. Year.	II. Number of persons who having possessed licenses for guns and revolvers have been accused in murder or dacoity cases on account of their having used the arms covered by their licenses.	III. Number of persons convicted in cases referred to in column II.	IV. Number of murder and dacoity cases in which licensed arms were used.	V. Number of murder and dacoity cases in which unlicensed arms were used.
1926 ..	13	5	12	57
1927 ..	9	5	8	71
1928 --	12	4	14	62

USE OF PUBLIC WELLS BY DEPRESSED CLASSES.

991. **Sardar Hari Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is any municipal area in which public wells on the municipal grounds are open for the use of the depressed classes in common with other people ;
- (b) if not, whether Government intend to allow such facilities to depressed classes in municipal areas ?

The Honourable Malik Feroz Khan, Naun : Local officers have been asked to furnish the required information which will be forwarded to the honourable member in due course.

HINDI AND PUNJABI IN LOWER AND UPPER MIDDLE CLASSES.

992. **Sardar Hari Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there are schools in the Punjab in which there are no arrangements for teaching Hindi and Punjabi to the lower and upper middle classes but there are arrangements for teaching them to the high classes ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what steps Government intends to take to remove this anomaly ?

The Honourable Mr. Marchar Lal : (a) Yes—there are certain number of such schools.

(b) The situation is not entirely anomalous, but the honourable member's suggestion will be borne in mind, and the desirability and suitability of providing teaching in the languages mentioned in the schools concerned will be examined.

CHILDREN OF DEPRESSED CLASSES—FREE EDUCATION.

993. **Sardar Hari Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state if there is any scheme under consideration for giving free education to the children of the depressed classes in vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools ?

The Honourable Mr. Marchar Lal : The question of concessions to children of the depressed classes is under consideration.

DEPRESSED CLASSES—REPRESENTATION IN LOCAL BODIES.

994. **Sardar Hari Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is any member from the depressed classes on any district board or a municipality either by election or nomination ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, what steps Government intends to take for their representation on those bodies ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) It is not clear which castes are to be included in the term "depressed classes" but there are three Municipal Committees in the Province whose elected members include respectively a Mechi, a Ramdasia and a Kunhar.

(b) No person is disqualified for election to a local body on the ground that he belongs to a particular class and Government have no intention of extending the system of communal representation by allowing separate representation to the depressed classes.

As regards the appointment to local bodies of members belonging to such classes the matter will be considered if and when there appears to be any necessity of making such appointments.

DEPRESSED CLASSES—VOTING STRENGTH—LOCAL BODIES.

995. Sardar Hari Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the voting strength of the depressed classes in each district board and municipality of the Punjab ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The required information is being collected and will be furnished to the honourable member in due course.

DEPRESSED CLASSES—COMPOSITION.

996. Sardar Hari Singh : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state what classes or communities in this province go under the name of depressed classes.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No definition of depressed classes in the Punjab has been made, nor does existing custom appear to permit of any precise definition being attempted.

DEPRESSED CLASSES—SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITION—
AMELIORATION.

997. Sardar Hari Singh : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken during the last five years to ameliorate the social and economic condition of the depressed classes ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If the honourable member will state precisely what he means by the depressed classes in this Province an attempt will be made to reply to his question.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

998. Sardar Hari Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state if there are any applications from private schools for recognition which are pending before the Government for the last one year ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : If the honourable member will please elucidate his question, an answer will be prepared. The Department of Education does not recognise any private schools. Will the honourable member, therefore, state whether by private schools he means privately managed schools. Secondly, will he state whether by the expression 'pending before Government' he means applications which have been submitted to Inspectors, or which have been sent on to the Department and thirdly by 'pending for the last one year' does he mean applications which were submitted more than a year ago, or which have been submitted during the last twelve months ? In the meantime the honourable member is informed that inquiries are being made from Inspectors regarding the recognition of certain schools and early orders will be passed.

EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, MOGA.

999. Sardar Mohindar Singh : Will the Chief Secretary to Government please state—

- (a) since how long has a second Extra Assistant Commissioner been stationed at Moga in Ferozepore district ;
- (b) whether it is the intention of Government to station 2 Extra Assistant Commissioners permanently there ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Since October 1927.

(b) No.

BIKANER CANAL.

1000. Sardar Mohindar Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Bikaner Canal in the Ferozepore district is a lined canal and has very steep sides ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that since the canal started running many human beings and animals have fallen into the canal, and because there is no way of getting out, have been drowned ;
- (c) will the Government be pleased to state how many such deaths occurred during 1928 ;
- (d) what action does Government intend taking to prevent such accidents in future ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The main line of the Bikaner Canal is lined and has sides sloping one vertical to one horizontal ;

(b) and (c) A record has been kept of human bodies retrieved from the canal in 1928. The total number is fourteen. Of these, six are definitely established as murders, three are believed to have been suicides and in the case of four the cause is accidental or unknown. No complete record of animals removed from the canal has been maintained ;

(d) Enquiries are proceeding as to the lengths of the canal which are so close to villages as to be a possible source of danger, with a view to the erection of fencing as a protection.

DISTRICT BOARDS—BUDGET.

1001. Sardar Mohindar Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that District Boards have to prepare their budgets in the month of February each year ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that for the sake of correct budgeting they are required to estimate the amount of Government grant expected in the next financial year ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has passed orders that the District Boards should be helped by the Government Departments concerned, by supplying them with the required information and figures ;

[Sardar Mohindar Singh.]

(d) if so, when these orders were passed ;

(e) whether these orders have been observed ; if not, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Instructions of the kind in question have in the past been issued every year about the time of preparation of budget estimates.

(e) Government have no definite information but it is believed that there have been cases of delay for various reasons. The matter will be reconsidered along with the question of amending the date prescribed in clause (c) of rule 7 of the District Board Account Code, 1926.

SURVEILLANCE OF CHUHRA BY POLICE.

1002. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the police officials in Lyallpur and Amritsar districts are preparing lists of the adults of Chuhra community in various thanas with the object of declaring them as belonging to the criminal tribes ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons which have led them to adopt such measures ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b). No. Lists of Chuhra are, however, being prepared in the Lyallpur district with a view to verifying the previous record and history of the members of that community who have come from other districts and who are responsible for a considerable percentage of crime in that district.

CHUHRA—MAL-TREATMENT BY A HAWALDAR.

1003. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

(a) whether his attention has been invited to a letter, dated the 10th January 1929, addressed to the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, by certain Chuhra of village Bhattiwal, District Gurdaspur, regarding alleged mal-treatment by a Hawaldar of Police ;

(b) if so, what action does Government propose to take in the matter ?

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

(b) Enquiries were made, but the allegations were not substantiated. Orders have been circulated to Station House Officers forbidding the custom of begar.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, AMBALA DIVISION—DISMISSAL OF STAFF.

1904. Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please lay on the table a statement showing community-wise the members of the teaching staff as well as the clerical staff whose services were dispensed with or terminated by Mr. Wilson, Inspector of Schools, Ambala Division.

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

SARDAR CHARAT SINGH, HONORARY MAGISTRATE, SIALKOT.

1905. Lala Bodh Raj : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

(i) the period Sardar Charat Singh, Honorary Magistrate, Sialkot, has put in as Honorary Magistrate ;

(ii) the date of his retirement from Government service ;

(b) Has the attention of the Honourable Member been drawn to the resolution passed by the Bar Association, Sialkot, against him ? If so, what action has been taken thereon ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) (i) About 8 years.

(ii) 31st August 1925.

(b) Not until the honourable member asked the question. It is understood that the Bar Association, Sialkot, have withheld the resolution.

POLICE DEPARTMENT—COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION.

1906. Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please lay on the table a statement showing community-wise the number of posts held in the police department above the rank of sub-inspector in the Hoshiarpur district ?

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

Number of posts.	Rank.	Community to which the officer holding the post belongs.
1	Superintendent of Police.	Muslim.
1	Deputy Superintendent of Police..	Muslim.
2	Inspectors of Police	1 Muslim. 1 Hindu.

1907. Cancelled.

ALLAH DITTA, MEMBER, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, KHEM KARAN.

1008. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Allah Ditta, Zaildar, has been appointed a member of the Municipal Committee of Khem Karan in the district of Lahore;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the said Allah Ditta is not a resident of Khem Karan town;
- (c) whether it is a fact that he does not carry on any business in the above place;
- (d) whether it is a fact that he owns no immoveable property within the municipal limits of Khem Karan;
- (e) if the replies to the above be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state reasons for the above appointment?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a), (b), (c) and (d) Yes.

(e) He was considered the most suitable of the possible candidates for the appointment, and the Committee have elected him president.

UPPER CHENAB CANAL, RAJAH BRANCH.

1009. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether the Government had realised Rs. 0-8-0 per acre for work on Upper Chenab Canal, Rajah Branch, Ilaga Kalar, for the years 1918-1928;
- (b) if so, what was the amount realised and what was the amount spent on these works;
- (c) has the balance, if any, been returned or not;
- (d) if not, when shall it be returned?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) A special water rate of Rs. 0-8-0 per acre was levied in these years for the whole Canal, the object of which was to meet the cost of construction of water-courses.

- (b) Accounts are not kept by particular areas.
- (c) No.
- (d) Is under consideration.

SUB-JUDGE'S COURT AT OKARA.

1010. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : With reference to my unstarred question No. 800¹ re. Sub-Judge's Court at Okara, will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state whether the High Court addressed the Government, and if so, what step has the Government taken in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : No: but Government have ascertained that as a result of the representations made to the High Court, the Honourable Judges have issued orders that, with effect from the 1st

December 1928, the Sub-Judge at Montgomery should hold his court occasionally for one week or a few days at Okara in order to dispose of cases from Okara Mandi. It has been found after careful enquiry that the actual state of work does not justify the posting of a whole-time Sub-Judge at Okara, which appears to be a seasonal town depending largely on the cotton crop.

MALIK GHULAM RASUL, SHAUQ, DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS,
DERA GHAZI KHAN.

1011. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : Arising out of my question No. 801¹, will the Honourable the Education Minister please state—

- (a) whether there is any rule for keeping an officer at a station for a specified length of time ;
- (b) if so, whether that period is less than five and a half years ;
- (c) if so, why has Malik Ghulam Rasul, Shauq, District Inspector of Schools, Dera Ghazi Khan, been allowed to stay in one district for such a length of time ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

GRANT-IN-AID LIST.

1012. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : Arising out of my question No. 802¹, will the Honourable Education Minister state if the said schools have been brought on the grant-in-aid list ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The Sanghar school has been given a special grant as it is not permanently recognised. The case of the other school is under consideration.

DAMAGE TO RABI CROPS.

1013. Pir Akbar Ali : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the recent cold wave has done irreparable loss to the Rabi crops ?
- (b) whether it is a fact that the crops in some districts have been absolutely spoiled ; if so, in what districts ;
- (c) whether the Government intends to take any steps for relieving the zamindars of the loss suffered by them by this calamity ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (b) It is believed by the people to have caused considerable loss, but experts on inspections find that though some loss has been caused it is not by any means large, and it is hoped some of it may yet be retrieved.

(c) The occasion has not yet arisen except in Gurgaon and Dera Ghazi Khan where special measures are being adopted and considered. It is hoped that need for special measures will not elsewhere arise, but if such an emergency unfortunately arises, I have no doubt both Government and the people will do their duty by those who deserve help.

DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES.

1014. Sardar Habib Ullah : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Industries, Punjab, travelled all over Europe this year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that he has collected important data about the development of industries on the continent;
- (c) if so, how the Government propose to utilise this material for the advancement of industries in this province?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) It is understood that Dr. Rawley toured extensively in Europe, while on leave last year.

(b) Government has no information.

(c) Does not arise, but Director of Industries will doubtless send up in due course such schemes for the consideration of Government as he may consider suitable in the conditions of this province.

LOCAL FUND AUDIT DEPARTMENT.

1015. Sardar Habib Ullah : Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India asked the Local Government of this province to take over the Local Fund Audit Department from the control of the Auditor-General;
- (b) if so, what steps have been taken in that respect?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) Local Fund Audit is a provincial subject under item 46 of Part II of Schedule I to the Devolution Rules. The Government of India left it to the Local Government to decide whether it would assume control of the establishment concerned, and the local Government preferred that it should remain under the control of the Audit Department. There has been no reference on the subject since 1920.

3-L. DISTRIBUTARY, BAHAWALPUR SUB-DIVISION.

1016. Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the estimates for raising the bank to the designed bank level of 3-L., distributary in Bahawalpur sub-division have been recently revised;
- (b) whether it is a fact that before this revision of estimates, the said distributary was not opened for irrigation;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the contractor was made the payment of final bill before the said revision of estimates;
- (d) if so, what was the necessity for revising the estimates after the contractor had been paid the final bill on the completion of the distributary?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) It is not a fact that the estimates for raising the bank to the designed bank level of 3-L. Distributary, in Bahawalpur Sub-Division, have been recently revised.

(b), (c) and (d). Do not arise in face of reply to (a).

DISTRICT BOARD, JHANG—LOAN TO CO-OPERATIVE BANK.

1017. Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the district board, Jhang, has recently advanced a loan of Rs. 50,000 to the Co-operative Bank of the district;
- (b) if so, why, and under what rules the amount has been invested in this loan;
- (c) from which fund this amount has been advanced?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) and (c) No such loan has been advanced to the bank in question. A sum of Rs. 50,000 from the provident fund has however been invested in fixed deposit with that bank.

(b) Under the rules approved by Government provident fund monies are ordinarily deposited in postal savings bank, but as better terms are available in the case of deposits with Co-operative banks, Government have approved of such deposits being made if such banks are approved by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Punjab.

DIET MONEY LAPSED TO GOVERNMENT.

1018. Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Member for Finance lay on the table a statement showing separately for each of the last 5 years the amount of diet money lapsed to Government originally deposited by the litigants for the expenses of witnesses in their cases?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when complete.

CENTRES FOR EXAMINATION—ANGLO-VERNAICULAR SCHOOLS.

1019. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in certain divisions, centre for examinations for promotions from 8th class of Anglo-Vernacular Schools have been constituted by Divisional Inspectors;
- (b) whether it is a fact that regular examination fees are charged from all candidates and both Inspectors and Headmasters share such fees among themselves as remuneration for work done in connection with the said examinations;
- (c) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will the Government kindly quote under what Article of the Punjab Education Code Inspectors have taken to such methods?

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

(b) Inquiry is being made from the Inspectors of Schools, and the information when ready will be communicated to the honourable member.

(c) Does not arise at present.

SUPERINTENDENT, PUNJAB CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1020. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Sikh Superintendent in the Punjab Civil Secretariat?

(b) if so, what steps Government intend to take to appoint a Sikh to one of these posts?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) These appointments are not made on a communal basis, but by strict selection from amongst eligible candidates.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

INDUSTRIES GRANT (contd.).

Mr. President : (addressing S. Ijjal Singh) Does the honourable member wish to make any reply? Pir Akbar Ali who was in possession of the House, when the council adjourned last, has not risen.

Dr. Mrs. M. C. Shave (Non-official, Nominated) : This debate on the question of Industries in the Punjab has been dragged out to great length by speeches sentimental, slyly suggestive, wearisomely rambling or vitriolic according to the mind and temper of various speakers; but while listening to these, and other speeches made in this House the question that suggested itself to me was—are we really here to set our house in order and to consider ways and means rationally, and with level heads or shall we let rancour, bitterness and love of the sound of our own voices carry us where they will. To get down to particulars—have not handicrafts given way all over the world before the march of the machine? Have not the products of handicraft become luxuries for the rich in most of the countries of this teeming, scurrying modern world? With the improvement of communications was not the flooding of this country with machine-made goods inevitable? And did not the people themselves grasp eagerly at these goods? Are we not unreasonable in expecting other industries to take the place of our dying handicrafts, to be forced up like mushroom growths in a night? Is capital to be produced by magic and wizardry from nowhere? Do we not object to taxation and protest against it, in season and out, with might and main? Is it not a fact that rich men in this province show lack of enterprise and keep to beaten tracks in the investment of their money, that smaller capitalists will not band themselves together into companies, that we, the people of this province, lack initiative, trust in each other's powers of organisation and that patient attention to perfection of details on which the successful building up of industrial concerns depends? Has not the Government fostered agriculture, the main industry of the Punjab with wonderful care and foresight? Are we grateful enough for this glorious system of canals which has made the desert blossom like the rose? Is not the essential conservatism of the agriculturist the only drag upon the wheels of progress in this industry? Let us be fair and let us fight clearly avoiding insult and innuendo and giving credit where it is due. A campaign of vilification and misrepresentation will get us nowhere—

can only end in disaster. If we plot the ruin of others we shall be involved in that ruin ourselves. Horrible short-cuts to power such as Bolshevism, I should like to tell the innocent and artless enquirer from the opposite benches, can end only in misery and desolation. Hate produces monstrous growths. Self-knowledge, self-discipline, self-control for the nation as for the individual can alone lead life to sovereign power. A truce to intolerance, narrow-mindedness, selfishness. Let us nurse no grievances and when we criticise let us not spare ourselves and let us deal fairly and honestly with those by whose mistakes we may have suffered but by whose wisdom and foresight we have benefited over and over and over again. If our programme is to be one of construction and not destruction, there is no other way. Let it not be said of us that—

" His feet are swift to tumult,
His hands are slow to toil,
His ears are deaf to reason,
His lips are leud in broil,
He knows no use for power,
Except to show his might,
He gives no heed to judgement
Unless it prove him right.

Because he served a master
Before his kingship came
And hid in all disaster
Behind his master's name,
So, when his folly opens
The unnecessary halls
A servant when He reigneth
Throws the blame on some one else.

His vows are lightly spoken,
His faith is hard to bind,
His trust is easy broken,
He fears his fellow kind,
The nearest myth will move him
To break the pledge he gave,
Oh ! a Servant when He reigneth
Is more than ever slave.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture): Sir, I had, no intention of speaking, but the lady member who has just spoken has inspired me to say a few words on the possibilities of industrial progress in the Punjab. I rejoice greatly at the discussion which has taken place in the House. I am glad to see that members are now paying more attention to economic problems than they did hitherto. Politics, if I may say so, are only a means to an end, and that end is none other than to promote the well-being of the people and this can never be promoted unless we organise production on modern lines. In this connection, may I mention the labours of the Joint Development Board in examining some of the urgent problems of the province. The Joint Development Board consists of official and non-official members of this House and a few from

[Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

outside who are interested both in industries and agriculture. A writer in a British Journal remarked that the action taken by the Punjab Government in combining Agriculture and Industries was very sound. The Sub-committees of the Board have taken up and examined the problems of sugar, hosiery, essential oils, edible oils and weaving, and submitted their reports. Action has already been taken on the report of the Sugar Committee. The report of the Hosiery Sub-Committee is engaging the attention of the Industries Department. I cannot help paying my tribute to the members of this Sub-Committee, and Mr. Lewis particularly, who gave a great deal of time in preparing a constructive programme. There is still a sub-committee sitting on co-operative marketing, fruit farming, poultry, industrial occupation for women, designs, and cane and basket work. My view is that there is no cause for despair and if we set our hearts to do things, nothing is impossible. Things have been impossible because we have been paralysed and because we have given more consideration to words than to deeds. What is necessary is a concentrated effort in organising industries and in taking up things in the same way as other countries have done. May I tell the House what England did to promote beet sugar industry. Beet was not grown in England to any extent before the War. During the War it was found difficult to obtain the necessary amount of sugar that was required for England. Immediately afterwards, the Government took action and a company was promoted with a capital of £500,000 in which Government took half the shares charging no interest for the first ten years. In addition to this, later on Government provided another £125,000 as a loan to this company and secured for the farmers a definite price for beet at the rate of about £44 a ton. In 1923 only 16,900 acres were under beet but in 1926 there were 180,000 acres under beet. And by an arrangement the home-grown sugar was given an advantage of £25 a ton over foreign sugar and of £21 a ton over Dominion sugar. This is the way how things should be done. We have started with a small sugar factory and we hope in times to come, many sugar factories will follow. In any case, the Government has given an indication of assistance to local industries. Chaudhri Zafrullah mentioned particularly shoes and asked: 'Why nothing has been done to promote the shoe industry?' My view is that the tastes of the people have undergone a change and our intelligent classes have done nothing to provide new designs, so that our workmen may make the article for which there was a demand. The result is that the artisan continues to follow the traditional designs while people require modern designs. And the result is that the industry has slipped out of the hands of shoe-makers. In the Joint Development Board we have appointed a committee to examine the problem of designs. If you provide new designs in shoes, I do not see why these human machines cannot be more productively provided and produce articles that the modern times demand. I may say that in the Punjab, in any case, we have a large population of artisans, weavers, blacksmiths, shoe-makers who in old times used to cater to the needs of the province as a whole, but where they have failed and where they need intelligent assistance is in the supply of modern designs, modern implements, and if we assist them in this way, we can materially help production. The Joint Development Board, I hope, will receive greater support from all classes of people and I would be prepared to have all the members of the Agricultural and the

Industrial Committee, Standing Committees of the Council as *ex-officio* members of the Boards. We shall have to settle down to work and take these problems one by one and do all that we can to promote industries. A happy sign is the interest in the development of industries which is now being manifested in the House and it may be that in the years to come more attention will be paid to this vital problem than is paid to-day.

Mr. W. R. Wilson (Revenue Secretary):—Sir, I would like to follow in the footsteps of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and take Mrs. Shave's speech as the text for such remarks as I may make. It is true that in this debate although there has been a great multiplicity and diversity of recommendations and suggestions made with regard to industries and industrial education, yet owing to this very multiplicity and diversity of suggestions it is somewhat difficult to understand what the House really desires. There is, however, no doubt, as the Honourable Minister for Agriculture has just said, that the House does desire that progress should be made in the way of promoting the industries of the Province.

One honourable member spoke about industrial schools and said that they were useless: another said that more money should be spent upon them. One honourable member recommended that cottage industries should be promoted and, on the other hand, another member said that what he wanted was the spending of money on advanced machine industries on a large scale. Government was also blamed, on the one hand, for not providing trained men for industries which existed, and, on the other hand, for not endeavouring to create industries which at the present moment did not exist. Then it was also said that scholarships should be freely given for study abroad, and then a complaint was made that when scholarships were given, it was very difficult for the scholars to get any jobs on their return from study abroad. It was also said that some measures of protection in more or less degree was needed to promote industrial progress in the province, and among the suggestions made was one that protection in the way of safeguarding industries should be confined to selected industries. All these counsels have been given. But I gather from the way in which a reference to what is and has been after all an important industry in the Punjab, that is, the industry of horse breeding, was received that the rather impatient idealism of those honourable members who wish to see an industrial revolution brought about in the Punjab, forgets what is a very real fact that the great volume and mass of the Punjab population is agricultural and rural. The only factories which are numerous in the Punjab are ginning factories, seasonal in their working. They are not flourishing at the moment owing to the fact that cotton crop has shown some decline. The work in the ginning factories depends entirely upon the agricultural fortunes of the districts in which cotton is grown. Before agricultural Punjab can become an industrial centre it will be necessary to have arrangements made for industry on a large scale and that means provision for the specialization of functions and the division of labour to which alone industry owes its triumphs, and in which alone industries can exemplify the law of increasing returns. For that is needed a large quantity of labour which can be detailed to various tasks, a large reservoir of workers on which industry can draw in a boom and into which it can discharge in a crisis, and that means urbanization. The Punjab is not urbanised yet and

[Mr. Wilson.]

it is very doubtful whether it is desirable, if indeed it is possible, to urbanise it. If it is desired to urbanise the Punjab then the inevitable result will be that the problem of unemployment will grow tremendously because urbanising always brings in its train a great increase of population and such an increase of population that it is very difficult to prevent unemployment becoming a problem such as it never can become in an agrarian province. It is certain, Sir, that the advance of industries will never be achieved in the Punjab by any measure of protection whether great or small. It has been said, I think by Dr. Gokul Chand Narang, that in England industry was advanced through the wise measure of protection adopted. But that is not true. The real thing needed for any industrial development on a large scale is the presence of certain essentials which in England's case were coal and iron and water. That is the magnet which draws factories together. The fact that the Punjab is so prosperous as an agricultural province is due to the presence of water, and thanks to the inception of the hydro-electric scheme, the water that has given this prosperity to agriculture, is now being harnessed to take the place of coal and to supply a second and a very necessary factor in any provision for industrial development. Mention, I think, should also be made here of the MacLagan School of Engineering at Mughalpura, because, although it concerns another department of Government, the school is playing its part in providing "supplies and services" in turning out trained Mechanical Engineers.

A certain amount of emphasis has been laid on the need for direct State action. I remember being present at a meeting called about a year ago to discuss the question of the development of joint stock organisations in the Punjab, when the foremost industrialist of the province stated that things would necessarily in the Punjab go slowly because capital was very shy and capitalists desired to have some assurance that concerns would be paying before they took any risk in investing their capital. That attitude is natural, but until the capitalist is prepared to take the business-man's risk the element of individual action which is necessary and has been found necessary in the past in countries where industries have made great strides, until the capitalist is prepared to take some risk, as Mrs. Shava has very rightly observed, the promotion of industries on a large scale is not likely to make much headway. Direct State control in itself will not help to solve the problem. We, in the Punjab, have already experienced that. Direct State action is not the best agency for attaining efficient technique in production and that, I think, is the experience everywhere. Yet, I think that the charge that Government is doing nothing to assist industries on a large scale is not very well founded. The Honourable Minister for Education has drawn attention to the establishment of a sugar factory at Sonapat and there is also the paper factory at Jagadhri to which Government has afforded facilities, and then there is also the scheme of an oil refinery which owes its inception to an enterprising businessman in Lyallpur where Government has done something in the way of setting the enterprise on its feet. It is hoped that with the aid of the site leased for the purpose of erecting a factory, an up to date oil refinery will be set up in Lyallpur. Cane, grass and oilseeds—you cannot very well in the Punjab separate your industries to begin with, at any rate, from their agricultural concomitants.

Then it was stated that more should be done in the way of advancing loans to small industrialists. Some progress has been made in that direction. In 1926-28 no loans were given at all. In 1926-27 loans of Rs. 5,000 each were given to six persons. In the year before last the amount of industrial loans increased to something over half a lakh and in the present year, it is anticipated that over a lakh will have been given in the way of industrial loans including a large grant made to the weavers of Jalalpur Jattan to enable them by means of the formation of a joint stock organisation to set on its feet an indigenous industry which has played its important part in the past but which owing to machine competition has perhaps fallen rather upon bad days.

I do not think I should take the time of the House any longer on the subject of the promotion of industries. Given the essential munitions, each province has to work out its own destiny by its own endeavours. I do feel as uninformed the disparagements that have been made in regard to industrial schools. They are useless, it is said, in doing anything towards bringing about industrial schools. I would, Sir, say with your permission a few words about industrial schools. It is quite true that a few years ago there were dubbed egregious failures but that was before they were provincialised and before they were taken over by the Industries Department. It is doubtless true that at the beginning they were badly housed, ill-equipped and lamentably under-staffed, but in recent years, efforts have been made to improve both the quantity of schools and then the quality of the teaching given in them. With effect from April 1928, a whole time Industrial Inspector of Schools was appointed. Although it is difficult to judge from the cloisters of the Secretariat about the work done by Mr. Cowie who has the whole of the Punjab in his charge; as far as it is given to judge, he had put his heart and soul into the work of re-organising the schools in the way that does both credit to him and to which the schools are bound to do credit themselves in the course of two or three years. A scheme of studies has only recently been prepared, and if you will allow me, Sir, I shall briefly refer to it later, for a moment. I would like to point out that in accordance with the need for beginning with some specialisation, at page 100 of the Memorandum of New Expenditure it will be seen that additional crafts have now been instituted in existing industrial schools so that training may be given and where necessary, advanced training, in the crafts which are peculiar to the towns in which the schools are situated. In Ferozepore, Lyallpur and Sargodha, a metal work department is being opened. In Ferozepore and Rohtak brass and copper work have been introduced, and at Kasur where wood-working and metal-working have hitherto been taught, lacquer work will be introduced in the coming year. Then, Sir, in reply to the charge that industrial education should be cheapened, in the industrial schools, the fees for students is the same as in the ordinary vernacular educational institutions although very much more has to be given to the students in the way of plant, material, tools, and tuition. In a short time, it is hoped that there will be one industrial school in every district; at present there are 20 districts having them.

I will conclude, Sir, by referring to, very briefly, because I think it is of real interest, the scheme of studies which is now before Government for consideration in connection with industrial schools. The industrial schools are

[Mr. Wilson.]

to have their primary department, and in addition to the regular industrial middle school, there are also to be industrial middle schools in large towns and industrial centres with 9th and 10th classes. Eventually perhaps as years go by, the bigger schools will blossom into technical institutes. In the industrial middle schools according to the Inspector's scheme which is now under the consideration of Government the basic crafts to be taught are to be the standard crafts taught up to a standard which shall enable the students to become a competent worker in an essential craft, e.g., wood work, iron work, sheet metal work, leather work, and textiles work in the special weaving classes provided in certain schools where weaving is taught, including technical drawing and general education. In the two advanced classes, class 9 and class 10, the course will be two years longer and the object of the course is to afford facilities for training in specialised crafts. The scheme of studies is both theoretical and practical and the object of the practical side is to aim at a standardization of what should be done. It is proposed to teach the following subjects: wood-work, tin smithy, black smithy, brass and copper smithy, trunk making, silver smithy and jewellery course, the manufacture of sports goods (e.g., in Sialkot), lacquer work, carpet weaving, leather work (which will help to remove the shoe indistment), and textile weaving in the special schools. Industrial schools have had their difficulties in past years. They were but experiments, but now that Mr. Cowie has been appointed as Inspector, and now that he has prepared a considered syllabus, I think a little patience is required on the part of honourable members to see whether these schools shall stand out from the track of educational institutions and become egregious in the proper sense of that term before they become bastardized.

With these remarks, I hope the motion before the House will be withdrawn.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan (South-East Towns (Muhammadan), Urban). (Urdu): Sir, so far as the principle is concerned, the present demand has been discussed at a sufficiently great length and there is hardly room for much addition on my part. Therefore, instead of harping on the same tune, I will draw your attention to a particular and very important aspect of the matter. The honourable member who preceded me has drawn our attention to a good many industries existing in the province, e.g., blacksmithy, shoe making, metal works, etc. But I submit, Sir, that they have not proved of much use to the country. Only such industries can be regarded as useful to the people as would help us to keep our money in the country and check the outflow of our wealth to the foreign countries. Sir, there is quite a large number of weavers in this country and, similarly there is no dearth of carpenters and other various artisan classes. They have been following their respective professions for so many centuries, but have not been able to walk out of the old ruts for want of initiative. The brass-workers at Jagadhri and Ambala too, cannot help us very much, for everybody knows that this is pre-eminently the age of chinaware and glass, and that brass, bronze and other such metals are, day by day, being replaced by china. The same can be said with regard to the other industries mentioned by the honourable member who has just finished his speech. This shows that these industries cannot improve the condition of the province to any appreciable

extent and that if we really care for the prosperity of our people we must look in some other direction and introduce in the province such industries as might be expected to increase its wealth. I must say that the present system is a sheer waste of money because we do not get anything for the huge sums of money that we spend every year in this direction. You cannot help the people by opening technical primary schools alone. The Government should award scholarships to deserving students for going to America and other foreign countries to get industrial education and when they return, their qualifications and ability should be utilized for increasing the wealth of the country.

Now, let us look at this demand for Rs. 10,71,100 from this point of view and see how much out of it is spent on industrial education that can be of some real use to the province. Is it not a pity that out of this huge sum of Rs. 10,71,100, nothing more than Rs. 2,880, has been set apart for scholarships? Is this the kind of the industrial education and industrial development by which the Government is going to make our province prosperous? However, as we are asked to grant so much money for this department let us see how it is spent. On referring to page 372 of the Detailed Estimates we find that Rs. 74,700 have been set apart for Direction and Rs. 85,600 for Superintendence. But what about the activities and work of these branches? As regards superintendence, some sort of it may be necessary so far as the Government Demonstration Weaving Factory and the Government Institute of Dyeing and Calico Printing at Shahdara are concerned, but it is proved by facts that nowhere else is there any need for it. Then take the case of Direction. The department has already got one Director and one Assistant Director and now we are asked to grant money for one more Assistant Director and a Head Assistant. I submit, Sir, that their work in this department might have decreased to some extent, but it certainly has not increased. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to understand how the Government thinks itself justified in coming forward with this proposal; perhaps the Honourable Minister may be able to throw some light on the matter.

Similarly, the way in which the money is distributed among the various branches of the Department is quite as strange. I have already pointed out that Rs. 35,600 have been set aside for Superintendence. Now, what about Education? We find that Rs. 8,07,500 are spent, or rather wasted, on industrial education, while the money reserved for awarding industrial scholarships which was Rs. 3,120, last year has been reduced to Rs. 2,880. This is how the money is spent and what the Government is doing to encourage Industrial Education which can be of any real use to the province. Can this system do any good to the people of this country? Is it not necessary for the Government to pay attention to real industrial education and thus try to improve the financial condition of the country? With these few words, Sir, I oppose the demand.

Mr. V. F. Gray (Punjab Chamber of Commerce and Trades Association, Commerce): Sir, I feel a bit at a discount in speaking on this motion, because I was not here on the day the major portion of the debate took place. However, as I am the representative for Commerce here I should just like to make a few general statements.

[Mr. Gray.]

A part of the debate I have heard and I am in great sympathy with the remarks just made by Mr. Wilson in connection with the development of such industries in the Punjab that are dependent on agriculture or raw materials produced in the district. Any industry will start with a difficult handicap against competition if the raw materials have to be brought from and transported a long distance.

The main difficulty for industries to overcome in the Punjab is power. So long as this power is produced by coal and this coal has to be brought from Bengal, so long will Punjab industries suffer. Therefore, the sooner the various Hydro-Electric schemes are completed and electric power is available, the sooner will the greatest factor in competition be overcome.

From Mr. Wilson's remarks I gather the question of protection was raised, but on this subject I can personally give no support; there can only, in my opinion, be very few instances when protection is justified to encourage some necessary industry which is sufficiently important to override the fact of the enormous agricultural population having to pay more for the products of such industry which may be articles necessary for every day life.

Next to power, I consider technical knowledge the most important, but how far these technical schools are fulfilling this function. I am afraid I am not able to say, but I would like to emphasize that, not only in this province but in India as a whole, the whole country suffers from a lack of skilled technical knowledge. In spite of this, I do acknowledge that very good work is being done in India, still there is a lamentable lack of technical knowledge. I am not speaking of industries of this province only or even of India, but of most things sold here, whether made locally or imported.

It, therefore, seems to me that technical schools are the primary need of India, but we must guard against getting too many technical experts before we have industries sufficiently developed to absorb them, not a surplus like we have today of B. O.'s; this would only aggravate the discontent in the province, but industries and raw materials will be useless without technical knowledge.

Therefore, any expenditure proposed by Government in this direction will have my whole-hearted support.

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh, Urban): Sir, I am very glad that this motion has elicited an illuminating discussion entirely free from communal or class considerations. Many useful suggestions have been made with regard to the establishment of industries that can be set up in this province ranging from the textile industry to the horse breeding industry and many useful remedies have also been suggested, from protection, exchange and banking down to the grant of technical scholarships. Sir, I fully realize the importance of the problem of protection and the problem of exchange and banking. I purposely avoided discussion on those problems because I thought they were not within the sphere of the Punjab Government. They are all-India problems and the country has been discussing them and pressing for them since the time the Britishers set their foot on this land. Sir, Mr. Townsend was a bit on safer ground when he discussed the question of protection as an academic matter, because much can be said on both sides. He put forward the argument that by the principle of protection the interest of

the consumers would suffer. That is a very hackneyed argument and has always been put forward whenever the question of free trade and protection has been considered. Sir, as regards this point I only say a word. It is perfectly correct that the consumer for the time being is hard hit if protection is applied but he is not so much hit because at the same time he gets employment if the industries are set up and by that he adds to his income. If his income is increased, it is immaterial if he has got to spend a few pice more on his consumption, on the products that he consumes. Mr. Penny interrupted one of the honourable members and said "When did England apply this method of protection for killing Indian Industry." Sir, I will quote from Mr. Romesh Dutt's Economic History of India. On page 294 of this book it is clearly given how in 1812 and up to 1832 the protective duties to the extent of 400 per cent. were levied on Indian goods. Calicoes were subjected to the protective duty of 71½ per cent. in 1812, 67½ per cent. in 1824, and 10 per cent. in 1832; other cotton manufactures, 27½ per cent. in 1812, 50 per cent. in 1824 and 20 per cent. in 1832; goat's wool shawls, 71 per cent. in 1812, 67½ per cent. in 1824, 30 per cent. in 1832. In the case of silk manufactures, they were altogether prohibited in 1812 and 1824 and were subjected to 20 per cent. on their value in 1832. Sugar was subjected to protective duty of £ 1.18s. per cwt. in 1812; £ 3.3s per cwt. in 1824 and £. 1.12s. per cwt. in 1832.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Which sugar, Indian sugar?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : This is how England applied protection to her industries there. It was said that England did not apply protective duties. All these commodities were subject to protective duties in England.

Mr. V. F. Gray : England has not got a sugar industry.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Well, if Mr. Gray contests this, I can challenge his view. I am quoting from book, not from my memory. Sir, the effect of these protective duties on calicoes and other manufactures exported from India was, as has been very clearly put in a statement in the evidence which was given before a committee of Parliament presided over by Lord Seymour in 1840.....

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : In the matter of sugar may I give a bit of information? The effect of this was that the existing rate of duty was to give home-grown sugar an advantage of £25 per ton over foreign sugar and £21 per ton over Dominion sugar.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Sir, I am quoting from the evidence submitted before that Committee presided over by Lord Seymour. Mr. Montgomery Martin appearing as witness said before the Committee :—

"We have during the period of a quarter of a century compelled the Indian territories to receive our manufactures, our woollens, duty free, our cottons at 2½ per cent and other articles in proportion; while we have continued during that period to levy almost prohibitory duties, or duties varying from 10 to 20, 30, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000 per cent. upon the articles, the produce from our territories. Therefore, the cry that has taken place for free trade with India, has been a free trade from this country, not a free trade between India and this country. The decay and destruction of Surat, of Dacca, of Murelidabad, and other places where native manufactures have been carried on, is too painful a fact to dwell upon. I do not consider that it has been in the fair course of trade; I think it has been the power of the stronger exercised over the weaker."

[Sardar Ujjal Singh]

This is how Indian industry was killed and how the English industry was established. Sir, it is always the case that a nascent industry does require protection. It is like a small child who does require leading strings. A grown up country like England is welcome to have free trade but we are like children. Our industries have got to be developed and we cannot develop our industries without applying protection. But we are like children and if our industries are to be developed they should be protected from competition of well-established industries outside the country. The Honourable Minister was very eloquent in describing the achievements of the Department of Industries. I quite admit that within the limited budget allotment something is being done for industries, but not to the extent to which we want it to be done. Much more can be done even within this limited budget. It is not the duty of the House to suggest measures or to make definite proposals with regard to particular industries. It is for a small committee and for the experts to make useful and definite suggestions. It is for the Minister for Education to take the initiative in this matter. It depends on the policy he pursues and the interest he takes. The Honourable Minister said that he did not know how industries could be developed. I have already said that it is for a small committee to suggest measures. The Industrial Commission has in page 189 of their report pointed out various ways in which in the provincial sphere the departments can usefully work. It says that the activities of the provincial departments of industries should fall under the following heads:—

Direct encouragement of industries including a large share in industrial research work; Provisions of technical advice and assistance to industrialists; Examination of applications for special assistance and Grant of loans to small and cottage industries.

The Honourable Mr. Manchar Lal : I referred to all these heads.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : What I want to point out is this, that nothing much has been done under these heads. If the Honourable Minister takes a keen interest in the industrial development of the country I am sure much can be done even within the small budget allotment. I do realise that 10 lakhs is a very small sum for the development of industries in this big province. I realise also that the Joint Development Board has done very useful work in this direction. But Government will be doing their duty by the people only if they allot a larger sum for this work.

Sir, it is not my object to censure the Honourable Minister by this motion for reduction of the grant. My only object was to start a discussion on the subject so as to draw the attention of the Government to the urgent need for the allotment of a larger sum of money for this important subject. I hope that the Government will take a lesson from the discussion to-day and allot larger sums for the industries of the province so that we may be in a position to press upon the Honourable Ministers to take up suitable schemes of development.

Mr. President : Does the honourable member wish to press his motion to vote?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : No, Sir, I only wanted to start a discussion.

Mr. President : The motion is before the House unless the honourable member withdraws it.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : [Hoshiarpur *cum*-Ludhiana (Muhammadian), Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, while drawing the attention of the Government to the miserable condition of the inhabitants of *ilaga* Beit in the Ludhiana district on the 8th of March 1927, I made it clear that the Fisheries Act had brought havoc on the health of those inhabitants and that it had proved of little use to the Government as well. This Act was passed in hot haste and the people concerned came to know of it only when it was enforced. They were not given time to express their opinion on it and it will be no exaggeration to say that this Act came as a surprise to them. I am not sanguine that I will be able to win the sympathy of the members of the House for the people of *ilaga* Beit and particularly of those who have nothing to do with this *ilaga*. However, I consider it my duty to let the House know that due to this Act hundreds and thousands of people die every year in this *ilaga*. The reason of it is not far to seek. Beit is a breeding place of mosquitoes and other germs and most of the inhabitants of it are afflicted with a disease in the rainy season which invariably develops into phthisis. I am not a doctor and it is not my opinion, but it is the opinion of the people whom I have the honour to represent. Nature has provided these people with a remedy in fish, but since 1922 when the Fisheries Act was passed and enforced, the remedy has been taken away from the people. The worse of it is that hospitals are few and far between in this *ilaga* and sanitary conditions are very bad. The few sub-assistant surgeons, that are posted in *ilaga* Beit, are unable to go from village to village particularly when medical aid is badly needed, because in the malarial season this *ilaga* becomes impassable and remains so for at least three months in the rainy season. I remember on the last occasion the Honourable Minister admitted that the condition of these people was undoubtedly miserable. He went so far as to promise that he would personally go there to see the conditions for himself and to listen to what the people had to say. But he has not kept his promise. I should say that he must have gone there and listened to the complaints of the people.....

Mr. President : Now that the honourable member has developed his argument sufficiently I may point out that the matter he is discussing relates to Fisheries and may be more appropriately discussed when the item relating to Fisheries is taken up.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : But is not this item included in the total grant ?

Mr. President : Yes, it is. But that particular item is not now under discussion. When that item is reached, the honourable member will be in order in discussing it.

Pandit Nanak Chand : [Hoshiarpur, Non-Muhammadian, Rural]
Sir, I move—

"That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1"

[Pandit Nanak Chand.]

My object in moving this motion is to urge upon the Government the necessity of making provision for the industrial education of the depressed classes.

Sir, in this province there are 28 lakhs of persons belonging to the depressed classes.....

Mr. President : Is not the motion now moved by the honourable member covered by Sardar Ujjal Singh's motion re the promotion of industries? Did not the honourable member speak on that motion?

Pandit Nanak Chand : I spoke on that motion; but I submit that this particular subject is not covered by the motion of Sardar Ujjal Singh.

Mr. President : Does the honourable member mean to suggest that the comprehensive motion relating to the 'promotion of industries', which was moved by Sardar Ujjal Singh, does not cover 'the provision for the industrial education of the depressed classes'?

Pandit Nanak Chand : It does not, I submit. That was a general discussion. In this motion I want to draw the attention of Government to this particular subject.

Mr. President : But the question is whether the honourable member's motion is covered by the motion moved by Sardar Ujjal Singh, in the discussion of which the honourable member has taken part.

Pandit Nanak Chand : It was not covered by that, I submit.

Mr. President : How?

Pandit Nanak Chand : Because, Sir, you ruled that discussion on particular and specific subjects could only be taken up when the particular items relating to those subjects were before the House. This particular subject I want to discuss could not be discussed on that motion and, therefore, it cannot be said to have been covered by that motion. In this case I want to direct the attention of the Honourable Minister to a particular subject, namely the industrial education of the depressed classes.

Mr. President : I think that the motion re the 'promotion of industries' did include the 'industrial education of the depressed classes.'

Pandit Nanak Chand : I submit that it has got nothing to do with the promotion of industries at all. I want only to impress upon the Minister that there are certain classes of people called the depressed classes for whom there must be facilities for industrial education, which do not exist at present.

Mr. President : Will not the industrial education of the depressed classes incidentally promote the industrial development of the Province?

Pandit Nanak Chand : Not necessarily, Sir. (Laughter.)

Mr. President : I hold that the present motion is covered by the motion which was moved by Sardar Ujjal Singh and in the discussion of which the honourable member had taken part. It was open to him then to discuss the subject matter of his motion. There is no doubt, that the honourable member's motion is covered by the comprehensive motion of

Sardar Ujjal Singh. The honourable member is a lawyer of long standing and experience.

Pandit Nanak Chand : But two lawyers may differ, Sir. (Laughter). Anyhow, since you rule it out of order I shall not proceed, Sir.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban] : Sir, I beg to move—

"That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1."

(To urge that a women's industrial school of the same standard as Lady Maynatt's Industrial School be opened either at Amritsar or Lahore by the Government, and that a boarding house be attached to it for the benefit of students from rural areas and mufassal towns.)

Mr. President : Order, order. The honourable member's motion is open to the same objection to which Pandit Nanak Chand's motion was open, therefore, I rule it out of order.

Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat Qureshi [Shahpur-West (Muhammadan), Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, I beg to move—

"That the grant be reduced by Rs. 2,750 with respect to the item of 2,750—2nd Assistant to Director of Industries."

Sir, as is clear from the note appended to my motion, my object is to urge the Government that this Assistant to the Director is not necessary. Sir, the Department of Industries has only recently been started and I should say that it is yet in its infancy. It is a very small department and I do not see any justification for the increase of staff of this department. I am very sorry to point out that the earliest opportunity is taken by Government to demand more money to employ more staff and in fact the major portion of the money allotted to a department is spent on salaries given to the staff, but little attention is paid to the work entrusted to the department and only a small portion of the money provided for it is spent on any substantial work. Another reason why I oppose this grant is that the matter of the proposed appointment of the Second Assistant was not placed before the Standing Committee on Industries. If that had been done, I might have considered it twice before giving notice of this amendment. This fact also should not be lost sight of that the present meagre financial resources do not allow or justify any increase in the supervising or clerical staff of a small department like that of Industries. For these considerations, I propose that the matter of the Appointment of Second Assistant be postponed for the present. With these words, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. President : Demand under consideration, amendment moved is—

"That the grant be reduced by Rs. 2,750 with respect to the item of Rs. 2,750—2nd Assistant to Director of Industries."

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education) : On a point of order, Sir, the motion is for reduction of individual items. As I see, I speak subject to your ruling, individual items should be taken up before reduction of the grant as a whole is taken up. Will you kindly refer to May's Parliamentary Practice at page 538, 18th Edition, dealing with the Committee of Supply Procedure. It is there laid down as follows :—

"That when a motion is made, in committee of supply to omit or reduce any item of a vote, a question shall be proposed from the chair for omitting or reducing such item accordingly; and members shall speak to such question only, until it has been disposed of."

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

Then if you kindly turn to page 584 you will find—

"That after a question has been proposed from the chair for a reduction of the whole vote, no motion shall be made for omitting or reducing any item."

And further it seems to me that motions with reference to individual items are taken first and then motions with reference to the grant as a whole. In the present case we are coming back to individual-items after we have considered the total grant.

Mr. President: The rules read out by the honourable member are meant to regulate motions to omit or reduce the items of a grant. The opening words of the paragraph containing the rules make this clear. We are discussing a motion for the reduction of a rupee. The object of the motion is a reduction in name, not in fact; therefore, there is no great harm in discussing it before discussing the individual items.

Mr. W. R. Wilson (Revenue Secretary): Sir, the Director of Industries should be the best person to know where the shoe pinches, that is, in his office. The honourable member from Shahpur has referred to the Standing Committee on Industries. It was the Standing Committee on Industries that in 1925, I think, approved the creation of the post of an Assistant to the Director of Industries and perhaps I may be allowed briefly to read what then were proposed to be the duties which that assistant should perform. They were:—

- (a) to select industrial and economic subjects for investigation;
- (b) to guide and direct the industrial surveyors regarding matters and lines in which such investigation should be made;
- (c) to collect information received from industrial surveyors;
- (d) to write pamphlets and monographs, after collecting information, in an attractive and easily readable form; and to translate such;
- (e) to attend to enquiries on such subjects from the public in the Province as well as from other parts of India;
- (f) to collect information for a trade directory;
- (g) to assist the Director of Industries in general matters.

That was four years ago. The post of the present assistant has been in being for the last three years, but in actual practice it has been found that the present assistant has been unable to attend to any of the district work and has been unable to perform the duties, the multifarious duties of the headquarters office of the Director of Industries. And, as explained in the Schedule of New Expenditure on page 98, Government desires the First Assistant to work mainly on his duties of guiding and directing industrial surveyors, co-ordinating their activities and collating the information they have collected so as to put it in proper record in the office. If the honourable member will look at the explanation in the schedule he will see that the duties of the Second Assistant are many and various, and I should like to emphasize a little further what is involved in establishment work. I am now referring to the work that will be done by the Second Assistant. If the Director himself is to be free to tour more than he has done in the past a gazetted officer is needed at headquarters to be responsible for carrying

on the routine work of the office. Establishment bills relating to the industrial surveyors, the Boiler Inspector, the Factory Inspector, the Mayo School of Arts, Industrial Schools, &c., have to be attended to and also a great amount of clerical work regarding which it is not desirable that the Director of Industries should always be at headquarters to attend to. There is another item in the list of duties to which I would like to draw particular attention and that is, that the new assistant will be expected to attend to important, delicate and intricate work connected with the Joint Stock Companies. The Director of Industries is not only Director of Industries but he is also Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and company work is of a confidential nature which has to be done in conjunction occasionally with the Criminal Investigation Department, work which should not be relegated, as is the case at present to a clerk in the office. I think the duties which the Second Assistant is to perform as tabulated in the schedule are sufficiently formidable to justify the appointment.

Indeed, it is conceded that there is a case for allowing the First Assistant to devote his time in the main to district work—to supervising the work of the Industrial Surveyors. Regarding that, there are at present five Industrial Surveyors, each having five or six districts to look after, and it is true that isolated as they are, their activities have not hitherto shown the required results. It is desirable to get more zeal imported into their work if they are to do the work which these men, some of them men of very good education—M.Sc.'s and the like—are capable of doing. The Second Assistant is needed to relieve the Director of the more routine duties in the office so as to set him free for receiving visitors who come to see him in connection with his work and for attending to his many Boards and Committees. I think the Director of Industries is chairman of about a dozen or twenty boards and committees and papers in connection with these committees take up a good deal of his time. If then the Director is to be set free from the routine work of his office that yet has to be done by a gazetted officer, in order that he may consider questions of policy, direction and supervision in the fullest way, then I think it is necessary that not only should there be a Second Assistant to help towards that but also to enable the First Assistant to devote himself to the supervision of the Industrial Surveyors. About three years ago in accordance with the recommendations of the Standing Committee, Industrial Surveyors were set the task of drawing up monographs about the various industries of the Province. Up to the present only one monograph—a monograph on the textile industry—has been prepared. There are now five monographs in rough draft on hosiery, cutlery, weaving industry in the Ludhiana district, pottery and sports goods, but there are many subjects that have been devised as subjects for investigation by Industrial Surveyors, e.g., mining, calico printing and dyeing, carpet weaving, metal industries, enamelling and woollen industries, with regard to which it is thought important that the First Assistant to the Director of Industries should be set free to direct the work of the Industrial Surveyors and as the Industrial Surveyors can only work within particular areas—big areas—it is necessary to have an officer to co-ordinate the information obtained from them and to endeavour to get a provincial review of the industry. Moreover when at headquarters the First Assistant, if I may call him so, not the headquarters Assistant, will have in addition:

[Mr. Wilson.]

to his district duties of directing and co-ordinating the work of the Industrial Surveyors, the charge of what may be called the intelligence section of the Director of Industries office. In that capacity, he will be faced with many enquiries, enquiries from the Director-General, Commercial Intelligence, from the Indian Trade Commissioner from other Provinces, as well as from industrialists of this Province. There are about on the average 20 or 30 enquiries a day of the kind which may be said to belong to the intelligence section of the office and it will be the function of the First Assistant to attend to these. He will deal with this branch of the work and the other assistant will attend to the more general duties in the headquarters office. I think I am right in saying that although the Industries Department in the United Provinces is a bigger department than in the Punjab it is the case that there the Director has two Deputy Directors, each of them on a scale of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500, in addition to a Personal Assistant. Here the Director has only one Assistant on a scale of Rs. 250 to Rs. 750. It is now proposed to have two Assistants, the Intelligence Assistant and the headquarters General Assistant, in order that the work which the Standing Committee on Industries contemplated three years ago should be done fully and efficiently and that at headquarters the Director should be set free from his multifarious duties in order to devote himself to the more important questions of policy, supervision and co-operation. Mention of co-operation reminds me that it has not been possible as yet for the Co-operative Department to avail itself of the services of the Industries Department. The Industrial Commission in Chapter XVIII of its Report laid down that there was or should be an intimate connection between textiles and the co-operative movement and it was stated that it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the officers of these two departments should recognise that connexion and try to develop it in order that their joint efforts might redound to the best interests of the industries concerned. It may be and doubtless is a difficult matter to co-ordinate and connect the activities of the Co-operative Department and the Industries Department, but I believe in this dictum of the Industrial Commission. If the Director is set free from unnecessary clerical work with the appointment of a gazetted officer at the headquarters, the Director should have more leisure for devoting his thoughts to the solution of one of the difficulties which has arisen in practice with regard to promoting the expansion of industries which should not with good-will be insoluble. I then, Sir, trust that this cut will be withdrawn.

Pir Akbar Ali [Ferozepore (Muhammadian), Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, there is a Punjabi proverb—

پتہ بیا نہیں آئے آجے آئے ہی آئے دیں

which, when translated, means that the village has not yet come into existence and thieves have already appeared. In the course of his speech the honourable Revenue Secretary dwelt at length on the multifarious duties that the Second Assistant will have to perform. He has said that the incumbent will have to inspect so many factories, industrial schools and do other sundry jobs. Admitted that he will have to do so. But I ask where are those factories? Even the industrial schools are yet to be opened as was clear from the amendment of Pandit Nanak Chand which he was not allowed to move. There is at present only one hosiery factory at Ludhiana

and that too has done little good to the general public. That may have proved of some advantage to those who are engaged in trade. Of course when a large number of factories come into existence and many industrial institutions are opened, the proposed post of a Second Assistant to the Director of Industries can be created. But till then there seems to be no justification for creating this post and thus unnecessarily imposing an extra burden on the revenue of the Province. There is a rumour current that this post is sought to be created with a set purpose to be offered to a gentleman who has come back from England after receiving his training there, but I will not go into that question. I endorse every word of my honourable friend Mian Muhammad Hayat, Qureshi, and I support the amendment before the House.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, we have been discussing the grant relating to industries for the last two days and have been pressing on the Government the need for the promotion and development of industries in the Province. This discussion assumed an acute form and it practically amounted to a vote of censure on the Ministry. Member after member rose and condemned the indifference of the Government towards the cause of industries and the volleys of attacks from every corner drew tears of helplessness from the eyes of the Minister (*laughter*). And after all that it does not appear reasonable to ask for reduction of a very small portion of the grant which is proposed to be spent on the creation of the post of a Second Assistant to the Director of Industries. I had my doubts that the creation of this post was not approved by the Standing Committee on Industries, but now that we learn from the honourable Revenue Secretary that the Committee approved of the creation of this post, I do not see any reason why we should oppose it. I do not mean to say that the House should not re-examine what a Standing Committee of this House has once approved. In spite of the fact that Standing Committees are constituted from amongst the members of this House and that they are very important Committees, the House has every right to re-examine all important matters approved of by such Committees. But the matter before the House is not so very important or complicated as to require any re-examination by the House. I do not attach any importance to this objection that the proposed post is going to be created for the sake of a man coming from England after training. I cannot, therefore, support the amendment before the House. I am rather of opinion that this appointment ought to have been made in 1925 soon after the Standing Committee approved of it. I realise that officers are overworked and it is necessary in the interest of the promotion of industries that an officer should be appointed who should be able to give his whole attention to finding out ways and means for the development of industries in the Province. I would advise my friend, the mover of the amendment, to withdraw his motion. (A voice: The honourable mover is prepared to withdraw his motion).—I am glad to learn it.

Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat Qureshi: Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadan), Rural] :— Sir, I beg to move—

4 P. M.

“That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 69,300 with respect to the item of Rs. 69,300—
Total Fisheries.”

Sir, my object in moving this out is that the Fisheries Department as constituted at present has not justified its existence. This is not the first occasion on which I have brought that matter to the notice of this House. On two or three prior occasions in this House, I have drawn attention to the fact that the Fisheries Department has not fulfilled the expectations held out in regard to it in the matter of scientific research. Honourable members are aware that so far as the leasing out of fisheries and the collection of lease money are concerned the Fisheries Department has directly nothing to do with it, for that is being done by the Collectors and the ordinary revenue establishment of the districts. The Fisheries Department which is supposed to further scientific research and to promote the culture of fish in the Province is not burdened with the task of collection and leasing out. So far as the budget itself in respect of this Department is concerned, one cannot suggest for one moment that the objects of the department should not be encouraged. The object of my cut, however, is not that we do not want scientific research so far as the culture of fish is concerned or that we do not want to promote the culture of fish in this Province. Fish is an excellent food and if the culture of fish is carried on in some scientific manner in this Province within a few years an excellent article of food-stuff will be made available for all classes of people in the Province and it would be particularly beneficial to the poorer classes. My object in putting forward this motion is that in spite of repeated warnings, the department has nothing on its record to show as to what particularly it is doing in the way of scientific research. If honourable members will look at pages 890 and 891 of the Detailed Budget Estimates, they will find that out of a total of Rs. 69,000 and odd, it is only a sum of between two and three thousands that is directly being spent upon scientific research, apart from the pay of the Warden and the Superintendent. At page 890 there are four items which might be said to be items which are being utilised towards the promotion of research work; 1 Laboratory Assistant, Madhopur Fish Farm Establishment—1 Supervisor; Chhenawan Fish Farm Establishment—1 Supervisor, 1 Keeper for the Kulu Hatchery Establishment, all totalling up to Rs. 1,290. At page 891 we have got provision made for the Kulu Hatchery to the extent of Rs. 700, for the Madhopur tanks, Rs. 750, and for the Chhenawan tanks, Rs. 400. And that is all. The rest of the items relate to the pay of either the ordinary clerical establishment or the pay of the Head of the office, the Warden of Fisheries, the Superintendent of Fisheries and incidental expenses of the department. The pay of the Warden is shown as Rs. 1,250 per mensem. I would have no particular objection to the Warden being paid that amount in case the results justified it. In answer to a question put last year, I believe by me, the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture told us that no particular qualification was necessary for this post. And we know as a matter of fact that the Honourable Minister thinks that no qualification is necessary. And for this reason, on one or two occasions when the Warden of Fisheries went on leave, his Head Clerk was considered competent enough to discharge the duties of this officer during his absence.

That is the most eloquent commentary on the qualifications actually possessed by the Warden of Fisheries and expected of him by the department. If the Head Clerk could discharge the duties of the Warden while he was away without any serious loss to the fish of the Province or without seriously arresting the progress of scientific research in which the department is supposed to be engaged I cannot see why that gentleman could not continue to be the Warden of Fisheries throughout the year on the pay that he at present gets and with which he is content, instead of having an officer on Rs. 1,250 per mensem. I want to make it quite clear that I have no quarrel with any particular individual. All that I am submitting is that it may be necessary if you were to insist on proper qualifications and if the present Warden possessed all those qualifications to pay him even more, on a larger scale than now and nobody would grudge a proper amount of pay for proper qualifications. As I have submitted, whatever qualifications the Warden does possess there is no doubt that it is thought that his Head Clerk also possesses them, if not, exactly to the same degree certainly to a degree which is high enough to enable him to discharge the duties of the Warden in his absence. Then there is the post of Superintendent of Fisheries, and he is a scientific man. On the two occasions to which I have referred, this gentleman who is supposed to be a scientific man was not considered as possessing high enough qualifications as against the Head Clerk of the Department to be able to carry on the work of the Warden during his absence. I am not criticising any temporary arrangements that the department made during the absence of the Warden. All that I wish to draw attention to is that the department supposes that these duties are such that anybody—after all, the Head Clerk of the department is not a specially trained officer in the line—could perform them in the absence of the Warden. Having these two facts before us, namely that there has been no tangible result from the long list of efforts supposed to be made by the department which was once orally supplied to me by the Warden of Fisheries in the direction of scientific research or in the direction of culture of fish, and the fact that this department considers that its work could be carried on as efficiently by the Head Clerk as by the Warden, when we have these two facts before us, we are irresistibly drawn to the conclusion that scientific research is at a very great discount in the department. And if all that the department has to do is, not even to lease out fisheries or collect money, but merely to look after the Chhanawan tank and the Kulu Hatchery, it passes my understanding why a grant of Rs. 69,000 and odd should be made for the continuation of this department. As I have already submitted, there is no doubt that the culture of fish is a very laudable object and if there are facilities in this Province, it should certainly be encouraged. If that is so, my criticism on the administration of the department would be that as at present constituted, it has not the necessary equipment and the necessary establishment to usefully continue any scientific research or the culture of fish and I would press the question from the other point of view that it should be re-organised. But if you are content with what is being done at present the department could very well be placed under the direct control of the Director of Agriculture or the Financial Commissioner and it is not necessary that the whole of the establishment for this department should be continued. If you want to do more, obviously you have got to employ officers of different qualifications from those whom you

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

have already and in the case of those who already do possess qualifications of a scientific nature, you have got to enable them to push forward the development of the activities of this department. My submission is that as it is constituted to-day, the existence of this department as a separate department is not justified. I understand that the present Warden of Fisheries is due to retire in about a year's time--in fact, he was to retire about this time, but he has been granted an extension for one year more. As I have said I have no quarrel with any particular individual and I do not want to direct any attack against the present Warden of Fisheries. So far as he is concerned, if at the end of his service he has been given an extension I have no particular objection to it. But when the Warden of Fisheries vacates his present post, then at any rate the department should be ready either on the one hand with a scheme to seriously push forward scientific research and to make serious efforts towards the culture of fish in this Province, whichever kind would be suitable and to cultivate them in large quantities or on the other hand the present Warden having retired and there being no obligations with regard to any officer who is drawing a high rate of pay, the Ministry should officially decide to abolish this department as it exists to-day and to run it as an administrative department under the Financial Commissioner. With these remarks Sir, I move my out.

Mr. President : The motion moved is—

“That the grant be reduced by Rs. 60,300 with respect to the item of Rs. 60,300,—
Total Fisheries.”

Mr. H. D. Craik (Financial Commissioner, Development): Sir, I propose to leave it to Mr. Donald to defend the activities and the achievements of the department of which he is in charge. But there is one point in the speech of my honourable friend which I should like to deal with myself. The honourable Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan has stated that the Warden of Fisheries is an appointment for which no particular qualifications are required or at any rate, that he was informed that it was so. I cannot believe that he quite correctly understood the answer and it seems to me obvious that to take charge of the department of Fisheries a certain knowledge of fish, a certain amount of experience in dealing with fish must be presupposed. Mr. Donald unquestionably possesses that knowledge and that experience in a quite exceptional degree. There is no one, I can say without hesitation in the Punjab or probably in the whole of Northern India who has anything like his knowledge and experience, not only of the habits of fish but also of the problems of hatching and breeding. The honourable member made great play of the fact that on two occasions when the Warden went on leave a person whom the honourable member described as his Head Clerk had officiated for him. The officer in question is not in fact a Head Clerk, but a Personal Assistant and his pay is that of an Inspector. I do not say for a moment that that arrangement was ideal. But owing to the limited resources of the department, it was the only possible arrangement. Unless Mr. Donald is to be perpetually on duty year in and year out without any leave, or unless we are prepared to spend a much larger sum than we are spending at present in securing the services of an expert from outside, then this particular officer who acted for him was the only possible choice. He was expected to initiate nothing or to start any new development by

merely to carry on the work on the lines laid down by Mr. Donald with whom he was and is in very close touch. (*Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan*: What is his present designation?) He is the Personal Assistant. (*Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan*: He is not shown as such in the Budget.) He is there shown as an Inspector. He is in fact working as Personal Assistant. I think the House will agree with me that that was the only possible arrangement that could be made. With very much that the honourable member has said I find myself in cordial agreement. And I admit that up to the present the department has not more than touched the fringe of the problem with which it was appointed to deal. But that, Sir, is not the fault of Mr. Donald. It is due to the department being organised on a very exiguous scale, owing to a rule that was laid down by Government some time ago, which I think is now recognised to be a mistaken rule, that the expenditure of the department was not to exceed or only slightly to exceed the income earned by the department. As a matter of actual fact, the department costs Government, I think, somewhere about Rs. 10,000 a year on an average when you deduct the receipts it earns. Admittedly, the honourable member's point is a good one that with that infinitesimal expenditure over such a large country as the Punjab with its thousands of miles of rivers, canals and waterways, no great results can be expected. Mr. Donald has recently worked out a scheme for developing the department of which I hope he will favour the House with a description in a few minutes, or at any rate give its broad lines. The scheme is a modest one, but a thoroughly practical one in my judgment and I supported it strongly to Government. Government accepted its main features and agreed to give money, sufficient money at any rate to make the department a really useful one, to enable it to take up in a much more thorough manner than at present the scientific and research side of the fish problem, and to deal with areas which it has not yet been able to touch. One important point in the development scheme was to send the officer who is to devote himself to research work, to other countries, possibly to Germany, possibly to America or somewhere else where there is a great State Fisheries Department and where the problems of scientific culture and the propagation of fish have been carefully studied. There the officer would learn what is being done and would then, I hope, be able to arrive at a solution of the problem which is baffling us so far, namely, the artificial breeding of the most valuable species of fish; the carp. That is a problem which should be studied outside India. The officer must go abroad and study the methods prevailing in other countries. As I was saying, Government accepted the main outlines of the development scheme and had decided to make a start in the next financial year. But as honourable members are aware, the financial position was so gravely affected by the agricultural misfortunes of the year that Government had no option but to postpone the introduction of this scheme of development to a later date. And that is why, greatly to my regret and greatly I am sure to the honourable member's regret, the budget for this department is again this year framed on dimensions so modest that I admit that it does not allow the department to take any great step forward. On the other hand it does provide sufficient to enable the department to prevent the destruction of this great potential food-supply, and Mr. Donald, I hope, will tell the House of the success that he has attained in that matter.

Chaudhri Doli Chand [Karnal (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I have also to say a few words in connection with the subject under discussion. From the figures given in the Budget presented to the Council, it appears that the budgeted income from the Fisheries Department for 1929-30 amounts to Rs. 55,000 only and the budgeted expenditure for the maintenance of this Department for 1929-30 amounts to Rs. 69,800. In other words this department is not at all paying. It is rather a burden on the revenues of the province. I am inclined to say that the income from this department has been exaggerated and it is in fact much lower than what is shown. The leases are given out by the Revenue Department and if the expenses that are incurred on the pay of the officers of the Revenue Department be taken into account, the income would come down to much less than Rs. 55,000. Another point worthy of consideration is that illegal gratifications are taken from those to whom leases are given and they are very badly treated. I do not see that this department is serving any useful purpose and I join with my friends in their demand for the abolition of the Fisheries Department.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan [South-East Towns (Muhammadan), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, this department has been in existence for the last so many years and there is no annual report concerning this department that I have not carefully read. In every report it has been confessed that it has not met with any appreciable success. I read last year's report from cover to cover to find whether any change had occurred in the working of the department, but I was very much disappointed to find that the department stood where it had started. The report in question begins with the words 'This year was again an uneventful one in this branch of the department's activities from which great results are to be expected.' Mark the word 'again.' It is very significant. I really fail to understand why this department is allowed to exist and why it has not been abolished so far. In this connection it is very important to note that in the Punjab, as the name signifies, there are many rivers, streams and distributaries and the fish of all kinds can breed in these rivers without any exertion on the part of the Government. The people of this province have never complained of the dearth of fish as far as I know and I do not think that any effort was needed on the part of the Government to propagate fish in the Province. Then fish is not the staple food of the people of this Province. It is at best only a kind of additional food for the preservation of which no separate department was needed. I have no hesitation in saying that the money that is provided for the Fisheries Department is wasted. This year the provision has been increased to Rs. 69,800. Before that 50 or 55 thousand rupees were spent on the maintenance of this department. The worst feature is that most of this provision is spent on the salaries of the various officers of the department. I find that about Rs. 60,000 are required to give handsome salaries to superintendents, assistants and inspectors and to persons employed in leave vacancies. Only about Rs. 9,000 are to be spent on any substantial work if we can call it so. The Department of Fisheries was expected to do much, but those expectations have not so far been fulfilled. It is no use, therefore, to allow this Department to continue to exist any longer. When the Head Clerk of the office can efficiently perform the duties of the Warden of Fisheries, I wonder whether any scientific qualifications are at all required to run this department.....

Mr. H. D. Craik : The honourable member is making the same point which Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan has already made.

Mr. President : The honourable member has repeated several times the same argument.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : The honourable member for Sialkot undoubtedly made a reference to this point, but in referring to this point again I wish to point out that the Head Clerk in question officiated for the Warden for 8 long months. If he had officiated for a week or even for a month, it would not have been open to any serious criticism. But the period of 8 months is pretty long and it can be safely said that either no scientific qualifications are required so far as this Department is concerned or the Department is doing no useful work. It should, I think, be abolished as soon as possible.

Mr. C. H. Donald (Warden of Fisheries) : Sir, I do not want to take up the time of the House with details, but there are one or two points to which I want to draw the attention of the House. The first is with reference to the question of the Personal Assistant. It was said that he had no training whatever. But I should like to inform the House that this gentleman has had 14 years' training in exactly the same things that I want, and in exactly the way that I want them done; when I went on leave there was not a single man in the Punjab, except him, who could have taken my place. Before I came he had been working under my predecessor Mr. Howell, and he knew the whole work and has been working on these same lines while I was on leave. (A voice : In what capacity ?) He was working as the officiating Warden of Fisheries.

Sir, I welcome this hardy annual (the cut) which comes up every year, for the simple reason that it has not yet been understood what the fisheries of this province mean to the Punjab. I am in agreement with the honourable member when he says the department, as at present constituted, has not done very much; and in some respects is not doing very much. On the other hand it is a happy sign that the demand for fish has been increasing rapidly ever since I came to the department. When I first joined the department there was only one contractor in Lahore; now there are four. But while the demand has gone up, the price has not risen. It fluctuates; it is different every year. The price rose very considerably from 1911 when it used to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas to 2 annas a seer to about 1915 or 1916, when it reached 4, 5 or 6 annas. Since then it has been more or less the same. You can get fish wholesale in the market at 3, 4, 5, or 6 annas a seer, depending on the season and the catch at the time. That was the price in 1916 and that is the price now. If the department has done nothing else, it has at least done something to keep the price stationary in spite of the increased demand.

An honourable member has just said that fish could not be made a staple food. Why not? I am prepared to say that when in 1868, and again in 1911, Mr. Dunsford enquired into the question—he was deputed for two years to study the question—he stated that 30 to 40 per cent. of the population of the Punjab ate fish and now I am prepared to say that 95 per cent. of the population would eat fish if they could get it. But they cannot get it, and why? (Sheikh Muhammad Sadig : Because of the

[Mr. Donald.] department). Because of the department, you are quite right. (Laughter). The department cannot be everywhere and cannot do everything. It has got eight Sub-Inspectors and six Deputy Sub-Inspectors to go over the whole of the Punjab. One of the worst setbacks the department has had was the condition imposed that it should become self-supporting. This reduced expenditure on Research to an unworkable minimum.

Now with your permission I shall read a few figures relating to the California Game and Fishing Association. They spent, in three months, from the first of April 1928 to 30th June 1928 a sum of 2,46,405 dollars and their income during this period was 2,06,210 dollars leaving a deficit of over 90,000 dollars in three months. It should not be a question of what Government is going to get in revenue but purely a question of what the people get in the shape of food value. That is what the fisheries are intended for. It is not at all a question of profit. If the country is prepared to spend the necessary money, there is not the slightest doubt that it will get back the amount ten-fold in food value. We have got in the Punjab, probably, one of the finest fresh water fisheries in the world. You have got seven magnificent rivers, thousands of miles of streams, five thousand miles of canals, and 15 thousand miles of distributaries and a vast amount of water in village tanks. Every bit of this water can harbour fish. Half of this water is now depleted of all fish life. From time immemorial the custom in this country has been to get the fish at the least cost to those who get them and at the greatest cost to the fish. More fish are probably caught, in this country, in the spawning season than at any other time. Probably very few members of the House know that the *Rohu* is one of the best fish. There is also the *Mores*. These fish do not spawn in the rivers; they come out to spawn in the fields in shallow waters. In the zamindari lands most of the catching is done in the spawning season, which is most destructive and should be stopped. The department has been in existence for the last 13 years. We have planted the trout in Kulu, a species of fish which came originally from 6,000 miles away. We got 25,000 eggs from the Kashmir Durbar, and from that small beginning we have now been able to send out from 80,000 to 150,000 eggs a year, to populate other rivers. We have now populated the Ravi River, the Beas, the Uhl and the Baner in the Kangra district. This is a species of fish which only lays a very small number of eggs, it lays 1,500 to 2,000 eggs. The *Rohu* is an Indian Carp and it lays 189 thousand eggs per pound of fish. Look at the possibilities. If we have a ten pound fish we can get from her approximately 19 lakhs of eggs. We have stocked rivers and streams with fish which lay 1,000 to 2,000 eggs each, should we not be able to stock the entire waters of the Punjab with fish which lay 19 lakhs of eggs each? The trouble is that the life history of the Indian fish has not been worked out. Until I took over the Department not one single thing was known of the fish of the Punjab. To work out the life history of the several species, it may take one year in certain cases and may take ten years in others. The *Rohu*, for instance, lays its eggs during the first monsoon floods. As the water pours into the river from the adjacent fields, the fish run up to shed their eggs. Our men are then sent to find out all they can, such as temperatures of water and various other conditions in which the eggs are laid. We have got to find out all these little things before we can hope to breed these fish. During

two consecutive years what happened was this. My Superintendent went to a place, one of the best in the Punjab in the Hoshiarpur district, and also in the Kapurthala State. The Kapurthala State offered every facility to find out the data required by me. My Superintendent watched one of these spawning beds in vain. There was heavy rain five miles further up the river and while he was looking for the fish to ascend to the place selected the fish went five miles further up the river, and he saw nothing, and thus a whole year was wasted. I am merely mentioning this to show how difficult is research when dealing with a thing like fish. We have had up to the present, very few facilities. We have got to collect revenue; we are supposed to conserve the fish-supply. I should like to place the whole of our staff of Sub-Inspectors, to help the Superintendent in the spawning-season to observe the behaviour of fish.

There is one other little point. In other countries, in California for example, in 1879, 192 striped Bass were imported from New Jersey and placed in the waters of California. In 1882, 800 more were placed there. Ten years later in 1889 the first commercial catch of 16,000 lbs. was recorded. Ten years later again, in 1899 the catch went up to 1,290,000 lbs. Since then it has increased considerably. This was done by protection and conservation. They found out the best areas where the fish develop and spawn. The whole of that area is protected and they limited the commercial catch of these fish to 160 days in the year leaving a little over half the year during which fishing cannot be done. In the Punjab plains our total closure amounts to 45 days, which is the spawning season for the carp. In California they close to fishing, entirely, vast areas, whereas we close as sanctuaries areas of the size of this room and for a mile or so up the stream where the fish run up to spawn. There is not the slightest doubt that if we adopted the same methods of protection and conservation as America and other progressive countries, we could improve our fisheries enormously. But the difficulty here is that we have to watch the interests of the poor fishermen also. I would like to close the rivers for longer periods in the year, but I have got to keep them open, except for 45 days when only rod and line fishing is allowed. I let fishermen fish where they like and how they like with few reservations. There is thus much damage to the fisheries and to spawning areas especially, and progress is necessarily very slow.

Mr. Craik has already told you that we put before the Government a five year programme for their consideration. I do not want to go in detail into all the items of this programme. One of the proposals is to subsidise the zamindars and to teach them not to touch the fish when they go up to his fields to lay eggs, and to help us to put up little bunds, and protect the fry. This is only a small matter costing from Rs. 3,000 and progressively increasing to Rs. 6,000 at the end of five years. My idea is to interest the zamindars not only in the eating of fish, but in fish culture. From these small beginnings it is possible in a short time to stock the extensive waters of the Punjab with fish. One of the things which we learnt by bitter experience was that if you have a predaceous species of fish in a tank, a better species of fish would have little chance to thrive there. This is a thing we learnt by bitter experience. There are many tanks which have no fish. We want to fill up all the zamindars' tanks with fish. The only use to which they are put at present is to supply water for cattle

[Mr. Donald.]

to drink. Every one of these tanks is worth a lot of money. The trouble is we do not know exactly how to get the species (the *Roku*) to breed. In Kulu we are successfully stripping the trout. We strip the fish of her eggs by hand and fertilize the eggs by stripping the milt from the male in the same way. These eggs are hatched in our Hatcheries and sent hundreds of miles away. I have just sent a consignment of 20,000 to Darjeeling. I have been trying for the past five years to strip carp (*Rohu* and *Mori*) and last year, for the first time, we succeeded, I think I may say not only in India but for the first time in Germany and America, the carp has been stripped by hand. Though I succeeded last year I am not prepared to say I shall succeed again. But the fact remains that after trying for five years we actually managed to strip a fish and therefore it is certain that it can be done. We hatched about two hatching trays full; about 10,000 eggs. If we are given facilities more will be possible of achievement.

Now, Sir, Mr. Craik has already told you that we spent about ten thousand rupees over and above our revenues. It must also be remembered that we are spending about 11,000 on research, research on a very small scale. We have a Superintendent and various Chankidars, and we have got two experimental tanks. Taking the small amount of money into consideration, I ask you, Sir, is Rs. 10,282, which we are spending over and above our revenue, a thing even to be considered in the balance with the vast potential resources at stake. It should not count and ten times that amount would be well spent. My time in the Punjab is coming to an end, but I will say, Sir, if at any time the fisheries department is abolished I am afraid your children's children will live to curse the day of its abolition. I could go on talking for half an hour more, but I think I have made myself clear. There are one or two little points. In other countries non-officials help the fisheries department in every way. For instance, in America and in California big commercial organisations are ready to help in every way. Fish containing ripe eggs are stripped of their eggs by experienced hands and fertilized on the boats. These eggs are taken by the fishermen and employees of the Fisheries Bureau and hatched in incubators and millions of fry sent to various waters. It will be a long time before our fishermen in the Punjab will thus co-operate. I have tried my best to obtain the confidence of these fishermen, but it is very difficult to gain ground with people who are so illiterate and depressed. They are the most suspicious and superstitious of people. I ask these fishermen, "what has been your catch to-day." The reply if I may put it in their own language invariably is :—

(Machhe han kithe ? asin tan bhulche mar gai, oh tan hai hi nahin).

It is very difficult to gain the confidence of these people, and we have got to depend on our own research work and our small department to make any headway. You cannot expect very much of an advance under the circumstances. The Fisheries of the Punjab could make very rapid advances and in a few years the supply of fish could be doubled and tripled, but without the methods of other countries, such as closing of large portions of rivers and longer close seasons rapid progress cannot be expected. We have got very poor people dependent on fish for food and we cannot do it. As I have already said, the only protection we have got is 45 days

closure; but what annuls the effect of this closure is that the fish have not yet learnt by experience to avoid the zamindars' fields where they fall an easy prey. In fisheries you have got not only a food supply but a food supply that is acceptable to every class and creed. It needs but little trouble to get it. The zamindar would have no trouble if only we could discover how to get the fish's eggs and hatch them. We could fill every zamindar's tank but while we are in doubt as to the artificial spawning or the spawning in restricted areas, of these Indian carp, we hesitate to tell the zamindar what he should do, for his reply would inevitably be—

(Tuhathon tar hunda nahin hai sathon litho horega).

We have been trying to impart our knowledge to the zamindar and with his co-operation I am perfectly certain that given time and further facilities we can achieve success (*hear, hear*).

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban]: There is no doubt about the fact that the Fisheries Department is very good for the Punjab. The criticism levelled against this department is not that it is absolutely unnecessary, though I know that some people want to abolish it altogether, but others say that the results have not been very good. Why the results are not good, depends upon the department. My learned friend has given a sort of lecture. What I could gather from that lecture was that the zamindars of this country are bad; they kill the fish that go to their fields. If the honourable Warden were a zamindar he would also kill it. They come to his fields; they provide a very nice dinner, why should he not kill it. I would have done like this. But is he doing any propaganda? What is the good of speaking only of would have been, and saying it would have been like this and it should have been like that. Has he done any real propaganda work in the last fourteen years by telling the zamindars not to kill the fish? Have you done any work through your patwaris, through your chankidars, through your revenue officials, any propaganda in teaching people that these fish that come to you in the close season should not be destroyed? After all a zamindar who is living 40 miles or 200 miles from your headquarters does not know that the honourable Warden of Fisheries objects to his killing these fish. He thinks that God has sent it. You know from the Bible that shoals of fish used to come from lake Galilee. Similarly they think that God has sent it. It comes to them and they must eat it. You must do some propaganda and if you do not do it you fail in your duty. I am not saying to what extent you could have done it. But I say you could have done some sort of propaganda. The second thing he says is that they have sent thousands and thousands of larvae to rivers. But look at the result. I have not seen a single trout in the market at Amritsar or Lahore (*A voice: still being hatched*). We have to see the results. I want to eat fish. I want that every poor man should have a pound of fish to eat. It is not the staple food of the Punjab but it should become staple, I do not say for those who have religious or conscientious objections. We know in England fish is very cheap but not so in India.

Mr. C. H. Donald: You can get fish at one anna a pound in the bazaar here too.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : But you forget that one anna in India is like one shilling in England. One anna here will not take you very far. Here one shilling is a day's wages. Again where is the fish which you are trying to produce? Where is trout? He says that for 14 years they have been trying to hatch them. But have they been absorbed by the rocks? I know in Kashmir trout is sold at Rs. 2 a pound. If there was a large amount of fish, I know there would be hundreds of people who would run there and export it to the Punjab by lorries. It shows that something is wrong. I asked the honourable member once before but he gave a very technical reply which I have forgotten now. But we want to see the result. We have spent thousands in this province, though I know that Rs. 50,000 is not a very large amount, yet we have seen no fish. He cannot claim that he has done anything. We have not seen any tangible results. *Rahus* he admits are difficult to control and are unmanageable. It is a shy kind of thing and cannot be hatched under his control (*laughter*). What I want is that experiments should be done. We want to make fish our staple food, therefore, bring fish from America, Australia, Greenland or any land on earth, but please do bring it and give us some kind of fish. He says that they spend Rs. 11,000 extra only on the department. Fish will still abound. India has been populated for the last millions of years some say for the last ten thousands of years, and all this time fish have existed in our waters and if the department is abolished there will be still fish enough and we can still get Rs. 50,000 as revenue from fishermen. It is the fish that will give you the revenue since they are not under your control and they will manage to fall into the nets of the fishermen. Why does not the Government ask the patwaris to collect the revenue? Every fisherman does not live like a *maggot* in the river. He must live in the village. Collect revenues through patwaris, and leave your hands free for some other work. I am sure if the honourable Warden had proposed it to the Honourable Revenue Member he would have been glad to help him in the matter. We have given over the management to you. We cannot remove you. We cannot even ask you to come down from the place. The revenue department is your own Government department. It means that there is no co-operation in the two departments, if the revenue department does not help you by collecting revenue. We want to see some good results. I am afraid that up to this time you have not shown good results. The fish you turn out is not sufficiently good. The staff, it is said, is not sufficient to control the whole thing. If it is so then ask for more staff. Surely whilst we pay a large amount to a Warden we can spend a few thousand rupees more for small fry. Take some more staff but you must show some tangible results. I am not going to vote against this grant. I would like more money to be spent in the right direction. Stop fisheries for one year if you like. If you can triple the results by stopping all fishing for a year why not then do it? In such a case we will get cheaper fish and you will justify your existence. It is no good giving a lecture to us. Give a lecture to your own friends with whom so much rests. With these few words, I close my speech.

Mr. E. Maya Das (Non-official, nominated): Sir, the object with which this Fisheries Department was created was to stock the rivers of the Punjab with the best

kinds of fish. It may be that there are some of us here present who do not take any interest in this matter because they do not eat fish, but those who eat fish, they know that fish is of different kinds. (*A voice: Question*) (*Laughter*). There is the kind which is very bad and there is the kind which is very good. The duty of the department is to try and find means to get rid of all the bad fish and to help in filling the rivers with good fish. They have been working at this for fourteen years, and I think it is fair for us to ask: what experiments have been carried out in these fourteen years; what is the number of experiments you have carried out; how many experiments have been successful; in how many cases you have failed and in how many cases you have succeeded; and how many experiments are there of such a nature which will be not completed for a number of years to come. It is not fair to become impatient in matters of research. Certain experiments cannot be completed in fourteen years, they take very much longer. (*Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: What is your estimate?*) That is a question to be put to the head of the Fisheries Department, and we should think of that good time ahead when these difficulties which have been mentioned in the speech of the Warden of Fisheries, have been overcome and without any further trouble or expense the fish will continue to stock our rivers like an automatic machine. They will be filling your rivers from year to year with good fish and then it will be time to think of doing away with the department. Only the other day we were saying how little is done in the matter of research and that there is so much unemployment and here to-day when we find that something is being done and experiments are full of promise we complain that these experiments should be put an end to. For these reasons I am not prepared to support this amendment.

Pir Akbar Ali [Ferozepore (Muhammadian), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I do not want to make a speech but I want to ask a question. My question consists of three parts. The first part is whether the Government intends to take steps for the breed of fish in such tanks, ponds, and water reservoirs which are the property of the zamindars. Secondly, whether such tanks, ponds and water reservoirs as described in the first part of my question are under the control of the Fisheries Department and whether the officers of the said Department go there for inspection. Thirdly, whether the Government knows that these officers not only tease the zamindars but they also employ the methods so often employed by the police; and whether the Government knows that this Department serves no useful purpose to the zamindars.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh [Minister for Agriculture]: Sir, before I reply to the question which the honourable member has raised, I think I might begin by expressing my thanks to the honourable mover of the amendment for raising this discussion. Fish is an important item in the food supply of the Province, and therefore, needs all the care that we can give to the development of the supply of fish. Now, the honourable mover of the amendment said that the Department has been in existence for the last eight or ten years; and so far as he could gather, he was not aware that our researches have led to any increase in the supply of fish, and his objection in raising the discussion was that if the Department was not fully equipped for the work it should be so equipped. I am in complete sympathy with my honourable friend that the functions of the Department

[Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

are twofold. One is the conservation of fish and the other is research. So far as the conservation of fish is concerned, Mr. Donald pertinently pointed out that in spite of the increasing demand for fish—I am sure the honourable mover of the amendment will again admit that there is more fish consumed to-day than it was ten years ago in the town of Lahore itself—the supplies of fish so far have been adequate and this is due to the conservation of fish at the time of spawning. The destruction of fish has been partially controlled and there is more fish available because of conservation. As all those who are fond of shooting know the forests have to be closed in the breeding season so that game may be preserved, similarly it is necessary that tanks and rivers should be closed so that the fish can breed. The first function of the department, to which no exception will be taken, is to conserve the supply of fish, and the department has been doing this with a good deal of success.

Next is the question of research. In the matter of research it takes many, many years to find out how to breed fish. Mr. Donald has just told me that it has taken him four years to make *Rahu* spawn at Madhopur and that he was able to strip one *Mori* with success last year. It needs continuous research to study the life history of various kinds of fish. It is very important to find out when they spawn, where they spawn and how they spawn, and having found that, to help them to spawn. If you leave the fish in a tank and it cannot find its way out to fields to lay eggs it does not spawn at all. It has taken great deal of time for the department to discover this peculiarity. It is therefore impossible to multiply fish in tanks unless tanks overflow enabling the fish to go out for spawning purposes. (Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: Is it a very intricate problem?) Yes, you have to find out the life history of the fish; you have to find out how it spawns and where it spawns and when it spawns and in what temperature it spawns, and unless you know all that, it is not possible to lay down any scheme for breeding fish. May I quote from the report of the Department of Fisheries in England. The report says:

"The Fisheries Department has developed into an expert Department which through its contact and knowledge of things and difficulties of Industries and through the gradual accumulation of information about the life histories of fishes and of the circumstances which govern it is able to exercise a far-reaching influence over the benefits of fishermen and fisheries."

I think we will be able to obtain similar results if we concentrate our attention on development. As Mr. Craik pointed out a scheme of development was prepared by the Department of Fisheries and thoroughly examined in the Secretariat, but for want of funds it was not possible to give effect to it. I now propose that the scheme of development be examined by a committee appointed for the purpose. That committee will examine the whole question of fisheries and the development of the Fisheries Department and make recommendations. I think this will meet the object which the honourable mover of the sut had in view, that is to say, that the Department may be placed on a firmer and better footing. There are just one or two points which were raised in the discussion with which I would like to deal.

Mr. Sadiq wanted to know where was the trout which was bred in Kulu. So far communications were so difficult that it could not be brought to Amritsar, but now that communications have improved, I am sure that

trout will be available both in Amritsar and Lahore. I have been to the rivers and I can inform the House that the river is now fully stocked. There is another difficulty about this fish. Trout is a meat-eater and you have to feed it either on live fish or on dead carcasses. In England they collect carcasses of animals and feed the trout regularly. We have to do the same to a small extent. The whole object of the department is to produce more fish, so that every villager could enjoy it, but as in the case of the closure of a forest, difficulties will generally be felt in the case of the closure of the tanks and rivers and canals. People feel as if there was undue interference with their right and until people understand why the closure has been applied, they will not realize that it is for their benefit. In this respect I think Mr. Sadiq was right in pointing out that there should be more propaganda with a view to making the closure effective, but there is no better propagandist than Mr. Donald himself who wanders from village to village and from district to district, delivering lectures pointing out that fish should be conserved and not only that, he enters the domain of agriculture and points out the enemies of the agriculturists and the friends of the agriculturists. I am sure a still more intensive propaganda will be useful to enlist the sympathies of the agriculturists.

One word more and I have done. The income of the department is not what is raised by levying fees. Its wealth is increasing the supply of fish. It is one of the departments that can be of much use and I am glad to see that the House is in favour of expanding the department and making it more useful. I hope the honourable member, if he is satisfied with the suggestion I have made, that the whole question of development should be examined by a committee, will not press his motion.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan (Muhammadan Landholders): Sir, I just wish to say a few words on the motion before us. I understand that in some cases the Fisheries Department has taken advantage of the recent settlement operations in some districts to get certain new rights entered in the Revenue record in favour of Government which formerly were not vested in Government. I do not object to the closure of rivers and I am not opposed to the activities of the department at all. On the contrary, I think that if properly worked the department will prove to be a very useful institution. And, I believe that, the speech of my honourable friend who moved this out also indicates that he is not opposed to the department, but to the way in which it is being run. What he wants is that either the Department should be put on a proper footing to make it really useful or else to do away with it and avoid any further waste of money. Half measures can be of no use. The Honourable the Minister for Agriculture has given an assurance that he is prepared to look into the matter, by appointing a committee who will examine the whole thing and in view of the assurance I dare say, the honourable member may see his way to withdraw this motion and let the committee go into the matter and suggest steps which may lead to a re-organization of the department on a sound basis. I strongly object to the action of the Fisheries Department in trying to create new rights for the Government by this back door method during the settlement in the districts. The Fisheries Department, through the Settlement Officers of the Revenue Department have during recent years created new interests for the Government where none existed before these

[Captain Sikandar Hyat Khan.]

Re-settlements. In the case of the Attock district, I know, that during the last settlement, entries were made in the settlement records which did not exist previously. By these tactics, rights and restrictions were imposed which had not existed before. The Fisheries Department should consult the people of the locality in every case before creating new rights in favour of Government. I agree, as I have already said, that the Government should have the power to close rivers, but they should not have the right to take away the existing rights of the people in those waters. If the department is prepared to give an assurance on the point I will endeavour to persuade my friend, the honourable mover, to withdraw the motion.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-cum-Judhiana (Muhammadan). Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I would have let pass this amendment without making any remarks but the importance of some facts have pressed upon me the necessity of acquainting the House with them. Sir, whenever a new scheme is handled it is not always the case that it should fructify from the very start, and therefore the Government ought to have had the fairness of admitting all the pertinent objections made against the grant. The Government's expenditure on the Fisheries Department exceeds the income from it by ten thousand rupees; and the honourable member's explanation for this deficit is that the Government incurs all this sum with a view to cheapen fish so as to enable the poor people to buy it at a very low price. Then again, the honourable member has somewhere in his speech stated that formerly fish was sold at six pice a seer but now its price has gone up and is sold at six annas a seer. Sir, this itself is self-contradictory and substantially goes to disprove the honourable member's previous statement. I seriously contend that the maintenance of this department is neither to the advantage of the people nor to that of the Government. The Government has to spend every year on it more than what it can derive by way of revenue and the people ever since the time the department came into existence get fish at rates comparatively far higher. In reality the presence of the department has made fish a rarity enjoyable only by the rich. The poor people are required to obtain a license for fishing and to pay for it, and so long as they don't pay the tax, they are not allowed to catch fish. The Government regards the license fee of Rs. 5, a very paltry sum easy to be paid, but for the indigent people it is a heavy burden to bear. Sir, whenever you are going to frame any rules or regulations for a department please always keep in mind that that department is not only meant for the benefit of the rich but it is also to serve the needs of the poor. Therefore, to try to accumulate Roha fish at one place so as to make it more conveniently available for the wealthier element of the population is in no way praiseworthy and does no credit to the department.

Again, Sir, the department has failed in the achievement of the very purpose for which it was established, namely, the conservation of the supply of fish and the propagation of good species in all the provincial waters. The Government admits it and attributes this failure to the lack of co-operation on the part of the people. I may say, Sir, that this has become a general excuse for all the failures on the part of the Government. The Honourable the Finance Member accounts for the increase of crimes by saying that it is because the people don't co-operate with the police in the

detection of crime and its investigation. The Honourable the Revenue Member gets up and repeats the same thing that the tahsildars make a general complaint that the people don't co-operate with them and that is why the Revenue Department is not running on so smoothly as it is desirable. Now, to my surprise, the Warden of the Fishery Department has also taken shelter behind the same excuse. He says that the department fails because the people fail to co-operate with him. But I ask, Sir, have you ever sincerely tried to solicit people's co-operation with you? No, never. The people are still harassed to meet your unfair demands and your officers try to squeeze as much money out of them as they can. Sir, in short, the Government wants the people to submit to all sorts of humiliating and insulting official flats and it demands their co-operation on its own terms. Sir, is this the right way to win the co-operation of the people? The people are prepared to co-operate with the Government but let us hear what kind of co-operation the Government expects from them. Sir, the Government has admitted that this department has proved a failure for the last fourteen years, but still anyhow the members of the House are unanimous in granting to it another chance to prove its utility. Sir, if you want to avail yourself of this opportunity, then try to win over the people with good behaviour and kind words. Sir, you should go to them, treat them kindly and convince them of the sincerity of your intentions towards them. This will go a long way to win their co-operation. Your treatment will make them hospitable, they will offer you food and lodging and will readily accompany you wherever you would wish them go.

On the other hand, if you will continue to ill-treat them and use abusive language towards them no doubt, this tyranny on your part will urge them to do your biddings, but whatever they will do, they will do reluctantly and unwillingly, so that when you go away they will miss all the enthusiasm and will undo what little you had made them do as a result of your forced co-operation. Sir, for the success of every institution sympathy and sincere cooperation on the part of the people is indispensable. Sir, you think that during these fourteen years you have cheapened fish, but I tell you that it is quite the other way. The methods you have adopted instead of making fish cheap have raised its price. For example, no doubt the Government gets a very paltry sum from the contractors of fish but they in their turn charge very high rates from the people and consequently fish has become very dear.

Then again, Sir, the honourable member has stated that now the people of Lahore eat fish in larger quantities than they did sometime back. This, Sir, is also wrong. The fish market called Machhi Hatts in the vernacular has long since been deserted by the dealers in fish and now it is occupied by the Lalas. Previously the population of this city ate fish in a much larger quantity but now as its price has increased its sale has comparatively decreased. I am suffering from a certain disease for which I have been prescribed fish and therefore now and then, I have to visit the localities where fish is sold and as a natural consequence I often come in contact with fish-sellers and contractors. They tell me that some twenty years back fish was brought into Lahore in much larger quantities than it is now done and that a very large proportion of the poor population cannot partake of this commodity on account of its prohibitive price while formerly its cheapness was itself a recommendation to make it their staple food.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Where has it gone now?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : To the department.

Then again, Sir, as the Honourable Minister has given us an assurance to the effect that he will give due attention to our want, I again repeat my request that if the Government wants real co-operation on the part of the people it should abandon all its stiff methods and be mild and sympathetic in their treatment.

Then again, Sir, it is stated in the report that there are no complaints against the department, and that therefore the people are apparently satisfied and goodwill appears to exist between them and the Government. This also is a wrong assertion. The people have stopped raising a hue and cry not because they are satisfied but because they fear jail and imprisonment. The fear of the law has stopped their mouth and not their alleged prosperity and satisfaction with the Department. With these words, Sir I support the amendment.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I move that the question be now put.

Mr. President : The question is—

“That the question be now put.”

The motion was carried.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadan), Rural] : Just a few words, with your permission, Sir. I shall not again enter into the question of the status of the gentleman who officiated in the place of the Warden of Fisheries when he was away on leave; whether he was a Head Clerk or bore the glorified designation of Personal Assistant, there is no doubt that he was a clerk who has risen to the grade of an Inspector. I was merely illustrating what sort of qualifications the Department expects on the part of the Warden. The fact remains that for eight months a gentleman with these qualifications was able to carry on presumably successfully whatever little work was being done in the Department. Of course, the honourable the Financial Commissioner says that this officer, I mean the Warden, knows more about fish than any one in the Punjab or even in the whole of the Northern India and the Warden says that his Personal Assistant knows as much about it as any man in the Punjab. These are mutual compliments and we have no means of determining whether the compliments are justified. But that is neither here nor there. The honourable member, Mr. Donald, has given an account of what he thought to be the successful record of the Department but what I consider has been an account of its failings. I was surprised to find that except saying that the Department has now evolved some sort of scheme, a five-years programme the particular feature of which so far as the aspects that have been discussed this afternoon are concerned, is a system of graduated scale of subsidies rising from Rs. 8,000 in the first year to Rs. 6,000 in the fifth, apart from putting forward that scheme, there is not one single fact which Mr. Donald had not indicated to me two years ago exactly in the same form in which he has done it to-day. I was then told that 25,000 trout eggs had been obtained from Kashmir, that as a result 90,000 eggs are exported from the Kulu Hatchery annually, that trout is a comparatively less prolific fish than *Rahu*, that the difficulty in the case of many of the species of fish is that their life history is not known and so on. All

these are matters already within my knowledge and it is evident that the whole matter remains where it was at least two years ago and that nothing further seems to have been done in order to overcome the difficulties which Mr. Donald had explained to me personally two years ago, when a cut was given notice of in the Fisheries Department, but was not reached for discussion. The question therefore remains: What have you done; those are your difficulties. Every year and on every occasion you repeat those difficulties. In what manner have you tried to overcome them and to what extent have you been successful? We are told the same thing year after year in their reports and I ask: Have they completed the life study of any one kind of fish during the 18 years the department has been in existence. So far as the native breeds of fish are concerned they have not told us anything except the lack of co-operation on the part of the people who insist on fishing in the spawning season and all that sort of thing. We all know that these are difficulties of a kind which could be overcome by the department on the administrative side and for this purpose there is no need for the services of a scientific man like the Warden of Fisheries. The recital as I have said by Mr. Donald of all these difficulties only amounted to this, that there are certain kinds of difficulties which the department has to overcome, a majority of them are of an administrative nature which could easily be overcome by a notification in the Gazette on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Fisheries by the Honourable the Financial Commissioner. I mean difficulties, for instance, like the closing season and opening season and other restrictions on fishing. With regard to scientific research certain difficulties were pointed out but none of them have been overcome so far by the department. So that my honourable friend, Chaudhri Afzal Haq was perfectly right in saying that although speeches were being made from Government benches in opposition to this motion those speeches put in plain English amounted to this, that the charges levelled against the department are perfectly correct, that so far the department has not done anything in the way of scientific research and has not therefore justified its existence. If that is so, I cannot press the matter any further. The department pleads that some further opportunity may be given to it as it is considering a scheme which would be examined in detail by a committee and then perhaps the department may be put on a footing when something may be done towards the breeding and culture of fish in this province which will ultimately form a very cheap and very good kind of food particularly for the poorer people. I shall not urge that that scheme should be prejudged merely on the past failure of the department. I think that it is only reasonable that the department should have the opportunity of putting forward the scheme which might be examined and which might ultimately be adopted by the House, if considered feasible.

With these remarks, Sir, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,13,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Industries."

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : As you are putting the whole demand, Sir, may I say a word on my amendment.

Mr. President : To what amendment is the honourable member now referring.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, I am referring to the amendment relating to Budha Nulla. When I moved that amendment, Sir, I was told that I would be given a chance to speak on it later.

Mr. President : It was not proposed from the Chair. In fact, the honourable member had not even finished his speech when it was discovered that the amendment was not in order.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : If allowed, I will correct it at this stage.

Mr. President : We cannot go back to that motion now. A subsequent motion has been discussed. The motion that the question be now put has been carried.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, this is a separate motion relating to a particular item and has nothing to do with the one disposed of.

Mr. President : I cannot allow it now.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : Sir, there are only five minutes for this grant to be put.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : At least those motions which are tabled in this way may be allowed.

Mr. President : Which motions?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : We have given specific motions on the total grant and we have had no time to give notice of motions in regard to particular items.

Mr. President : Under the *communiqué* issued by His Excellency the Governor more than two days cannot be devoted to the discussion of any one grant. Those two days will be over in another 4 or 5 minutes.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Sir, your ruling raises a very grave constitutional issue.

Mr. President : Which ruling?

Pandit Nanak Chand : That a member cannot discuss a particular item by giving notice of a cut on the whole total grant. May I address the House on this point?

Mr. President : The time is up.

The question is —

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,13,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Industries."

The motion was put and carried.

AGRICULTURE GRANT.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 56,38,700 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 Agriculture."

Mr. President : The demand moved is —

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 56,38,700 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 Agriculture."

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, I have tabled a cut of rupee one in the whole grant of agriculture to express my opinion upon the total failure of the department in doing good to the country and carrying out the wishes of the people. Sir, we are asked to give our assent to lakhs and lakhs of rupees. What for ? To give pay to hundreds and thousands of the people who are sitting down there for the improvement of agriculture from a Director of Agriculture, Deputy Directors, Extra Assistant Directors to Mukadams, and so on. Let us see whether the money which we are spending is commensurate with the results we have attained hitherto. Four years have elapsed and I can say from my personal experience as a Zamindar that we have suffered and suffered badly and the whole province is coming to the verge of bankruptcy. One may be a big zamindar like myself or one may be a petty landholder, but all of them have suffered equally.

Crop after crop fails, especially cotton and wheat. What does the department do ? They say that some time this worm comes in, and at some other times they say the seed has not been selected properly and lastly, there has not been a proper mixture of this with that. All sorts of things are said. We do not know what the department is doing. Are all the resources of the department and their technical knowledge spent ? Is there nothing left to carry on investigations ? I cannot understand where all the knowledge of the department has gone. Are they all sitting with folded hands and wondering how this crop has failed and how that crop has suffered ? Are they meditating on it ? The whole province has become bankrupt and the department is still deliberating and deliberating. I do not minimise the efforts of the department ; but I want to impress upon them that the results achieved so far would put to shame anybody. (Laughter). Where is all the money spent ? There should be something wrong with the technical knowledge in the department ; or there should be something wrong in the officials ; or there should be something wrong in the Ministry. I cannot understand exactly where the mistake lies.

I have just had a conversation with the livestock expert of the Bombay Presidency with whom I travelled. He has come down here to see the Minister of Agriculture and see the different farms here. These are his words. He said that the Punjab Department of Agriculture did not know anything ; they had no initiative and no regular programme of work. He also said the same thing about the Veterinary Department. If I am wrong, you may enquire from him. His name is Mr. H. D. Beluch, Secretary of the Sind Cattle Breeding Association. He has been deputed by the Sind Government to see the cattle breeding here.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : So he came to learn something from here.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Yes, he came to learn, but he found that there was nothing to learn. He asked some questions about the veterinary department's activities and they were not able to explain. So he told me that he had nothing to learn from here. This was the impression gathered by an expert of the neighbouring province. (A voice : How long was he here ?).

If the Honourable Minister wants, he may send for him and enquire.

Mr. President : Some honourable members on this side of the House want to know for how long he was here.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : His tour programme was sent to me, Sir. I think he spent about a month in this province and he was with us for two days. That was the impression he formed of our work.

Mr. President : Is he still here or has he left ?

Sayad Muhammad Husain : He has now gone to see some fair near Rawalpindi. He might be at the Railway Station. If the Honourable Minister for Agriculture wants he may get hold of him. Anyhow that was the impression he has got of our work and he is an expert in the neighbouring provinces.

The Government have established demonstration and experimental farms in many villages. They are intended to teach the people the best means of increasing the yield of their crops, especially of cotton. But unfortunately after four years of work, I find that my yields are much greater than the yields of the department in their demonstration farms in spite of all their paraphernalia in the shape of improved seeds and implements. Why ask the zamindars to go and see your farms? Your farms compare very unfavourably with ours. If you come and see our farms I can explain to you how our results are much better than the results of your demonstration farms. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture is a great friend of mine; I have got great esteem for him. And I ask him whether he has taken into account what is being done in the demonstration farms. What is the income which comes out of them and what is the expenditure put on them? From a perusal of the income and expenditure of these demonstration farms I have come to the conclusion that the money is not properly spent on them. Because to us, the zamindars of the Punjab and of India generally who have been doing this cultivation for thousands of years the only thing that appeals is how to get the greatest amount of benefit with the least expenditure. We do not find that in these demonstration farms. I have moved this motion for reduction of the grant only to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that they have done nothing to convince the people about their methods. The only improvement that has been effected is in the cotton and wheat crops. I shall come to cotton first. It is said that 4-F is American cotton; it is wrong. It is only an Indian species. It was discovered by Mr. Milne. We have several lakhs of acres under 4-F. Now, 4-F. has been a complete failure. You will find very few zamindars sowing 4-F. If after spending several lakhs and crores of rupees 4-F. has been a failure, is it

not the duty of the Government to find out the cause and import better seeds from other countries and sow them here?

Mr. President : The honourable member's motion refers to two points only, namely (i) combating crop diseases and (ii) improving the productivity of the soil. But now he has gone outside his motion and is discussing the improvement of seeds.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I have also mentioned such things as lack of initiative and inefficiency of the department and other things.

Mr. President : "To improve the productivity of the soil."..... these are the words of the honourable member's motion which is in my hand.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Improvement of the seed also is included there, Sir.

Mr. President : Improvement of the seed is not improvement of the soil. By no stretch of imagination can one say that the one is the same as the other.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Without a good seed how is it possible to improve the productivity of the soil? Both are part and parcel of the same thing. (*Laughter*). Both are necessary.

Mr. President : If the honourable member wishes to so extend the scope of his motion as to include the improvement of the seed as well, he is welcome to do so, provided that he gives in writing his motion as amended. But the motion as it stands is limited only to the two points I have mentioned.

Pandit Nanak Chand : He has not moved the motion so far; he is only making an introductory speech.

Mr. President : I know that he has not moved it. I am referring to the motion he has tabled.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : May I move it now or after making my speech?

Mr. President : The honourable member may please himself.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am sorry I did not move my motion earlier. Now I move that the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1 to discuss the subjects I have put down on the paper. (*Laughter*).

Mr. President : The honourable member came to the House in a hurry and therefore has not perhaps had time to provide himself with the necessary papers pertaining to his motion.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am very sorry, Sir. I have now got the motion in full, Sir. My object is "to discuss the inefficiency of the Department of Agriculture, to combat crop diseases and the lack of initiative on the part of the agricultural staff to improve the productivity of the soil." Unfortunately I am not a lawyer, I am only a zamindar and I thought that both these are the same. Anyhow I bow to your ruling, Sir.

Mr. President : I have already allowed the honourable member so to amend his motion as to include the improvement of seeds in its scope.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Yes, Sir, I shall say, "to discuss the productivity of the seed and the soil." (*Laughter*).

Mr. President : What kind of seed? (*Laughter*).

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Especially of cotton, Sir.

Mr. President : The honourable member will please revise and improve his motion and come well prepared to-morrow.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am quite prepared even now, Sir. (*Laughter*).

(The Council then adjourned till 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 19th March 1929.)

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 19th March, 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

NEWSPAPERS AND GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS.

*222. **Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) on what principles Government includes newspapers on list "A" for purposes of Government advertisements and judicial notices ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that favouritism is shown to such newspapers as preach anti-Congress views ;
- (c) whether there is any paper on the list "A" which supports the Congress views ;
- (d) whether the Muslim daily paper which has the largest circulation among the Muslim papers in the province appears on this list and, if not, why not ;
- (e) whether this paper has been ever put on the list "A", and, if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The period for which it has been in existence, the circulation and public interest.

(b) No.

(c) Yes, many.

(d) and (e) It is not known to what paper the honourable member refers.

Lala Bodh Raj : What are the names of the papers referred to in part (e) ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I understand that the *Tribune* is one of them.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Is not the *Zamindar* a paper which has more than one thousand circulation and a standing of one year, the conditions laid down for giving Government advertisements ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The principles on which newspapers are included in the list I have already stated, they are, the period for which a paper has been in existence, the circulation and public interest.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : As to question (d) I submit that the paper referred to in it is the daily, *Zamindar*.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Sir, I understand that this is a statement and not a question.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : In part (d) I asked why the daily, *Zamindar* with a circulation of more than one thousand and a standing of more than one year has not been given Government advertisements?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : That is not the question as I understood it, I think I have already answered the question.

Mr. President : The honourable member is apparently asking this question with a view to test the application of the principle which the Honourable Finance Member has stated in the House. That appears to be the trend of the question.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The last part of the answer to (a) gives the reply to the honourable member's question, i.e., the words "public interest."

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Do I understand that that paper does not serve public interest? What is public interest?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : What is public interest? The answer is that it is the interest of the public (*laughter*)?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Do I understand, Sir, that this paper does not serve public interest?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I am not the editor of the paper. Government does not edit the paper.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : It is not said that this paper is against public interest.

Mr. President : Supplementary questions cannot be allowed to take the form of cross-examination. Therefore, I would ask the honourable member to proceed to the next question.

COMPENSATION TO THE WOUNDED IN THE JALIANWALA BAGH.

*2023. **Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) what sum of money was given as compensation to those who were wounded in the Jalianwala Bagh in 1919;
- (b) whether it is a fact that one Abdul Aziz Khan of Amritsar, son of late Colonel Akbar Khan, was also wounded in the Jalianwala Bagh;
- (c) whether he suffered any pecuniary loss too, and, if any, to what extent;
- (d) on what principle and on what inquiry compensation was granted to the sufferers of the Jalianwala Bagh;
- (e) whether any compensation was given to the above said Abdul Aziz Khan, and if so how much;
- (f) if not, has the Government paid any consideration to his case?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Rs. 9,51,862.

(d) The honourable member is referred to the resolution passed in this Council on the 17th of March, 1921, which was accepted by Government.

(b), (c), (e) and (f). The Committee considered that there was not sufficient evidence in support of the claims of Abdul Aziz and consequently made no recommendations in his case.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE OF KOT ADU.

***2024. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the president of small town committee of Kot Adu is an official or a non-official ;

(b) whether any resolution has been passed by the said small town committee to appoint a non-official president ; if so, on what date ;

(c) what effect has been given to the said resolution, if any ;

(d) whether any resolution has been adopted by the said committee holding the election of the president as irregular, and, if so, what action has been taken on this resolution ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The president is an official.

(b) Yes. On the 17th November 1928.

(c) A copy of the resolution in question was recently submitted to Government, and it has been decided to withdraw the tahsildar from membership of the town committee.

(d) Government have no information.

MALIK MUHAMMAD SHARIF, PROFESSOR, ISLAMIA COLLEGE, LAHORE.

***2025. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any application has been received on behalf of Malik Muhammad Sharif, a professor in Islamia College, for grant of scholarship for education abroad ;

(b) whether any scholarship has been promised to him, and, if so, on what date ;

(c) whether any special service was made a condition for him for grant of this scholarship, and, if so, what ;

(d) whether it is a fact that he has been taking reports of speakers in public meetings as a special service to the Government in consideration for the grant of the scholarship applied for ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT REPORTERS.

***2026. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any special Criminal Investigation Department reporters are provided for taking reports of speeches in public meetings in the Punjab ;
- (b) what is the number of such reporters throughout the province ;
- (c) whether there is any system of comparing their reports for the purpose of testing their veracity ;
- (d) whether there is any rule or system limiting the time for which such reports are kept with their writers ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Government provide marked copy-books for such reports of the reporters ;
- (f) whether these reporters hold any authority to go into every public meeting ? If so, whether a general authority is given to such reporters or they are given a special authority for every meeting ;
- (g) whether there is any time limitation for which such authorities are given and whether they are ever scrutinized ? If they are ever scrutinized, when were they last scrutinized in this province ;
- (h) whether the authority is given by name or whether it constitutes a general authority for its holder whosoever he may be ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) to (h) The honourable member may rest assured that an adequate number are employed and suitable measures adopted to check their work, and he will no doubt agree that it is not in public interest to go into the details. Every effort is made to improve the machinery and bring it up-to-date.

SEARCH OF HOUSE OF MR. AMIR ALAM, AWAN.

***2027. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the house of Mr. Amir Alam, Awan, Editor of the *Turjuman* of Rawalpindi, was searched in village Bahadur Kot, Tahsil Mansehra, District Hazara, at the instance of the Punjab Government ;
- (b) if so, what was the date on which his house was searched ;
- (c) whether it was searched at day time or at night time ;
- (d) for what reasons was this house searched ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the said Amir Alam was not in the house and the occupants of the house were females ;
- (f) whether any case of insult to lady occupants of the house has been brought to the notice of the Government or whether the Government has made any inquiry in this concern ;

- (g) whether any search warrant was obtained for this purpose and whether it was shown to the occupants of the house, if any ;
- (h) when was Amir Alam, Awan, alleged to have been last seen in that house ;
- (i) whether it is a fact that Amir Alam, Awan, has taken permanent residence in Rawalpindi and did not reside in this house for several years ;
- (j) whether any complaint of illegalities committed with reference to this search has been brought to the notice of the Government through press or otherwise ; if so, what action has been taken ?

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

(b) to (j) Government has no knowledge.

(j) No.

MUSALMAN WAKF ACT.

***2028. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that section 6 of the Mussalman Wakf Act (No. XLII of 1928) is not applicable to the Punjab ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for its non-application to this province ?

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

(b) It was considered that Mutwallis should acquire a practical knowledge of the Act before section 6 which requires the auditing, in certain cases by chartered accountants of accounts, is extended to the province.

MUSALMAN WAKF ACT.

***2029. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many Mutwallis of Mussalman Anqas in the Punjab have submitted their statements of accounts under section 8 of the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1928, in each year ever since it has been enforced in this province ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The information is not available and is being collected. It will be furnished to the honourable member in due course.

MUSALMAN WAKF ACT.

***2030. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the number of Mutwallis of Mussalman Anqas in the Punjab who have been (i) prosecuted, (ii) convicted, (iii) acquitted under section 10 of the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1928, in each year ever since it has been enforced in this province ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The required information is being collected and will be furnished to the honourable member in due course.

MUSSELMAN WAKF ACT.

*2031. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that all Mutwallis of the Mussalman Aungals in the Punjab who have not rendered their statements of accounts under section 8 of the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923, in any year ever since it has been enforced in this province have been prosecuted under section 10 of the Act ;
- (b) if not, how many of them have not been so prosecuted ;
- (c) reasons for their non-prosecution ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Reports have been called for and the reply will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

MUSSELMAN WAKF ACT.

*2032. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that no statement of account under section 8 of the Mussalman Wakf Act has been published in the *Punjab Government Gazette* according to rule (2) framed by the local Government under section 11 of the said Act ever since it has been enforced in the Punjab ;
- (b) if not, how many such statements have been so published and in what number or numbers of the *Gazette* ;
- (c) the reasons of their non-publication, if any ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a), (b) and (c) The rule in question prescribes the publication of only a notice regarding the furnishing of a statement of certain particulars and Government are not aware of the publication of any statement. If the honourable member so desires information with regard to the publication of such notices will be collected.

LABOUR QUESTIONS.

*2033. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is any special branch or special clerk or clerks in the Director of Industries' office, Punjab, to deal with labour questions in this province ;
- (b) if so, what are their particular duties and what particular questions of labour are dealt with by them ;
- (c) whether any special technical allowance is paid to them ;
- (d) if not, the reasons for the non-payment ?

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

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

TRADE UNIONS.

***2034. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (1) whether it is a fact that the number of unregistered trade unions in the Punjab exceeds by far the number of unions registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 ;
- (2) what efforts have been made by the Registrar, Trade Unions, Punjab, to get the unregistered unions registered under the said Act ;
- (3) what steps have been taken by the said Registrar to popularise the beneficial aspects of the said Act among the labourers and workmen in the Punjab ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (1) Government has no information.

(2) and (3) None, but it is open to the honourable member and others to do so.

PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

***2035. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the doctors and other officers of the Punjab Mental Hospital are allowed to take private work from the inmates of the hospital ;
- (b) if not, whether it is a fact that European Warder, Charde, takes private work from the Indian inmates generally, and from inmate Soma in particular, as if they were his private servants ;
- (c) if so, whether any action has been taken against the said officer ;
- (d) if so, what action has been taken ;
- (e) if not, why no action has so far been taken ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) & (b) No.

(c), (d) & (e) Do not arise.

TREATMENT OF INMATES OF THE MENTAL HOSPITAL.

***2036. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he is aware that on the morning of the 31st January 1929 the temperature in Lahore was 17 degrees below freezing point ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that one Soma, a patient in the Punjab Mental Hospital, was sent out by European Warder, Charde, to do his private work at 7-37 A.M. on the 31st, January, 1929 ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that on the same date as mentioned in (b) at 8-14 A.M. thirty other inmates of the Punjab Mental Hospital were sent out to clean the drains of the Hospital officers' bungalows ;

[Mr. Ghani.]

(d) whether it is a fact that all the inmates mentioned in (b) and (c) were bare-footed and bare-headed and were very scantily clothed;

(e) if so, will he kindly give reasons for meting out such hard and callous treatment to these patients?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The minimum temperature during the 24 hours ending at 8 A.M., on January 31st, 1929, was 29° F., which is only 3° less than the freezing point.

(b) No. The patient in question did go out to work on the day and at the time referred to, with the attendant who is in charge of the "sanitary squad" which has to clean the drainage system of the hospital. The usual hour for the commencement of work in winter is 7-30 A.M. The question of discontinuing the practice of employing patients in the sanitary squad is receiving the attention of Government.

(c) The drains leading from the officer's bungalows are cleaned by their private employees.

(d) No; except that shoes are not supplied to patients, though a number of patients wear shoes. The sanctioned scale of clothes for a patient is a woollen cap, a woollen shirt, a cotton shirt, a warm vest and a warm pair of trousers.

(e) Does not arise.

PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

***2037. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 11 warders or attendants for the eight European male patients in the Punjab Mental Hospital;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is only one warder or attendant for 56 Indian patients in the day time and for 87 patients in the night time in the said hospital;

(c) if so, the reasons for the disparity in the number of warders mentioned in (a) and (b)?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes. Three of these attendants are however private employees of a patient.

(b) No. The total number of attendants works out to one attendant for every 7.45 patients.

(c) The reason is that the European section consists of two blocks of four rooms each, the distance between the two blocks being 300 yards. There are three shifts in the 24 hours, and one attendant has to remain on duty in each block for eight hours. This requires 6 attendants for the two blocks. The remaining two Government attendants have been deputed with one patient as he is dangerous and requires close supervision.

PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

*2038. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that out of about 800 patients in the Punjab Mental Hospital, only about 200 of them are treated and the rest get no medicine at all;
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for not treating all the patients in the hospital?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) and (b) Every patient is treated on the lines best suited to his individual requirements. The majority of patients need nothing more than general care, supervision and nursing, such mild work as they can do, a regular and well-regulated life and general attention to their hygienic conditions and personal cleanliness. Very few patients can be treated with drugs or medicines, and probably less than 200 patients actually receive medicinal treatment.

GHULAM, PATIENT IN THE PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

*2039. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Ghulam, patient in quarantine section of the Punjab Mental Hospital, was given a daily allowance of two seers of milk;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the allowance was stopped by the Chief Medical Officer of the said hospital on 4th of January, 1929;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the patient died on the 16th of January, 1929 of pneumonia;
- (d) whether it is a fact that he contracted pneumonia on account of his reduced vitality due to the stoppage of his milk allowance mentioned in (a);
- (e) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the said Chief Medical Officer?

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

(b) The allowance was stopped when it was considered that a milk diet was not necessary.

(c) The deceased fell ill on the 18th January and died on the 20th January 1929.

(d) No. The stoppage of milk had nothing to do with his pneumonia.

(e) Does not arise.

PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

*2040. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one European patient, Mr. Marsden in the Punjab Mental Hospital, was hit in the eye a few weeks ago;

Mr. Ghani.]

(b) whether it is a fact that the patient alleged that he was hit at the instigation of the European Warder, Charde;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry was made into the allegation of Mr. Maraden;

(d) if so, who made the inquiry;

(e) will Government please lay a copy of the report of inquiry on the table?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes, accidentally by another patient.

(b) No.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : How was the patient hit accidentally and hit in the eye?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : If the honourable member were to go to the hospital he will see that most of the patients go about together under the attendance of a warder. And it is difficult for a single warder to keep his eye on each one of them and sometimes these lunatic patients quarrel, and when they do so they are liable to hit each other.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Accidentally and quarrel and hit each other?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Yes. With a lunatic intention does not exist, so it will be accidentally.

PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

*2041. **Mr. M. A. Chani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not a fact that there are about 20 Mussalman and about 20 Hindu cooks in the Punjab Mental Hospital;

(b) whether the food of all the patients in the hospital is cooked by these 40 cooks together irrespective of any distinction of caste or religion;

(c) whether it is a fact that the majority of the patients take objection to the food prepared by the Hindu and Muslim cooks together;

(d) whether it is not a fact that one Anokh Singh, patient, refused to eat food so prepared as mentioned in (c) and has not touched food for the last five months or so;

(e) whether it is not a fact that for the last five months or so he is being fed by nasal tube?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) There is only one cook for the whole hospital, but he is assisted in his work by 40 patients.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. There have been less than 6 patients who complained of this arrangement during the last 6 years.

(d) Yes. The patient in question was in jail before being admitted to the hospital, and his history ticket shows that he refused food there also though separate arrangements are made there for food for convicts belonging to the principal communities. Anokh Singh was subjected to various forms of special punishment in jail during his nine months' incarceration, and his record shows that he is an exceptionally troublesome inmate.

(e) Yes, he has been so fed off and on during the period in question. Anokh Singh has gained 10 pounds in weight since his admission.

CHILD LABOUR IN CARPET FACTORIES.

*2042. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a committee on child labour in the carpet factories in the Punjab was appointed by the Punjab Government in 1928;

(b) if so, what were its terms of reference and who were its members;

(c) whether it met and recommended certain measures to deal with the question of child labour;

(d) if so, what were its recommendations;

(e) how far have the Government accepted their recommendations;

(f) whether it is contemplated to bring the carpet factories in the Punjab under the Indian Factories Act?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) & (b). On a reference from the Government of India a meeting was held to consider generally the question of the employment of child labour in the carpet-factories at Amritsar.

(c), (d), (e) & (f). Certain suggestions were made for the consideration of persons interested with a view to ameliorating the condition of child labour in carpet factories, and the reference from the Government of India was duly answered.

THIKRI PAHRA AND KARABANDI ON CANALS.

*2043. **Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Village Panchayat Act the panchayats are entitled to hear cases relative to *thikri pahra* and *karabandi* on canals;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, has ordered some panchayats in the Lahore district not to hear such cases;

(c) if the answer to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative what action Government intend to take for the removal of these restrictions?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Panchayats are not empowered to try such cases under section 22 of the Punjab Village Panchayat Act, 1921. Panchayats are however empowered under sub-section (2) of section 14 of that Act to perform certain duties with regard to *dhikri palya* under the Punjab Village and Small Towns Patrol Act, 1918, and if empowered under section 16 of the Punjab Village Panchayat Act, 1921, can perform certain duties in connection with *warabandi* as prescribed in rule 94 of the rules made under the Panchayat Act.

(b) No. On references received from certain panchayats, the Deputy Commissioner explained to them what powers were conferred upon them by the Panchayat Act and what powers were not conferred upon them.

(c) Does not arise.

FLOOD DAMAGES IN SHAHPUR.

***2044. Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat, Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that immense loss was caused by floods to zamindars in respect of their houses, grain stock, cattle, and irrigation wells last year in the riverain tract of Shahpur and Khushab tahsils in the Shahpur district;

(b) whether it is a fact that these tracts are liable to occasional floods and adverse river actions;

(c) if so, whether Government intend to take any action by way of allowing compensation to such zamindars as suffer these losses?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, considerable damage was done by floods last year in the riverain areas of the Shahpur and Khushab tahsils.

(b) Yes, like other riverain tracts.

(c) A sum of Rs. 78,000 was spent on gratuitous relief in the affected area, a considerable amount of land revenue was remitted, and liberal advances of taccavi made. Government considers no further action necessary.

LAND REVENUE REMITTANCE.

***2045. Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat, Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that full money order fee is charged on all remittances of land revenue by the lambardars;

(b) whether any representations have been received for the remission of this fee?

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

(b) Yes, but Local Government have not succeeded so far.

INDIAN ARMS ACT.

*2046. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (i) whether it is a fact that the recipients of the King's Police Medals were not charged any license fee for guns under the Arms Act before 1924;
- (ii) whether the fee has since been levied;
- (iii) whether it is charged from all the medalists or only from those who have got the medals since 1924;
- (iv) reasons for levying the fee?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) Under the Indian Arms Rules of 1920, which were superseded by those of 1924, all persons who had been awarded the King's Police Medal before the 1st January, 1920, were entitled to possess arms without a license.

(ii) & (iii) Recipients of the King's Police Medal subsequently to the 1st January, 1920, have always been required to provide themselves with licenses on payment of the usual fees. Recipients prior to that date were granted licenses valid for their lifetime, free of all fee, provided they applied for such within six months of the coming into force of the Arms Rules of 1924.

(iv) It will be observed that no material change in the existing practice was made by the Arms Rules of 1924.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

*2047. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) how many industrial schools there are in the Punjab;
- (b) where they are situated;
- (c) the number of boys studying in each of them?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a), (b) & (c) A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing Industrial Schools, and the places where they are situated, together with the number of students.

Name of Institution.	Place where situated.	Number of boys.
Government Industrial School ..	Ambala ..	116
Ditto ..	Dera Ghazi Khan ..	241
Ditto ..	Gujranwala ..	102
Ditto ..	Amritsar ..	379
Ditto ..	Ferozepur ..	261
Ditto ..	Gujrat ..	114

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

Name of Institution.	Place where situated.	Number of Boys.
Government Industrial School	Hoshiarpur	195
Ditto	Kapur	205
Ditto	Ludhiana	248
Ditto	Montgomery	190
Ditto	Rawalpindi	144
Ditto	Sargodha	61
Ditto	Jalimdar	161
Ditto	Kulu	52
Ditto	Lyallpur	108
Ditto	Multan	324
Ditto	Rawal	208
Ditto	Sialkot	61
S. P. G. and Cambridge Mission Industrial School.	Gurgaon	Not available.

HARI SINGH BHAGWAN SINGH HIGH SCHOOL, SHUJAHAD.

*2048. Lala Badh Raj : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities of Hari Singh Bhagwan Singh High School, Shujabad, district Multan, have applied for the recognition of the Middle classes?

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

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

(b) The application is under consideration.

D. A. V. MIDDLE SCHOOL, KHANEWAL.

*2049. Lala Badh Raj : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities of the D. A. V. Middle School, Khanewal, have applied for the recognition of the school;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Inspector of Schools has recommended the school for recognition;

(c) whether it is a fact that the reports of the Honourable Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction on the working of the school have been satisfactory;

- (d) whether the application for recognition has been granted ;
- (e) how long has the school been in existence ;
- (f) how many applications have been made for the purpose and on what dates ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Orders for recognition are being issued. If the honourable member still wishes for an answer to the remaining parts of his question, the information will be communicated to him as soon as it is received from the Inspector.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, KHANEWAL.

***2050. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) when the Government High School was started at Khanewal ;
- (b) whether there were any other non-Government schools in existence at the time at Khanewal ;
- (c) if so, whether there were any special reasons for not opening the Government High School at the headquarters of the tahsil at Kabirwala ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) 1st May, 1927.

(b) Yes.

(c) The claims of Khanewal were regarded stronger. It is not only the headquarters of a tahsil, but also of the only sub-division in the district and is a very important place in the district.

CORRUPTION AND FORGING OF BAIL BONDS.

***2051. Dr. Sir Muhammad Iqbal :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Ganpat Rai, Moharrir, thana Qilla Sobha Singh, district Sialkot, extorted Rs. 200 from one Rur Singh who was said to be restraining in March 1928 a woman against her will, and that for effecting extortion he prepared some bogus bail bonds which were somehow taken possession of by foot constable Nizam Din from whose possession they were stolen by the said Ganpat Rai ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that on a report to the police about the theft of the bogus bail bonds, the Superintendent of Police found on a personal investigation that the bonds had been actually stolen ;
- (c) whether any investigation was made by the police authorities as to the preparation of bogus bail bonds and the extortion of money by Ganpat Rai ;
- (d) if the answers to (a), (b) and (c) are in the affirmative, whether it is a fact that persons guilty of corruption and the forging of bail bonds in this case were neither challaned nor departmentally punished ;
- (e) if the answer to (d) is in the affirmative, the reasons why they were neither challaned nor departmentally punished ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e). The allegations mentioned in the question were fully inquired into by the Superintendent of Police on the spot. He found them to be malicious and false.

INSPECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

*2052. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Headmaster of the Government Technical School, Lahore, is also the Inspector (a) of his own school and (b) of the other industrial schools in the Punjab ;
- (b) how many schools does he inspect every year ;
- (c) who are the other Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors for the Industrial Schools and what are their qualifications ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) None.

(c) Mr. J. G. Cowie is the only Inspector. His qualifications are—

- (1) Art Master's Certificate, Board of Education, England (Design Group).
- (2) Technological Teachers Certificate, Board of Education, England, in Carpentry, Joinery, Building Construction and Cabinet making.
- (3) Registered expert of the Technological Department, Board of Education, England.
- (4) King's prizeman in Architecture.
- " " " Design.
- " " " History of Art.

(5) Past experience—

- (a) Several years' experience as designer and supervisor of execution to some leading European firms.
- (b) For two years in charge of the technical department of design at the Liverpool City School of Art.
- (c) For three years lecturer at Government Central Wood Working Institute, Bareilly.
- (d) For 4 years Vice-Principal at the Mayo School of Arts, Lahore.

HEADMASTER, GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL SCHOOL, LAHORE.

*2053. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any complaint was made against the Headmaster of the Government Technical School, Lahore, by a member of his staff in 1926 ;
- (b) what action was taken on it ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) & (b) It is not clear what particular complaint the honourable member is referring to, but in this connection his attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 616¹ in March 1928.

FAILURE OF CROPS.

*2054. Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that turnip and toria crops of the canal-irrigated areas were a failure this year ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that little or no *kharaba* was given to these crops ;
- (c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what action, if any, does the Government intend to take in the form of relief ?

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

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

FAILURE OF CROPS.

*2055. Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the failure of crops in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony has landed the people of the locality seriously in debt ;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, what palliative measures does the Government intend to take to ameliorate their condition ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) It is a fact that a series of somewhat unfavourable seasons has produced a certain agricultural depression in the Lower Bari Doab Colony, and as a result the financial position of the peasantry has doubtless suffered : but it would be unfair to describe it as serious economic distress. The colonists will realise that the high prices obtainable for agricultural produce just after the War, when much of the soil in the colony was virgin and highly productive, amounted only to a temporary boom, and learn to budget accordingly.

(b) No special action by Government is required at present, but the situation is being closely watched.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please say whether it is only in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony that people are afflicted by debt on account of the failure of crops, or whether there are other areas also which are afflicted by debt ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No enquiry has yet been made into that.

WATER TAX IN MULTAN.

*2056. Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the municipality of Multan levied the water-tax in and out of the city to provide water within the municipal limits last year ;

[Sayad Muhammad Husain.]

(b) whether it is also a fact that the municipal committee could not provide the water in certain areas, like Hassan Koshak;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) is in the affirmative, what steps Government intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : A report has been called for from local officers regarding certain matters, but has not yet been received. A reply to the question will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

ABADKARS' HOLDINGS IN LOWER BARI DOAB.

***2057. Sayad Muhammad Husain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the original holdings of badkars of half a square in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony were increased from a half to one square holding;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the holdings in Chak No. 14-11-L. and Chaks No. 88 & 89/12-L. were not enhanced;

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No. Not in all cases.

(b) No increase was given, although in a few cases the original allotment was one square.

(c) No action is necessary as the standard of unit grant for abadkars is not the same throughout the Colony.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly say whether any differentiation has been made between those abadkars who were brought into the colony from districts other than Montgomery?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : That would need enquiring into.

DEATHS FROM COAL POISON.

***2058. Sayad Muhammad Husain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that several deaths from coal poison occur every winter in the province?

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, how are the people to be protected in the future?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No statistics are available, but several deaths believed to be due to poisoning by carbon monoxide, are reported to have occurred during the recent spell of intense cold. These fatalities are particularly liable to occur when a charcoal brazier is used to warm a sleeping apartment, the doors and windows of which are tightly closed at the time of retiring to rest.

(b) The remedy lies in warming rooms by other means than charcoal braziers, but if a brazier must be used, doors and windows should be left open in order to permit of the entry of fresh air.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will the Honourable Minister kindly say whether the Department is going to give publicity to the fact that charcoal is very dangerous?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : This is the first time that it has been brought to the notice of Government that deaths are occurring from coal poisoning. I hope that this question will serve the purpose of making it public, and I hope that newspapers will take up the question and warn the public.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : But is not the department going to give publicity to it?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I understand that we have already made a request to the Director of Information Bureau to give publicity to this fact.

LAND DISTRIBUTION IN JULLUNDUR, ETC.

*2059. **Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state separately the area of land set apart for distribution—

(i) amongst those zamindars of Jullundur, Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur districts, whose lands have been destroyed by the action of the rivers;

(ii) those whose holdings are very small; and

(iii) also the principles by which the distribution of this land is to be governed?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :

(i) Jullundur 200 rectangles.

Ludhiana 100 "

Hoshiarpur 250 "

(ii) Jullundur 150 "

Ludhiana 150 "

Hoshiarpur 150 "

(iii) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to part (c) of Bai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram's question No. 894.

Chaudhri Ram Singh : Sir, will the Government kindly state whether it intends granting lands to those zamindars of the Kangra district whose holdings have become very small on account of their lands being washed away by the rivers, etc.?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I want notice of this question.

LAND GRANTS TO RAJPUT ZAMINDARS.

***2060. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rajput zamindars will not be granted land out of that reserved in colonies for purposes of grant to the zamindars of Jullundur, Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur districts and other parts of the province ;

(b) if so, will he kindly state the grounds on which this decision has been arrived at ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No orders have been issued debarring Rajput zamindars from grants of land.

(b) Does not arise.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please say whether it is not a fact that Rajput zamindars were not given rectangles in Ludhiana, Jullundur and Hoshiarpur ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I could not say about Ludhiana and Jullundur for I have no information at hand, but the allegation is correct so far as Hoshiarpur is concerned.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Member enquire into the question ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : One likes to finish off one's case if possible and not carry it on.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Why were rectangles not given in Hoshiarpur ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Surely the honourable member does not think that they were not given because the Revenue Member belongs to the same tribe.

Pandit Nanak Chand : What is the reason ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The reason was not that they belonged to my own tribe.

Pandit Nanak Chand : What was the reason ? I do not want any negative answer.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A negative answer is a good step towards a positive answer.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Has Government issued any instructions depriving Rajputs of grants of lands ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No such instructions have been issued.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Has any letter been issued to the Deputy Commissioner requiring him to give preference to four communities ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Will the honourable member mention the names of the four communities referred to and also the date of the letter in question ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Arain, Awan, Jat and Sansi.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : And the approximate date of the letter on the subject ? Was it issued in 1927 or 1928 ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : It was issued before the distribution of the squares of land.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It will be enquired into.

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AUCTION OF LANDS.

***2061. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether any land has been earmarked for sale by open auction ;
- (b) if so, the area of such land ;
- (c) whether Government intends to realise the price of the land by instalments ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, if the question refers to the Nih Bar Colony ;

(b) about 800,000 acres ;

(c) Yes.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will Government kindly state whether it will consider the desirability of selling lands earmarked for sale by open auction to those zamindars who have rendered meritorious services to the Government at prices fixed at open auction to be realised by easy instalments ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The suggestion will be considered provided the honourable member suggests some practical means for fixing the sale prices.

—
UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

VACANCIES IN CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1021. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that promotions are not made in the Civil Secretariat for a very long time, and that vacancies are allowed to lie in abeyance for long periods ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that more than half a dozen vacancies are allowed to occur before orders are passed for the confirmation of clerks in them ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Clerks are not confirmed till they have been sufficiently tried and their capacity for the work they are required to perform fully tested. This must necessarily entail considerable periods of probation at times.

(b) No, but it often happens that several vacancies occur while the fitness of the clerks concerned for confirmation is being tested, and it is more convenient in the circumstances to defer a decision until all the vacancies can be filled at once.

INCREMENTS TO CLERKS, CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1022. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Secretary has ordered that no increment should be given to any clerk without definite orders;
- (b) if so, whether this is not contrary to the orders contained in the Fundamental Rules;
- (c) will the Chief Secretary kindly state why these orders were passed, and the number of clerks whose increments have been withheld in this manner and why?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) & (b) Fundamental Rule 24 prescribes that an increment shall ordinarily be drawn as a matter of course unless it is withheld. The orders in force in the Secretariat are calculated to ensure that the question whether increments shall be withheld shall be examined each year in the case of each clerk or assistant in time to permit of the increments being drawn as a matter of course on due dates if it is decided that there is no reason for withholding them.

(c) The object of the orders is to ensure that the work of all clerks and assistants in the Secretariat shall come under review periodically, and that those whose work has not been satisfactory shall not receive increased remuneration unless their work improves. Government regrets that it cannot undertake to examine the records from the time when incremental scales were introduced with a view to ascertaining in how many cases increments have been withheld.

PUNJAB CIVIL SERVICE.

1023. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Superintendent in the Punjab Civil Secretariat who has been nominated to the Punjab Civil Service has not been posted out even though several candidates who were nominated after him have been posted out to the districts.
- (b) if so, will he kindly state the reasons for not posting him so far?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) Because he has since decided to relinquish his claim to appointment in the Punjab Civil Service.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF CIVIL SECRETARIAT AND NOMINATIONS FOR P. C. S.

1024. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary kindly state whether it is a fact that the Superintendents in the Civil Secretariat will not now be considered for nomination to the Punjab Civil Service?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : No.

DISBURSEMENT OF PAY IN CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1025. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chief Secretary has ordered that pay should not be distributed in the Civil Secretariat till the 2nd of the month, even though the cash has been received in the office on the 1st of the month;
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for this order?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

PROMOTION OF P. C. S. OFFICERS TO SELECTION GRADE.

1026. **Sardar Narain Singh :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the P. C. S. officers are not promoted to officiate in the selection grade of their services, when vacancies occur and given acting allowances; if so, why;
- (b) whether it is a fact that acting promotions are given and acting allowances granted to the following officers, even though the officiating appointment does not involve any assumption of duties and responsibilities of greater importance as laid down in Rule 80, Chapter 4, Fundamental Rules—
- (a) District and Sessions Judges in the Selection grade; i.e., 1st grade;
- (b) Indian Police Service in the Selection grade;
- (c) Collectors of Customs on the Selection posts;
- (d) Postmasters-General in the Selection grade;
- (e) Telegraph Deputy Superintendents;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the P. C. S. selection grade remains dormant, and no officer, or few, if any, actually draws its pay owing to its not being scheduled in Fundamental Rule 80;
- (d) if so, what steps Government intends to take to remedy the grievance of P. C. S. officers?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) & (b) Yes. Fundamental Rule 80 was made by the Secretary of State, and this Government is not in a position to discuss why the provisions of the rules are what they are.

(c) & (d) Owing to the cessation of recruitment for the Indian Civil Service during the war, six superior posts are now held by officers of the Provincial Civil Service in excess of the posts which have been declared "listed." In consequence of this all the Provincial Civil Service officers in the selection grade except one are now officiating in superior posts with the result that there is only one officer actually drawing pay in the scale of the selection grade. This, however, involves no injustice to officers below the selection grade, for whom there would not normally have been any vacancies in the selection grade in which they could have officiated.

RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGES.

1027. **Sardar Narain Singh :** Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the recruitment to the post of a District and Sessions Judge is confined to the I. C. S. and P. C. S. services or some direct appointments are also made from the Bar;
- (b) whether it is a fact that I. C. S. officers prefer as a majority the executive branch to the judicial, and there is always difficulty in obtaining the necessary quota from the I. C. S. for the judicial line;
- (c) whether it is a fact that I. C. S. District and Sessions Judges usually supersede their P. C. S. colleagues of much longer standing and judicial experience in the matter of appointment as judicial officers of the High Court, simply because there is an I. C. S. vacancy in the High Court;
- (d) whether seats on the High Court bench are reserved for the I. C. S. under the statute;
- (e) if so, are no seats on the High Court bench reserved for the P. C. S.;
- (f) whether it is a fact that there is only one solitary P. C. S. against six I. C. S. Judges on the bench of the Lahore High Court while there is a much larger number of P. C. S. than I. C. S. District and Sessions Judges from which selection and promotion is made;
- (g) whether it is a fact that P. C. S. District and Sessions Judges keep officiating as such for years and years in the expectation of some I. C. S. officer becoming available to displace them;
- (h) are all the P. C. S. judicial officers recruited from among Law Graduates;
- (i) why special preference is shown to the I. C. S. in the matter of appointment in the ranks of the District Judges and the High Court bench to the prejudice of P. C. S. judicial officers?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) The office of District and Sessions Judge is one which under section 98 of the Government of India Act is reserved for members of the Indian Civil Service, but under rule made under section 99 of the Act, seven such posts have been declared "listed", and the local Government may appoint thereto members of the Provincial Civil Service, Barristers, Advocates or Pleaders.

(b) It is impossible to make any absolute pronouncement as to the preference of the majority of members of the Indian Civil Service, as their inclination varies at different periods.

(c) There is no question of supersession, as a certain proportion of the High Court Judgeships is reserved for members of the Indian Civil Service.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) At the moment one Judgeship only is held by a member of the Provincial Civil Service, while five Judgeships are held by members of the Indian Civil Service. Owing to the cessation of recruitment for the Indian Civil Service during the War and to the premature retirement of a number of officers, the number of District and Sessions Judges who are members of the Provincial Civil Service is in excess of the number of Indian Civil Service Officers holding such posts. Normally, however, the number of Indian Civil Service District and Sessions Judges should largely exceed the number of Provincial Civil Service officers.

(g) It is not quite clear what the honourable member means by this part of the question, but it is possible that when conditions return to the normal, a number of Provincial Civil Service officers officiating as District and Sessions Judges may be replaced by members of the Indian Civil Service.

(h) This has been the rule since 1929.

(i) As has already been explained, the matter is regulated by statute, and there is no question of preference.

RULES OF SERVICE OF P. C. S. OFFICERS.

1028. Sardar Narain Singh : Will the Chief Secretary please state—

- (a) whether the Local Government is competent to change the rule of service applicable to provincial service officers ;
- (b) if the change acts prejudicially to any of the existing numbers of that service, are they given the option to select the old or the new rule or are they as a rule excepted from its operation ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes, provided that no such rule shall adversely affect any person who was a member of a provincial service on the 9th March 1926.

(b) The rules are silent on this point.

LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS ACT.

1029. Sardar Narain Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) what was the budget allotment and actual expenditure of loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the last five years ;
- (b) what are the figures for the current year under these heads ;
- (c) have any loans been advanced so far, under this Act for scientific improvements, horticulture, Rooha grass (out of which essential oils are extracted), Mehndi (a hair dye), etc., which go to increase the letting value of the land ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Separate figures of budget allotments under Act XIX of 1889 are not available. The actual expenditure is as follows :—

	Rs.
1927-28	8,00,194
1926-27	5,81,980
1925-26	3,90,454
1924-25	8,19,591
1923-24	3,34,550

(b) The Budget allotment is Rs. 6,00,000. Figures of actual expenditure are not yet available.

(c) No.

FRUIT GROWING INDUSTRY.

1030. Sardar Narain Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) what help, if any, has the Government through its Departments of Industry, Agriculture, Irrigation or Railway given to the fruit-growing industry in the Punjab ;
- (b) what is the water allowance granted by the Irrigation Department for fruit culture as compared with ordinary farming ;
- (c) is this allowance uniform for the Province ; if not, why ;
- (d) is water allowance for gardens in Delhi 6·6 times within a radius of 5 miles of Delhi Municipal Committee ; if so, why is the rate less in the Punjab ;
- (e) has the Chief Engineer, Northern Administration, invited opinions of his departmental officers with regard to the water allowance for gardens ? If so, does he intend to consult the principal fruit growers of the province before passing final orders ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that no remission of land revenue or abiana is allowed on fruit culture so long as the plants do not reach bearing condition, while such remission is granted when a fruit crop fails or is damaged ;
- (g) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether the Government intend to exempt the fruit plants not in bearing condition from the payment of these duties ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Amongst other ways Government has given the following help through its Agricultural Department :—

- (1) Two Fruit Specialists with subordinate staff have been appointed.
- (2) Since the appointment of these specialists courses in fruit growing and fruit preservation have been arranged, and are given at the Punjab Agricultural College, Lyallpur.
- (3) Nurseries have been established on certain departmental farms for the production of reliable seedlings for sale to fruit growers. Such seedlings are now being sold.

- (4) A list of approved nurserymen in the province is under preparation, so that the department may be in a position to advise fruit growers as to where reliable seedlings can be obtained from private sources.
 - (5) Areas under fruit gardens are being planted on all the main farms of the department. On these areas the varieties of fruit which do best locally will be determined.
 - (6) Many varieties of different fruit trees have been imported by the department from other parts of India and from other countries with a view to obtaining better varieties of fruits than those already existing in the province or of introducing new fruits.
 - (7) Grants of land have been given to certain men for the encouragement of fruit growing.
- (b), (c) & (d). The water allowance for orchards, as against ordinary crops, varies on the different canals. Proposals are under consideration to bring this on a uniform basis.
- (e) Opinions were invited from the Superintending Engineers of all the Administrations of the Irrigation Branch. The Superintending Engineers as local officers represent local opinion including that of fruit growers and the views of the Agricultural Department are known; Government does not propose to call for any further opinions.
- (f) There are no special rules for *kharab* remissions for gardens or orchards. An immature orchard is a garden and both fall under class 'V' of the schedule of rates already approved by this Council.
- (g) Government do not intend to make the exemption referred to in this part of the question.

FRUIT GARDENS AND WATERLOGGING.

1031. Sardar Narain Singh: Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any precautions and if so, what are taken to keep the fruit gardens immune from the effect of reduction of water allowance in localities affected or endangered by water-logging;
- (b) whether the Government have under consideration any proposals to move the Railway authorities to reduce the freight from the fruit-producing centres to distant consuming centres;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Government is considering the grant of favourable long-term leases of land to any of the reputed fruit growers in the Punjab;
- (d) if so, what methods will be adopted for the selection of the grantees?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: (a) It would be invidious to distinguish between fruit growers and cultivators of ordinary crops in such cases. The owners of fruit gardens are advised to supplement their canal supply by sinking wells and so ensure the security of their fruit gardens.

[Honourable Sir Jogendra Singh.]

(b) It is understood that the Railway authorities already transport all fresh fruits by passenger train at one-half parcel rates.

(c) & (d) One such application is under consideration.

WARASHIKNIS.

1032. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that since the withdrawal of Magisterial powers from the Canal officers the number of *warashiknis* and the number of cuts on the canal banks have greatly increased ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that since then the number of the murders due to *warashiknis* have also risen ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the civil courts cannot decide such cases promptly, and moreover cannot easily follow the system of running of irrigation works ;
- (d) is the Government aware that *warashiknis* and all other troubles regarding running of canals were not so common when the powers were exercised by the canal officers ;
- (e) if the reply to the above parts be in the affirmative, whether Government intends to reinvest the Deputy Collectors with magisterial powers ? If not, why ?

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

(b) Possible.

(c) & (d) Yes.

(e) No, because constitutional advance is at times accompanied by administrative difficulties, and Government is not sure that the honourable member is voicing the feelings of the Legislative Council. In case, he thinks, he is, it is open to him to move a Resolution in the Legislative Council and obtain an authentic expression of opinion by it.

KHARABA RATES.

1033. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has enhanced the water rates, and, if so, why the Kharaba rates have not been revised ;
- (b) whether the Government have under consideration the revision of the Kharaba rules so as to remit a crop equal to six annas produce ;
- (c) whether the Government have under consideration the question of re-introducing half remission ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The water rates have not been enhanced since 1924.

(b) No.

(c) In cases of widespread calamity half remissions are already permissible.

SUPERINTENDING AND CHIEF ENGINEERS OF IRRIGATION.

1034. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state the main considerations kept in view in filling the posts of Superintending Engineers and Chief Engineers of Irrigation Branch in the Punjab?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Will the honourable member kindly refer to reply to Council question No. 1991¹.

POWERS OF ZILLADARS TO SUMMON WITNESSES.

1035. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that zilladars of irrigation department have got no powers to summon persons whose presence is necessary for discharging public business;
- (b) whether it is a fact that certain *missals* keep on pending simply because parties when summoned by zilladars do not turn up;
- (c) if so, what steps Government intends to take to empower zilladars to summon witnesses?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Government does not intend empowering the zilladars to summon witnesses. The number of cases so delayed is very few, and if the zilladar touts about in his section and is sufficiently in touch with the zamindars and has their respect, such delays can be avoided.

APPOINTMENT OF LAMBARDARS.

1036. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the canal department which pays 8 per cent. of the water rate realized to the lambardars has got no say in the appointment of the said lambardars;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the canal department had such voice in the beginning at the Lower Chenab Canal;
- (c) if so, will the Government state the reasons for discontinuing this practice?

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

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

HONORARY MAGISTRATE OF BHARA.

1037. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any memorial has been received by the Government from the public of Bhara regarding candidates for the bench of Honorary Magistrates;

[Dr. Muhammad Alam.]

- (b) if so, what enquiry has been made concerning allegations contained therein and what action has been taken by the Government, if any?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow: (a) and (b). The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answers given to question nos. 1981¹ and 1982¹ (starred).

LOSS OF WOOLLEN* YARN IN MONTGOMERY JAIL.

1038. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that any enquiry was made into the loss of woollen yarn of Montgomery Jail in 1924 or subsequent to it;
- (b) who was the officer appointed to make this enquiry;
- (c) what was the result of the enquiry;
- (d) was the report of this enquiry commented upon by the Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons in the beginning of 1927;
- (e) if so, will the Government lay on the table the text of the comments made by Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons?

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

(b) Rai Sahib Lala Bishen Das, Provincial Civil Service.

(c) Rai Sahib Gokal Chand, accused, was acquitted.

(d) and (e) It is not possible to give further information on this question which is still the subject of correspondence with the Audit Officer.

ROPAR MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS.

1039. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: (i) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the number of Municipal Commissioners of Ropar nominated and elected on 31st March 1918;
- (b) their numbers at present;
- (ii) (a) whether it is a fact that Sub-Divisional Officer and the Assistant Surgeon of Ropar are *ex-officio* members;
- (b) will the Government please state the names and designations of the official nominated members up till 31st December 1928?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: (i) (a) Elected 6 and appointed 8.

(b) Elected 6 and appointed 2.

(ii) (a) Yes.

(b) (1) Malik Allah Pakhsh Tiwana, M.B.E., Sub-Divisional Officer, Ropar; and

(2) Dr. Bhagwan Das, Taneja, Assistant Surgeon, Ropar, have been the official appointed members from the date of the last general election to 31st December 1928.

OFFICIAL MEMBERS ON MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES.

1040. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there are any rules or instructions issued to the official members of municipal committees in general and Assistant Surgeon or Civil Surgeon in particular if they are members of a committee regarding matters on which they should or could vote, and as to the matters on which they should avoid to vote?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : No.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, ROPAR.

1041. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the following particulars regarding the Municipal Committee, Ropar, on the 31st March 1919 and 31st March 1928 :—

- the number of primary schools aided and unaided for boys ;
- the number of students in the schools ;
- the number of primary girls schools ;
- the number of students on roll in the schools ;
- the number of High Schools recognised and unrecognised ;
- the number of students under instruction ;
- the number of wards of Municipal Committee, Ropar ;
- in which wards free and compulsory education was imparted ;
- how many wards have this privilege at present ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon :

On 31st March 1919.				On 31st March 1928.			
(a) Aided Schools.	2	Unaided Schools.	N/A	Aided Schools.	7	Unaided Schools.	N/A
(b)	343				342		
(c) Aided School.	1	Unaided	N/A	Aided Schools.	4	Unaided	N/A
(d) 75 in schools referred to in (c) above.				202 in schools referred to in (c) above.			
(e) Recognised High School.	1	Unrecognised High School.	N/A	Recognised High School.	1	Unrecognised High Schools	2
(f) 194 in schools referred to in (e) above.				428 in schools referred to in (e) above.			
(g)	6				6		
(h)	N/A				No. 3		
(i)	N/A				6		

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, ROPAR.

1042. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Committee, Ropar, with the permission of the Commissioner got different societies to open primary schools within a radius of 5 miles of its jurisdiction and helped them financially;
- (b) if so, whether there is any other Municipal Committee in the province which has made similar efforts for the spread of primary education beyond its boundary?

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

(b) Government have at present no information as to other municipalities having done the same.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, ROPAR.

1043. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) what was the approximate value of the High School buildings and furniture which the Municipal Committee, Ropar, transferred to the Government;
- (b) whether the Government paid any contribution for construction of the buildings or the Committee constructed at its own cost?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Enquiries are being made and a reply will be furnished to the honourable member when ready.

MUSSALMAN AUQAF.

1044. Mr. M. A. Chani : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the following :—

- (a) the number of Mussalman (i) auqaf, (ii) mosques, (iii) takias, (iv) monasteries and mansoleums, (v) general burial grounds, (vi) other places in each of (1) the districts and (2) their headquarters in the Punjab;
- (b) the total area of (i) lands, (ii) buildings attached to each of them mentioned in (a);
- (c) the amount of *muafi* granted to each of them in each district;
- (d) (i) the land revenue, (ii) super-tax, (iii) income-tax paid by each of them in each district;
- (e) the approximate value of immovable property attached to each of them in each district?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e). Government have no information, and it is felt that many intricate legal

questions are likely to arise if an effort is made to collect the required information, and it would be necessary to appoint a special agency to collect the statistics which may not eventually turn out to be commensurate with the time, labour and expense involved in their collection.

Failure to furnish the statement referred to in section 8 of the Mussalman Waqf Act, 1928, renders a *mutwalli* liable to punishment under section 10 of the Act and it is for the Muslim public to bring such cases to the notice of the authorities.

MUSALMAN AUQAQS.

1045. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the following particulars of the more important Mussalman auqaqs in the Punjab in (i) 1926, (ii) 1927 and (iii) 1928 :—

(A) Receipts:— (a) rents of lands; (b) rents of buildings; (c) mortgages and other charges on (i) land and (ii) buildings; (d) profits on moneys invested in (i) banks and (ii) securities; (e) income from other sources, e.g., *nazars*, *charawas* and *mannats* and other charities;

(B) Expenditure:— (a) salaries; (b) maintenance and preservation of property; (c) rents of land; (d) rents of buildings; (e) mortgages and other charges on (i) land and (ii) buildings; (f) expenses of collection of income other than salaries; (g) law charges; (h) other expenditure incurred?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : If the honourable member will specify which particular auqaq he refers to an endeavour will be made to collect the statistics if the labour involved is not disproportionate to the value of the results.

PATIENTS IN THE PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

1046. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the following :—

(A) the number of patients:— (a) European, (i) males, (ii) females; (b) Indians, (1) males, (i) Hindus, (ii) Mussalmans, (iii) Christians; (2) females, (i) Hindus, (ii) Mussalmans, (iii) Christians in the Punjab Mental Hospital on the 31st of December of every year since 1928;

(b) the number of patients:— (a) European, (i) males, (ii) females; (b) Indians, (1) males, (i) Hindus, (ii) Mussalmans, (iii) Christians; (2) females, (i) Hindus, (ii) Mussalmans, (iii) Christians of the Punjab Mental Hospital who died of (i) insanity, (ii) diarrhoea and dysentery in each year since 1928?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Two statements are laid on the table. There were no deaths from insanity, deaths of insane people being almost invariably due to some physical disease.

[Honourable Malik Piroz Khan Noon.]

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF EUROPEAN AND INDIAN PATIENTS, IN THE PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL, LAHORE, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER OF EACH OF THE YEARS 1923 TO 1928.

EUROPEANS			INDIANS										
Males		Total	Male			Female			Total male and female.				
No.	Female		Hindus.	Mus. Lim.	Indian Chris. male.	Hindus.	Mus. Lim.	Indian Chris. female.	Hindus.	Mus. Lim.	Total		
31-12-1923	5	11	958	333	10	646	76	60	16	248	424	26	830
31-12-1924	8	10	880	308	23	660	78	65	18	329	433	30	802
31-12-1925	5	12	870	255	12	637	70	61	16	140	416	28	784
31-12-1926	8	9	296	371	13	680	78	89	17	345	430	30	836
31-12-1927	8	8	323	408	10	739	74	75	32	387	475	34	906
31-12-1928	6	16	224	480	11	705	61	66	22	408	469	38	884

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF EUROPEAN AND INDIAN PATIENTS, WHO DIED OF DIARRHOEA OR DYSENTERY IN THE PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL, LATHOOR, FROM 1922 TO 1928.

EUROPEANS.			INDIANS.						Total male and female.					
Years.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.			Female.			Total.	Hindus.	Mussulmans.	Indian Christians.	Total.
				Hindus.	Mussulmans.	Indian Christians.	Hindus.	Mussulmans.	Indian Christians.					
1923				7	13	1	2	2	2	4	2	11	1	24
1924				12	7		4	4	1	5	10	10	1	25
1925				23	25	2	3	5		8	26	30	2	61
1926				2	1		4			1	5	1		4
1927				2	6						2	4		8
1928				6	4		1	2		3	4	6		13

CASUALTY IN THE PUNJAB MENTAL HOSPITAL.

1047. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) what percentage of patients died in the Punjab Mental Hospital in each year since 1923 ;
- (b) who was in charge of the hospital in each of these years ;
- (c) the reasons for the highest and lowest mortalities in the hospital in any of those years ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon :

(a) 1923	..	..	..	10.23
1924	..	..	..	11.81
1925	..	..	..	14.23
1926	..	..	..	9.25
1927	..	..	..	11.45
1928	..	..	..	10.64

(b) Major C. J. Lodge-Patch, M.C., I.M.S., except when he was on leave from September 1925 to October 1926 during which period Captain T. H. Thomas, I.M.S., was in charge of the hospital.

(c) Towards the end of 1925, diarrhoea and dysentery occurred practically in epidemic form and deaths took place entirely amongst infirm and chronic patients. The percentage of deaths amongst patients newly admitted was lower than the usual average for the whole hospital. A high mortality in a year is generally followed by a low death rate in the following year.

TRADE UNIONS.

1048. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the following :—

- (a) the names of the unregistered trade unions of (i) employers and (ii) employees ;
- (b) the trade, profession or service or industry to which their members belong ;
- (c) the places of their head offices ;
- (d) the numbers of their members ;
- (e) the names of their principal office bearers and their present addresses ;
- (f) in the case of the employees' unions, whether they are recognised by their employers or not ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Government has no information on the subject.

[Hon'ble Sir Maul-i-Husein]

STATEMENT SHOWING STRIKES HELD IN THE POSTAL DURING THE YEARS 1918 TO 1ST JANUARY 1920

Strike No.	Factories in which the strike took place.	Number of laborers in strike.	Duration.	Class of laborers.	Cause.	Number of laborers engaged on other work furnished.	Persons.	Results as far as how they ended.
1	Overton's Brewery, Glasgow, Fife, Leith.	450.	6 weeks.	Local workers.	1925.			
2	Midland Cordon Mills, Birmingham.	80.	1 day.	Workmen in the mills.				
3	The South Central Works, Warr.	250.	3 days.	Workshop laborers.				
4	Pratt & Whitney Press, Leith.	18.	9 days.	Press workers.				
5	Edison Press, Leith.	96.	22 days.					
6	Scottish Press, Leith.	80.	1 month.					
7	North Western Railway, Fife, Leith.	350.	22 days.					
8	King's Arms Press, Leith.	120.	6 weeks.					
9	Young Printing Works, Leith.	25.	3 days.					
10	Leith Electric Supply Company, Leith, Fife.	201.		Electricians in the factory in the company.				
11	Deaf Smith Company.	25.	17 days.	Workers in the factory.				
12	Imperial Mill.	500.	4 days.	Laborers in the weaving department.				
13	Leith Distillery, Leith.	240.	4 days.	Cared manufacturers.				

				Expenditure in the Mill 1925.	II—Treatment in wages		III—Machinery and other equipment	IV—Miscellaneous expenses
14	Member Cotton Mills, India	145	3 days					
15	North-Western Railway, Warranpore, Lahore	8,000	8 months					
16	North-Western Railway, Lahore and Warranpore Shed, Lahore	1,400	17 days					
17	North-Western Railway, Lahore Shed, Warranpore, Lahore	154	10 days					
18	North-Western Railway, Lahore Shed, Warranpore, Lahore	168	1 day					
19	North-Western Railway, Lahore Shed, Warranpore, Lahore	23	24 days					
20	North-Western Railway, Lahore Shed, Warranpore, Lahore	81	15 days					
21	Member Cotton Mills, India	800	9 months					
22	Member Cotton Mills, India	818	1 day					
23	Member Cotton Mills, India	25	1 day					
24	Member Cotton Mills, India	25	22 days					
25	Member Cotton Mills, India	800	1 day					
26	Member Cotton Mills, India	190	4 days					
27	Member Cotton Mills, India	93	5 days					
28	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	10 days					
29	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					
30	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					
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96	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					
97	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					
98	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					
99	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					
100	Member Cotton Mills, India	80	8 days					

Typically exemplified.

Ordinary circumstances were
limited to the employees.

1925 workers' strike were
and for the rest, from
resorts were brought in.

Advances of employees
were refused.

Strike ended in favour of
employees.

Strike resumed work in
accordance of differences
between management and
employees.

Increased rates of wages
were allowed.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
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Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

Strike resumed work
unconditionally.

NON-GAZETTED EMPLOYEES, PUNJAB GOVERNMENT.

1050. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the following :—

- (a) the names of the different classes of non-gazetted employees of the Punjab Government ;
- (b) the names of the departments to which they belong ;
- (c) the date or dates on which each of them were brought into existence ;
- (d) the amount of the initial salary of each of them ;
- (e) the grades of their salaries (if any) ;
- (f) the date or dates on which the salaries or grades of salaries of each of them were increased or decreased together with their amounts ;
- (g) the date or dates on which other benefits than those mentioned in (d) were granted to each of them ;
- (h) a brief statement of the benefits mentioned in (g) ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : Government regrets that it cannot undertake the enormous labour involved in collecting and compiling the information desired by the honourable member.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

AGRICULTURE GRANT—contd.

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadian), Rural] : Sir, in continuation of my speech yesterday, I beg to draw the attention of the House to the fact..... (Honourable members: What is the amendment before the House?) Sir, I moved yesterday—

"That the total grant under Agriculture be reduced to Re. 1."

Mr. President : Order, order. The motion which the honourable member moved yesterday differs fundamentally from the one which he has read out now, though only one word has been changed. The motion moved to-day is—that the total grant under Agriculture be reduced to Re. 1, while his original motion was to reduce the grant by Re. 1.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I do not mind it, Sir, whichever way the motion is worded, whether it is by Re. 1 or to Re. 1. With your permission Sir, I proceed to speak on the motion.

Pandit Nanak Chand : On a point of order, Sir, which is the motion before the House now ?

Sayad Muhammad Husain : The same as read out by the Honourable the President. (Laughter).

In moving my cut, I am fully aware, Sir, that Agriculture is a transferred department and I fully realise the responsibilities of the House towards transferred subjects. It is, in addition, a beneficent department and the money which is spent for it in the past, or will be spent for it in the

future, is supposed to be spent in the interests of the zamindar public and in the interests of the Government only in so far as the interests of the zamindars would allow. The total amount that is put under this grant is Rs. 55,88,700. It is a very big sum and it is the right of all honourable members of this House, especially those who represent the zamindars, to see that this money should be properly spent. If the results are not commensurate with the vast sum spent on the department, the best course would be for the Government to remit land revenues to the extent of 50 lakhs of rupees. We have been expecting a crore of rupees benefit by the expenditure on this department and if our expectations are not justified, it would, as I have said, be better for the Government to remit an equal amount from land revenue. I admit, in the past, efforts have been made, and very great efforts made, by the department to find out the best kind of seeds in regard to cotton. I said yesterday, and I repeat it to-day, that the only results up till now of the department's activities have been the discovery of three kinds of seeds. One is 4-F which it is now clear beyond doubt that no zamindar will sow, for the danger of bankruptcy stares him in the face when he thinks of taking to it. The second is 285. It is also a species akin to 4-F. People have long ago discarded it as unprofitable. The third one is 289. It is a very late variety and by the time the crop puts forth buds, the frost sets in. So that the one thing that is left for the credit of the department is the Desi cotton, and nothing brought from America. For though called Molesene, from perhaps I guess the name of its founder, it is only an indigenous crop which we have been sowing. Though the three varieties have proved an absolute failure, the department has not been able to find any successful substitute in their place. Perhaps this might be due to inexperienced people being put on research work. The department has been sending out students to America and other foreign countries but none of them have been able so far to find out some medium quality of cotton which could be cultivated with profit here. In regard to 4-F, the department has been claiming that it was a foreign crop—in fact, the name 4-F was, I think, intended to mean 4 Foreign—but it has now become clear that the seed was in use in India for several years and that the department has only mixed with it a foreign seed. The department has not been able so far to find out by a study of the conditions of the cotton crop in other countries what kind of crop would be suited to the climate of India. The House is fully aware that foreign markets would not purchase Indian cotton unless the whole stock of medium size American cotton is out. As a result, our Desi crop fetches very little price in foreign countries. Our Desi cotton is to some extent utilised in our own country for the manufacture of cheap cloth and our only outside customer is Japan who takes cheap cotton to produce an inferior kind of cloth. And when on account of the strike in the Indian cotton mills the price has considerably fallen down, what has been the effect on the zamindar public? First of all, their yield is decreasing year after year until this year it has reached the point when every one is asking what is going to be the future before him and how are the Government going to realise their land revenue from the zamindars. Even in case of remissions, the loss is not only to the Government, not only to the zamindar but to the province as a whole. This year, the Honourable the Finance Member told us that remissions amounted to 68 lakhs of rupees. This is a loss to the province as a whole. Not only the Government, not only the

[Sayed Muhammad Husain.]

zamindar, but the middleman, in fact, all people engaged in cotton have sustained losses going up to lakhs of rupees. That is the condition of the province and yet the department, manned by its Directors and Deputy Directors and over them the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture has not done anything to justify its existence. Just before we reached this grant, Sir, a similar complaint was made in regard to Fisheries, that money is being spent without proportionate results. That is true of this department as well. If they are not able to do something, to find out a good seed, to combat the diseases, to kill the pests, I think some serious action should be taken against the department. This is a warning which I give to the Government not only on my own behalf but on behalf of the entire zamindar public. I hope that after my honourable friend, Sardar Ujjal Singh has spoken, the Honourable the Minister will throw some light and give us some assurance which will enable me to make up my mind whether to withdraw my motion.

Mr. President : Demand under consideration, amendment moved is—

“That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.”

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh, Urban) : Sir, I quite agree with my honourable friend Sayad Muhammad Husain in what he has said in regard to the failure of the department to combat the diseases. But I do not agree with him in every word he has said. I admit that the department has been doing very useful work in many directions and of all its activities, the work of selection of seeds and their distribution is being done to the greatest credit of the department. The honourable member, Sayad Muhammad Husain has told us that 4-F, 289 and 285 have all been a failure. I beg to differ from that statement. 4-F is the only variety which after trial has been found to thrive well on the peculiar soil and under the peculiar climate of this country. 289-F and 285-F were all tried, but they have been found to require more water, better soil and they were late crops. Even now 289-F is giving very good results, but that is only on very good soil and with a copious supply of water. 4-F was doing particularly well two years ago. I remember that even in the Lower Bari Doab Colony we got 10 to 15 maunds yield per acre. Even now in the New Sulej Valley where land is good, water is plenty for the present and where I believe the crop is not so much affected by weather conditions or by diseases which affected the crop in the Lower Bari Doab, the yield has been 10 to 15 maunds per acre. In the Sargodha Colony where I had my experience last year and the year before last on my land, I was able to get 10 maunds per acre. In the circumstances it is not correct to say that 4-F has failed. It is nevertheless true that the department has been unable during the last two years to find very good seeds for distribution because firstly of the failure of the crop generally for the last two or three years, and secondly on account of the mixture of seeds. These two problems require great attention on the part of the department. I must impress upon the Government the necessity of taking proper measures. For, cotton is the only crop that pays the zamindar and it is probably the third crop that is failing entirely in the colony areas. We cannot imagine how hard the zamindars are hit when all the year round they have to borrow money not only for their ordinary agricultural operations but to feed their families and at the end of the year, find that the crop is not sufficient

to meet even the revenue due to the Government. The amount of loss can very well be imagined when we know that from 18 to 19 lakhs of acres are under cotton cultivation and the value of the crop, based on an average yield of between 4 and 5 maunds per acre, comes to about 10 crores of rupees. If the yield goes down by even 1 maund per acre, the total loss to the province on any one crop will be over two crores. But during the last two years the failure has been much greater. In some cases we have had only 1 maund an acre and the total loss so far as one can imagine calculating from the figures I have mentioned has been not less than 7 or 8 crores annually.

In the case of wheat there is a crop of 90 lakhs of acres ordinarily which is valued at about 28 crores of rupees. This is based upon an average yield of 8 to 10 maunds an acre. So if we get one maund loss in the yield, we will lose about 4 to 5 crores of rupees in one crop. We know what the yield has been last year and by the failure of the last wheat crop we can well imagine the loss. The loss has probably amounted to not less than 10 or 12 crores of rupees. So, Sir, this is a very serious problem. This is a problem which does not concern the zamindar alone. It concerns the whole province and its effect is reflected in the province as a whole in the tightness of the money market and by the slackening of business all round. Sir, it may be said, and perhaps Mr. Milne might urge, that it is all due to bad weather conditions. That is the easiest way to throw the blame on other shoulders. But I can definitely say that weather conditions were practically the same in many places, still crops were better in one place, very bad at another. Not only this, the failure of the crop in one village was quite different from that in another. So it is not quite correct that weather conditions were mainly responsible for the failure of the crops. As a matter of fact, I had a talk last summer with a gentleman who seemed to be well-versed in cotton crops. He told me that so far as he was aware, it was the white fly that was responsible for the failure of the crop. I am not sure whether his conclusion was correct, but what I was impressed with is this, that there is a disease. I don't know whether it is the white fly or it is some other worm; but there is a disease which it is the duty of the department to tackle and it is the duty of the department to concentrate its attention and its energy and to spend as much money as possible to combat this disease. Sir, we are told that the department has started an enquiry and possibly that enquiry will produce useful results. I hope it will not prove barren. It will not prove like other committees which submit their reports and consider their labours finished. I would again impress that this is a problem which need not be restricted to some committees. It is a problem at which the department should concentrate, leaving alone all its activities if need be. The department should solve this problem first, if it wants to do any good to the zamindar community or to the province. Sir, it is sometimes said that a great deal of money is wasted on the department and that equivalent results are not produced. I know that the ordinary zamindar in the field does not know much of the activities of the department. As a matter of fact, there is a general feeling among the zamindar community that more paper work is done than work on the field. The department should pay more attention to field work than to office work. There are demonstration farms. I know that some of the demonstration farms are doing quite good work, but you cannot carry conviction home to the zamindar community.

[Sardar Ujjal Singh.]

with regard to new implements or modern methods unless you demonstrate to them on their own fields. You might be doing good work in one corner, but the general zamindar community is not affected by it. So, Sir, it is not only necessary that this problem should be given much more attention than has hitherto been given, but the failure of crops year after year should be a lesson to the department to concentrate its energy in this direction. I believe the committee which we are told has been appointed will prove useful.

Mr. D. Milne (Official, nominated): Sir, the motion before the House is the inefficiency of the department of Agriculture to combat crop diseases and the lack of initiative on the part of the agricultural staff to improve the productivity of the soil. Sir, it seems to me from what has been said that one of the most important things before us is for me to give some explanation of the causes of the crop failures which have been taking place in past years and to tell the House what the department is doing to mitigate these. The honourable member opposite, Syed Muhammad Husain, has stated that the cotton crop is the only crop that provides zamindars with money.

I will therefore say a few words regarding the failure, or the partial failure of that crop which has occurred within the past few years. We had, Sir, a partial failure in the years 1919, 1921, 1926 and 1927 and last year. In all these years there were very high temperatures and a very dry atmosphere and we have always found this so-called disease in the hottest and the driest parts of the Punjab: also we have never seen it beyond north-east of a line of 20" rainfall, a line which stretches from somewhere about Bahadur-din to Lahore and down to Jangraon, and Rohitak. It is always the area on the south-west of that line which is affected. It therefore seems to me that whatever has happened must be connected with heat and a dry atmosphere. Again, we found that in every one of those areas American cotton suffered more than the Desi, and we all know that American cotton is much less drought and heat resisting than the Desi cotton. We have found, as Sardar Ujjal Singh has said, good crops in the afflicted areas growing quite close to the areas bearing 1½ to 2 maunds, or practically no cotton crops. I have seen a crop of 6, 8 to 10 maunds an acre in a field less than half a mile from one bearing practically no crop. We have examined the conditions and we always found that the poor crop was either on light soil which did not hold moisture well or was exposed to hot dry winds which took more moisture out of a plant than the roots could possibly take in. If a farmer had forgot to irrigate a field before the hot dry winds, that field was more affected than the next one which had been irrigated a few days before. Again we find that wherever the crop is sheltered by hedges, houses or trees, it is always better than the crops in similar conditions out in the open. I was forced a few years ago to come to the conclusion that the disease, if I might call it so, was something akin to "heat stroke" and if that is the case, then what remedies have we, and what can we do to assist the farmers? Obviously, a plentiful supply of irrigation water in September and October when the plant is developing its fibre is essential. More organic matter to the soil to enable the soil to retain all the moisture it does get will be beneficial. Interculture of the fields will be useful as that will help the soil to retain moisture better.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : What about the non-perennial areas, where water ceases at about the 15th of October.

Mr. D. Milne : Interculture, organic matter, shelter hedges, trees and houses, these are all useful.

Then, of course, there is another line which we have been working on. That is to breed harsher crops. I said frequently that heat stroke is the cause of the trouble, but there are people who do not hold the same views and I think the problem is so important that we should do all that we can to solve it. I have therefore appointed a committee of research workers to go thoroughly into the whole case. The committee consists of the Associate Professor of Botany, the Agricultural Chemist, the Entomologist and the Mycologist; all will work jointly on the problem.

I do not know whether you would care to hear the details of how they will combine in this work, but I may state that they will try to correlate the behaviour of the plant with different meteorological conditions, that is, with the different weather conditions. The Cotton Research Botanist will have records of rainfall, humidity, storms and will measure the evaporation of moisture from a free water surface near the surface of the soil. He will be able to detect days which are more dry and desiccating than the normal, and will correlate the effects of these with the daily records of the plant growth. We will then see whether there is any check on the growth of the cotton plants and will study the general water requirements of the plant.

The Associate Professor of Botany will study transpiration of moisture from the plant leaves and the temperatures of the leaves. In my opinion what happens is this that the roots do not absorb a water supply sufficient to replace the amount of moisture transpired from the leaves; then the temperature of the protoplasm rises and there is a sort of asphyxiation of the protoplasm. He will also study the effects of light, heat, wind and so on on the plants and the effect of temperatures on root growth.

The Agricultural Chemist will keep us informed of the analysis of the soil including its moisture contents, plant food materials and so on. He will study the moisture contents of the soil down to a depth of 10 feet.

The Entomologist will study the white fly and all other insect pests which appear likely to cause damage to the crop.

The Mycologist will study the fungus diseases of the plant. I think, Sir, we have here a fairly good team on this problem and if we correlate all the data we get in the next two years or so, we must either prove or disprove my theory regarding the cause of the trouble. If we disprove it, the chances are that this team will have shown us what is the matter, and will have led us in the direction of a solution. That, Sir, is what we have done regarding what speakers before me consider, the most important disease of the cotton crop.

Then Sir, there are other afflictions of the cotton crop. We had last year heavy rains at the time the plants were flowering. When cotton is in this condition and heavy rain falls it drops all its flowers and here we find that the Deccan cotton suffers more than the American varieties. The

[Mr. Milne.]

reason is plain. The flowering period of the Desi is very much shorter than that of the American. This affliction takes place chiefly in the more rainy districts. But it does occur and it did actually occur last year, in districts such as Montgomery and Lahore and it was/as we would expect, more severe towards the hills.

Then again we have studied the disease caused by the spotted boll worm which nearly wiped out the whole cotton crop in 1905. This disease again is more severe on the Desi than on the American cotton, for exactly the same reason, for if the plants of both varieties are affected to the same extent at a particular time and then something happens to check the disease the Desi flowering season being shorter, it suffers most and as the American comes on later it gives a higher proportion of its crop. (15)

Another disease which we have studied is the pink boll worm. We found that during the last two or three years it had caused considerable damage in the south-eastern end of the province, and some of us were very anxious to know whether this would spread to the canal colonies and be an additional affliction there. The Indian Central Cotton Committee came to our aid with a grant of money and we have been able to study this disease in Rohtak, Siakot and Iyallpur. We find that the hot dry atmosphere of the canal colonies is a natural check on the spread of that disease there, and this explains why that disease has never made the same headway in the canal colonies though some of the colonies are 80 years old. The disease has done considerable damage and cotton seeds are annually introduced from the south-eastern end of the province in Rohtak and Karnal. The fact is that the heat and drought of the Canal Colonies affect the multiplication of these insects. (16)

Then we have our friend, the white fly. The Indian Central Cotton Committee have given us a research scholar to study this disease and the agricultural department has also had two or three more men on the work. This white fly does a great deal of damage in some places in some years. I am not prepared to agree that it is the cause of our recurring cotton troubles, for the simple reason that this fly was not present in sufficient numbers to do damage in many of the areas and years which I have mentioned. But the white fly did a great deal of damage at Khanewal in the past year. Whether the white fly is the cause of the main trouble or not, it certainly is the cause of considerable damage to the cotton we are growing and we are going to thrash the matter out. (17)

Then Sir, the wheat crop is the next important one. It will be remembered that last year when one of the finest wheat crops which the province has had was ripening it was afflicted by some sudden calamity with the result that a crop that gave promise of yielding 12, 14 or 16 maunds per acre yielded only 1½ to 2 maunds of grain in some cases. Alongside of these cases in the same field and where the crops were grown from the same seed and under exactly the same treatment, the yield was 12, 14 or 16 maunds per acre. Now, Sir, that was due to the hot desiccating winds which blew over a large portion of the province in the first week of March. All the crops which had been sown early and had got enough of their vegetable sap into the ovules developed their grain and matured their crop, and the

yield of grain was not much reduced. But those which were sown late had not filled their grains with sap and were so desiccated by the hot winds that the sap never rose, and what should have been the grain, shrivelled up, and never became grain at all.

More recently, we had frosts. They occurred in the end of January and early February this year. In this case the early wheats suffered and the late wheats were only slightly harmed. The early wheats suffered because they had already begun to form their heads in the leaf sheaf, and these heads were more or less frozen on the nights when the frosts were severe.

In the Punjab we want a wheat which will begin to form its head after the dangers of winter frosts are over, and ripen its grain before the hot winds usually begin to blow. This is one of the points that impressed itself upon me when I began to try and evolve a wheat which will give a better return to the zamindars of the Punjab than the wheat then grown by them. This is why foreign wheats have not made any progress in the Punjab. The wheats we get from England, America, Australia, Canada and various other countries, all ripen too late in the Punjab and therefore are all desiccated and shrivelled up by the hot winds at the end of April before they form their grains. To find wheats which will ripen between the frosts of winter and the hot winds in spring, I, therefore, directed my attention mainly to indigenous wheats with the result already explained.

I should like to say a few words on the disease of wheat caused by *Tylenchus sccondans* (Eelworm). The department has also helped farmers a little in that direction. I remember the first case of that disease which came to our notice. It was discovered in a field at Golarwala near Sangla Hill a number of years ago. Over 75 per cent. of the crop was turned into a heap of black galls. We had never heard of it before. It is not known anywhere in India so far as we could discover and I sent out a number of Agricultural Assistants to the various mandies and mills throughout the province to search among the wheat cleanings for the galls which contain this little eel worm. They found it in practically every mill in the Punjab. This showed us that it was not a new introduction to the province and that it must have been here for many, many years. The question then was why it had become so very virulent in this man's field and not in the other men's fields. I began to study this disease and very soon found a very simple cure for it. Time went on and I found in the Muzaffargarh district a man who had for many years lost at least 75 to 80 per cent. of his wheat crop year after year on account of this disease. That farmer and everybody else thought it to be incurable. Again we found a farmer in the Dera Ghazi Khan district whose crop was so badly affected that it was not worth the harvesting and the winnowing. We made a survey of the Muzaffargarh district and found that the loss might be estimated at at least Rs. 1 lakh for that year. We have since found it practically in every district in the Punjab, in some districts causing a great deal of damage and in others not so much. But there is no doubt that this disease is causing many lakhs worth of damage to the province annually. Our researches however, had meantime shown that it can be got rid of in a single year at practically no expense to the farmer beyond simply sowing clean seed. Expressed in a sentence, we found that when the soil was artificially and heavily infected and the infected plots grew

[Mr. Milne.]

heavily infected crops but that the whole of the eel worms climbed up into the crop and were removed with the crop at harvest and when clean seed was sown in the following year we got a clean crop next year. We sowed clean seeds in the fields of the farmers I have quoted and these men are now getting full crops from their lands.

Then we came across a disease called the red rot in the sugarcane. Farmers in Ferozepore district told us that they had to give up the growing of the thick varieties of cane on account of this disease. We tackled that and we have found that there was no need for anybody to give up growing the thick variety on account of this disease.

We know enough about that disease now to be sure that a farmer can grow up a fairly clean crop of cane if he only cares to follow our advice.

I cannot go very deeply into these problems, otherwise I would take weeks to explain them, therefore I must be brief.

Then again in the entomological section, as some of you know, most excellent work has been done in connection with the hairy caterpillar called "kutra." This is a caterpillar which eats up summer crops. Some 6,000 acres were worked over last year in Hoshiarpur district and an immense number of these insects were caught. Reports say that these crops were very greatly saved from the attack of these insects.

Regarding locusts, we collected some 550 maunds of locusts nymphs last year in the district of Gurgaon, Ludhiana, Cambylpiore and Jhelum.

Then again in the matter of fruit trees we last year sprayed, dusted or otherwise treated for attacks of insects over 8,000 citrus, mango, date and other trees; also areas of fields and garden crops such as cotton, maize, sugarcane, etc., were treated but I want to emphasise the fact that it is quite impossible for the Agricultural Department to spray dust and otherwise treat everybody's crops. What we want to do is to show people the methods we employ and then get them to do the work themselves as far as possible. We will always help as far as we can.

I was out in Dera Ghazi Khan district the other week and heard complaints regarding immense losses from the ravages of the rice stem borer. From researches done in the entomological section we know that these insects hibernates in the rice stubble after harvest and all that has to be done to clear them out is to destroy that stubble. Curiously enough I came across a case in Dera Ghazi Khan where this has been done by a farmer not knowing the results of what he did. He had to stop growing rice for certain reasons for two years and he was surprised to find his crops clean when he started off again.

So also with other crop diseases but I will not tire you by going into them. We may now take a look at the work we have been doing in the way of improving seeds as that was a point emphasised by the speaker before me. I have here before me figures of the areas of improved wheats grown in the Punjab in the year ending 30th June 1928. I find that the variety of wheat known as 8-A sent out in 1919 is growing in 1,276,400 acres. This wheat has been giving on the average not less than 8 maunds of grain more per acre than the ordinary wheats which it was selected from. Last year

it was tested against a selection of wheat which was recognised as a very heavy yielder, and the test was repeated 44 times. The result was that 8-A had given on the average 1 maund and 26 seers of grain and $9\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of bhussa per acre more than that wheat. Now, Sir, this alone gives farmers an extra Rs. 12,76,400 per annum.

Then we have another wheat known as Punjab-11 which was sent out to farmers in 1918. It is now growing on 476,200 acres. From experiments conducted over many years I reckon that the wheat will give at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ maunds per acre of grain more than the mixture of wheat from which it was selected. Other varieties occupy about 115,600 acres. Last year there was a total of 1,359,200 acres of land under improved wheats and if we reckon that 8-A is giving 3 maunds per acre, Punjab-11 is giving $1\frac{1}{2}$ maunds per acre and others also $1\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of grain more than the original mixtures, these wheats are paying an additional Rs. 2,95,18,000 into the pockets of farmers in a single year. This takes no account of the extra premium for the grain or the value of the extra bhussa. The budget of the Agricultural Department is something like Rs. 85 lakhs. Therefore this is not a bad investment.

Then, Sir, take the case of sugarcane. At Coimbatore people have been evolving new varieties and we have been testing them and selecting those fit for the Punjab. We have now got at least one which is giving no less than 20 maunds more (gur) per acre than the local variety. Twenty maunds of gur at say Rs. 5 a maund means an extra Rs. 100 per acre. I think that is of some use to zamindars.

Again years ago people complained that whereas the potato crop in the Simla Hills used to be a very paying crop in the old days, it had at the time of this complaint become very unremunerative. We diagnosed the cause of the trouble and for many years now the farmers there have been getting from 20 to 80 maunds of potatoes per acre more than they were getting from their old stock.

We have recently got a staff of specialists to work on rice, gram, jowar, etc. But these men have been so recently appointed that it is unfair to expect results at this moment.

Then we come to agricultural section. That section has shown farmers how to raise better crops by improved implements, improved methods of farming and general management of land, but it is not an easy matter to find a measure of the improvement that has been effected. The introduction of fodder cutters has been a great advantage to zamindars and I reckon that it saves at least ten per cent. of their fodder. In fact, I was at a big farm two days ago where ten per cent. more fodder was given to animals when uncut than when cut.

Then we are experimenting with manures, and we hope that in time to come we will be able to show farmers how they can improve their crop yields by some of these manures.

Regarding the engineering section, farmers are being benefited very greatly by the well-boring staff. This staff is employed in augmenting the supply of water in existing wells. We have now about 100 well boring

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plants working in the province and I regard this section as a very important one for the reason that it makes the growing of crops more secure in districts which are more or less at the mercy of the rainfall.

Sir, the honourable member, Sayad Muhammad Husain, informed us that our district farms were of no use. I think he said that they were a complete waste of money....

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I think, Sir, that he is confusing. I never said that it was a useless thing. I said that the work which it was....

Mr. President : Order, order.

Mr. D. Milne : Well, I will not argue the point, but I will tell him about the Shergarh farm which lies near his own lands. He mentioned this farm in his remarks. This is a farm of some 260 acres. Two squares are under direct cultivation and on these we carry out experiments. The remainder of the farm is under cultivation by tenants. There is also an area of 1,186 acres in the neighbourhood which is set apart for instructional work. On the 260 acres I find that the profit for the year ending 30th June 1928 was Rs. 88 per acre and this includes the pay of an Agricultural Assistant A class, an Agricultural Assistant B class, a storekeeper and general mukadams. No ordinary farmer would employ such a staff but we have to employ such men in order to collect data regarding the various experiments which are carried out on these farms. Our overhead expenses must therefore always be greater than I would ever advise an ordinary farmer to incur.

I am not sure that it is quite understood why that is so, but let us think for a moment what takes place in an experiment or a test of two varieties of wheat. The land is divided into small plots. Now a man with a pair of bullocks cannot plough as large an area of land in a day if he has got to keep to the limits of plots which are perhaps 15 feet in width and a couple of hundred feet in length as he would do, if he were in the middle of a field and just went round it as fast as he could. In these experimental areas we have to keep the numbers of furrows exactly the same in all plots. If there are sixteen furrows in one plot, we have got to have sixteen furrows in the next. Therefore, we must have first class men and we have got to pay them accordingly. Then we have got to put exactly the same amount of seeds into each plot which means careful weighing of the seeds for each individual plot. No ordinary farmer does that sort of thing. Again the irrigations given must be exactly the same in numbers and as far as possible the same amount of water must be given in each case. During the growth of the plants the Agricultural Assistant in charge must go round the plots daily and note any inequalities of the soil shown by different rates of growth of the plants. These must be recorded and reasons must be given, as far as possible, for any irregularities of the crops in the plots. If frost occurs, the Assistant must note its effects. If hot wind blows, or showers occur at the time the wheat is in flower, he must note this carefully. I myself, have found considerable discrepancies in yields arising because of these very happenings in plots growing alongside of each other where one variety come in flower a couple of days or a day before another, and a shower of rain had fallen when "A" was in flower and "B" was not while everything that I have ever

done to these plots was exactly the same. Next year when rain fell at the time "B" was in flower we got quite the reverse results. Crop testing and all crop experimental work requires skilled attention and therefore, the agricultural department must always have a far more highly paid staff than any ordinary farmer would ever employ or ever ought to employ. It would be entirely wrong for an ordinary farmer to employ the staff that we employ for the work that he requires. All our work requires skilled attention and we must get staff trained to diagnose what is happening, otherwise we could never get one step forward.

Then again it has been said that we have too many implements on our farms. But if a farmer comes to us and says: I would like you to tell me the difference between, say, a Raja chaff cutter and one of Batsala make what will he think of our demonstration farm if we do not have both, varieties for him to see. Obviously, we will not be able to convince him very far or be of much use to him. Then another man comes and says: I would like to see a Hindustan plough. I want to see what advantages it has over the Raja plough. For our purposes we have got to keep an assortment of implements which no ordinary farmer would keep on his farm. We cannot avoid it if our farms are to fulfil their special functions.

The question may be asked, is it worth while to have these farms equipped in the way they are? In considering this I would draw your attention to the fact that if we can put even one rupee per cultivated acre more into the farmer's pockets than they get now, it would mean an additional two crores and seventy lakhs of rupees to the farmers in the province as we have that number of acres under cultivation in this province.

There are twenty-nine districts in the province and consequently the average cultivated area per district comes to over nine lakhs of acres per district. Now, the cost of one of our farms comes to a little over a lakh of rupees. Sometimes the land is dear, sometimes we get it for nothing, it being Government land, but it comes to something like a lakh or a lakh and a quarter rupees per farm of 100 acres. Therefore, one rupee more per cultivated acre would mean the recovery of this capital cost seven or eight times over every year. Is it not worth while having these farms to try to do this? The task of adding Rs. 1 per acre to a farmer's profit is not impossible. We have already done it many times over in the case of some crops, and my opinion is that we have hardly started our work yet, but I do think we have already indicated what could be done if efficient men are put on to properly equipped farms and into properly equipped laboratories.

Some people have said that the work which we are now doing on our district farms might be done on farmers' fields. I do not agree. Farmers will not be able to carry out the details of our work with that meticulous accuracy which is absolutely essential to success. They have no facilities to enable them to do so. They have not the trained staff to look after the work. We have found plots on farmers' fields are the finest means of convincing the farmers themselves, regarding the benefits of what we have proved useful, but they are not much good for giving us information which would lead us forward with our work. Our farms are, therefore, essential as they afford us facilities to obtain necessary local information which is otherwise extremely difficult to procure.

[Mr. Milne.]

We have tried to secure the information from farmer's fields, but have met with difficulties. We have the case of the pink boll worm investigation that I mentioned a little while ago; we tried to find some farmer down in the south-east end of the Punjab who would allow us to make investigations in his cotton crops, but not one would agree unless he was paid a ridiculously high price. Fortunately we had a district board farm at Rohtak and there we were able to carry on our investigation. We had a District Board farm at Sialkot and there also we were able to carry on. At Lyallpur we had our own laboratory and there we were able to do whatever was necessary. Therefore, I am now able to tell you that the reason why the pink boll worm has not spread in the canal colonies is the hot dry atmosphere that prevails there.

The other day I had a meeting of a number of my officers at Lyallpur at which a question regarding the chemical analyses of sugarcane was under discussion with a view to shedding some light on how far the manufacture of sugar would be a sound proposition in this province. Dr. Lander, our Chemist, informed me that he has found that the glucose content of sugarcane varies from place to place and the question that comes into one's mind is, can we control that glucose content of canes. He added it was useless to go to a farmer's field and take cane samples for analyses as unless he got the same plots for several years and was able to repeat his work he could not be sure of his results. Having opened some more farms we hope however to be able to carry out the necessary investigations in a number of places in the Punjab.

Sir, I do not want to continue longer. I think I have made two points clear, namely, that the Department of Agriculture has already done much to save farmers from recurring calamities in the shape of crop failures, and secondly, that the Department is paying a handsome return to the province for the small sum of money which is spent upon it.

If any member in this House wishes to know more about the Department, I would ask him to read our Annual Reports, also I have just issued an invitation to honourable members of this House to visit Lyallpur on the 29th of this month when I will be very glad indeed to take them round and to show them something of what we are doing.

Malik Nawab Major Talib Meht Khan [Jhelum (Muhammadian), Rural]: Sir, there is no doubt that a lot has been done to bring the unproductive wastes of the province under cultivation which has materially added to the wealth of the people of the province. But we find that the energies of the Department of Agriculture are chiefly concentrated on the colonies which have recently been brought into existence. The Department of Agriculture is no doubt trying to increase the productive power of the land and to improve the quality of its produce. But there are some tracts which require that something should be produced out of the soil. Unfortunately we have had three or four failures of crops in the northern Punjab and a few months ago, the people found the weed called "Pohli" as their mainstay for extirpation of which extensive preparations are being made. I know it as a fact that the people of the Jhelum district saved their own lives and their cattle by it and its alone. They used to gather it in the fields, bring it home,

soak it in water, make it soft and then beat it. They obtained small tiny grains which were used for human consumption leaving the stalk and other stuff for the maintenance of the cattle. It is on behalf of such tracts that I stand up here and draw the attention of the Agricultural Department that they should not concentrate their attention on improving the productivity of the soil and the quality of crops, but to provide food for those hundreds and thousands of people who cannot think of improved seeds or increased yield but to find the wherewithal to keep their body and soul together. Sir, Rawalpindi is the home of what they call P.M., meaning Punjabi Musselman, a word which is practically on the lips of every military officer, a name which raises innumerable associations of the past achievements made on the battlefields of Kabul, South Africa, China and for the matter of that all over the world. It is his home and I appeal on his behalf that something should be done to save his life. Sir, the time is not yet come when there will be no wars. Wars there will be and must be.

Mr. President: The honourable member will please speak to the question before the House, viz., the lack of initiative and the failure of Government to increase the productivity of the soil.

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan: I appeal on their behalf to the Government. They own land but it is uneven. All that could be done for them is that they should have some sort of wells, tube wells or wells to be worked with machinery. Whatever means are adopted, they must get some water to irrigate their land which now lies fallow.

Mr. E. Maya Das: I wish to ask the Honourable Member, the Director of Agriculture, whether he admits that it is the duty of his department to improve the productivity of the soil. I was under the impression that the department's duty was to show how it could be done and not to do it themselves.

Mr. D. Milne: Our business is to show the way to the people at large. We cannot possibly farm everybody's lands.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: After hearing the Honourable Member, the Director of Agriculture, I beg to withdraw my motion.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: (*Rising to speak*).

Mr. President: An honourable member who has given notice of a reduction motion, need not wait, when his turn comes, to be called by the Chair to move his motion. He may rise immediately when his motion is reached.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: On a point of order, Sir. Was it not ruled that it was the Chair that was to decide the order in which the motions would be taken up? Should honourable members decide for themselves and rise to move their motions or wait till the Chair calls upon them to do so?

Mr. President: The Chair can intervene, no doubt, to determine the most convenient order in which the various amendments (motions) tabled either on a grant or on an item comprised in a grant may be taken up, but in the absence of an intervention by the Chair, the order in which the reduction motions are printed in the agenda should be followed.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram [South-East Rohtak (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, I beg to move—

“that the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.”

[To draw attention to the general anti-zamindar drift of the policy followed by the Ministry of Agriculture.]

Sir, it is always a painful business to move cuts which seek to question or condemn the policy of the Minister. It is particularly so in my case as the Honourable Minister for Agriculture was my colleague. We pulled on very well together, we were great friends and I claim that I still have a great deal of personal regard for him. So, it is not on account of any ill-will that I bring forward a motion of this kind. As a matter of fact, I have worded the motion in such a manner that makes it clear that I do not mean this motion to be taken as a definite censure motion. The object of my motion is to draw pointedly and forcibly the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the general drift of the policy that is being followed in the department which is detrimental to the interests of the zamindars in general. I will take up the various points one by one, and I will try to illustrate how the net result of this policy has been and is tending to be detrimental to the interests of the zamindar class. Take the question of services under the Honourable Minister. By means of questions, his attention was repeatedly drawn to the meagre representation of the zamindar class in certain important branches under his control. I will take up the Consolidated Statement showing the representation of various classes in the departments under the Ministry of Agriculture for the period ending January 1928. (*The Honourable Minister for Agriculture*: I hope you will compare it with 1926.) Let me take first the provincial veterinary service. Here the general percentage of zamindars is 52.4. If we go into further details, we shall find that among Muhammadans there are 8 zamindars and 2 non-zamindars, among Hindus, there is no zamindar to 5 non-zamindars, and among the Sikhs, there are three zamindars to one non-zamindar. The general percentage, as I said, is 52.4. One should think that in a department like the Veterinary, the zamindar element would greatly predominate. After all this department has to concern itself constantly with the zamindar class and their needs. It cannot be said that zamindars are unable to produce a sufficiently large number of qualified candidates to be appointed in this branch of the service. And yet it is strange that in spite of the resolution of 1919 the percentage has not been reached yet. The percentage laid down in that resolution is, I believe, 68. After ten years we find that the percentage has fallen short of that prescribed by as much as 14.

Then, Sir, take the next grade, that of Veterinary Inspectors and Assistant Surgeons. Here the general percentage for zamindars is 52.1. Here again there is a shortage of 4 per cent. Now I pass on to the Public Works Department. It is true that this department is a technical department, and I will not devote much of my time to it.

Mr. President : Is the Public Works Department a branch of the Department of Agriculture?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Certainly, Sir, it is under the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. President : But is the budget provision for it covered by the demand under consideration ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jeggendra Singh : It is not a part of the demand under consideration, Sir.

Mr. President : Then the Public Works Department cannot be discussed, inasmuch as its budget is not a part of the grant under discussion.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : My cut relates to the total grant and the object with which that cut has been moved is to show the general anti-zamindar drift of the policy of the Minister for Agriculture.

Mr. President : Only in the Department of Agriculture, not beyond it.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : If the total does not contain any part of the money which is meant to be spent on the Public Works Department, then, of course, it will be a different thing. On looking at the Budget I find, Sir, that it is true that the budget provision of the Public Works Department does not form any part of the particular item against which my cut has been moved. So I will leave that alone. I now proceed to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, to the consolidated list relating to the Department of Agriculture, page 15, sub-head, "D," Clerks. There the general percentage is 82.4 for zamindars to 67.6 for non-zamindars. My reference to clerks seems to have induced a smile on the lips of many persons. I attach a good deal of importance to a proper representation of zamindars among clerks, because I maintain that it is not the Minister nor his heads of departments who really mould the destinies of the department under him, in the matter of the distribution of patronage, but it is the clerk, the head assistant, and the superintendent, who largely do so.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Why don't you become a clerk then ?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : If I am not in a position to become a clerk, I should like that others sharing my views and having the same sympathy as I have should be there to look after the interests of the zamindar class. (A voice : What about chaprasis). Those who are fit to be only chapraisas may go there.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Those who are fit to be clerks, they can go there.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : The figures give a very definite indication of the general attitude of the department against zamindars. So long as zamindars are not properly represented among clerks they can never hope to secure their proper share in the other branches of the service because vacancies are not advertised and the zamindars, who live in rural areas come to know of vacancies only after they have been filled. This is the reason why I always attach more importance to the proper representation of zamindars among the clerks of the various departments, than other people seem to do.

Among agricultural assistants the percentage is 74.4 for zamindars to 25.6 to non-zamindars. If I can recollect correctly, the proportion laid down in the resolution of 1919 for the Agricultural Department is between 80 and 90 per cent. Now the Agricultural Assistant has very important duties to

[R. S. Chandhri Chhotu Ram.]

perform. It is really on the efforts and on the sympathy which the Agricultural Assistants can bring to bear upon their work among the zamindars that the progress of this department will depend. Solid, actual, achievements will be impossible unless you have among your Agricultural Assistants as high a percentage of zamindars as is permissible under that resolution. An ordinary Agricultural Assistant unless he happens to belong to the class among which he has to work will not perform his duties with the same zeal and with the same earnestness as a zamindar agriculturist. As a matter of fact, a non-zamindar Agricultural Assistant will not mix freely with the zamindars amongst whom he has to work. It is not very long ago that an Extra Assistant Director of Agriculture told me that a certain Agricultural Assistant came to him and told him that the zamindars were duffers, that they were dull, that they were unintelligent and that they could never understand things even after a man took a great deal of trouble to explain those things to them. That Extra Assistant Director of Agriculture said: if this is the view that you take of zamindars, then it is time that you left the department. He told him that he himself had gone in the midst of zamindars, mixed with them freely, explained things to them, put questions to them, and the zamindars, where agricultural matters were concerned, always struck him as very intelligent. It is not the lack of intelligence on the part of zamindars which accounted for the difficulty that the particular Agricultural Assistant had, but the lack of sympathy on the part of that Agricultural Assistant. Probably he has not his heart in the activities of the department and has not that sympathy with the zamindar class which ought to be the guiding policy of the department, as a whole.

Another point to which I may draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture while on this subject is the tendency of the department to appoint a large number of persons in higher grades. There was a time when complaint against the department being top-heavy was very loud. For some time steps were taken to see that the department ceased to be top-heavy. Lately that policy has been reversed and the appointments that have been made during the last 18 months have tended again to make the department top-heavy. I put a question and the answer of the Honourable the Minister was that the proportion between the men occupying superior and inferior branches of provincial service and Agricultural Assistants appointed by him was 1 : 4. One man in the provincial service was appointed to supervise and guide the work of 4 Agricultural Assistants. I should say most emphatically that one man in provincial service is not required to supervise the activities of only 4 Agricultural Assistants. There are some districts in which the number of Agricultural Assistants exceeds 8 or 10. Am I to understand, Sir, that for a single district as many as 2 men in the Provincial grade will be required to supervise the work of these 8 or 10 subordinates. Obviously, not. There are so many other departments where one man in the Provincial grade is able to supervise the work of scores and perhaps of hundreds of subordinates. There is no reason why the Agricultural Department should not be able to ensure sufficient supervision with the same proportion of officers in the higher grade.

From the question of services I may pass on to rules regulating admissions to various institutions which are managed by the department of agriculture.

These rules definitely tend to make training in these institutions a close preserve of the rich. Take the MacLagan Engineering College. There is a course of 5 years and the candidates cannot be admitted to the college unless they have.....

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : That is not under discussion.

Mr. President : That is to say, it is not covered by the demand under discussion. That's what the Honourable Minister probably means.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Is the honourable member discussing the whole Ministry of Agriculture?

Mr. President : The Ministry of Agriculture is divided into so many heads. If any member wishes to attack it, he is at liberty to move separate motions on different heads.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Very well, Sir, then I will take up the Veterinary College. There was a time when there was a vernacular course lasting only for 2 years for training Veterinary Assistants. The people who were turned out after this training proved fairly efficient. In course of time that vernacular class was abolished. The standard of admission was raised.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : When was it abolished?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : That class was abolished long before my Honourable friend came into office, and long before I was there. I am simply tracing the history which leads up to the present state of things which I regard as highly undesirable from the point of view of zamindars. Now, in course of time that vernacular class was abolished. The standard of admission was raised to that of Matriculation Examination and the length of the course was raised to 8 years. After some time the question was examined again and a definite recommendation was made by many people who had some knowledge of the working of the department that the 8 years' course should be retained only for a limited number of candidates, and another class with inferior qualifications should be started again so that while there should be a free supply of qualified veterinary men, the department should not become very expensive. That recommendation was brushed aside and what the Minister for Agriculture did was to raise the standard of academical qualifications for admission to F. A. or F.Sc., and to retain the four years' course of training for the students who sought admission to that college. The steps taken to raise the standard of education for admission and to fix the period of training at four years will have the effect of closing the door of service to the zamindar candidates, and as a matter of fact to all poorer middle class boys. It is not easy for the poorer classes of people, particularly the zamindars, first to educate their sons up to the F.A. or the F.Sc. standard, and then send them to Lahore to undergo four years' training in the Veterinary College. Whether the Honourable Minister did this consciously or unconsciously, willingly or unwillingly, I do not know. But the result cannot but be the practical exclusion of the zamindars from this important branch. Very, very few zamindars indeed can stand the strain, the economic strain, of educating their sons for 16 years. But the Honourable Minister not only raised the standard of education and

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period of training, but he also cancelled one very important concession that had been made in favour of people who sought admission to the Veterinary College after passing the F.A. or the F.Sc. examination. Candidates of this category used to be given one year's rebate. But under the present arrangements even that concession has been taken away. It comes to this that poor people, whether zamindars or non-zamindars, and particularly zamindars, will be excluded from this branch. There is another strange thing which strikes me and I am sure will strike others also. A man who has passed the matriculation examination and undergoes four years' training in the Amritsar Medical School is regarded as sufficiently well qualified and sufficiently efficient to undertake the treatment of human beings. But a man who has passed the Matriculation Examination and undergoes a course of four years' training in the Veterinary College is not regarded as sufficiently well-qualified or sufficiently efficient to undertake the treatment of animals. That is very strange indeed. Anyway, so far as I have been able to ascertain from those associated with the Medical School and the Veterinary College, I find that the books prescribed for the students in the Amritsar School are far more difficult than the books prescribed for the Veterinary College at Lahore. And the standard of English which is necessary to understand the books prescribed and to follow lectures at Amritsar School can by no means be lower than that which is required for the same purpose at the Veterinary College. Therefore, I think the zamindar members of this House can reasonably say that whatever the intentions of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture may be, the drift of his policy is a matter of definite grievance to the zamindars.

In answer to a question I have been able to get figures which indicate clearly that the various steps taken by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture in initiating these changes have really affected adversely the admission of zamindar students to the Veterinary College. In 1926 the total number of students admitted to the Veterinary College was 81 out of whom 15 or 48.4 per cent. were agriculturists. In 1927 the number admitted was 38 out of whom 17 students or 44.7 per cent. were agriculturists, that is, there was a drop of 4 per cent. In 1928. (A voice: When was the new rule introduced?) You are in a better position to know. (Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: What is the new rule?) The new rule is that only F.A. or F.Sc. passed students can enter the college and the period of training should be four years without giving any rebate to those who have passed the F.A. or the F.Sc., as was the practice formerly. In 1928 the number of students admitted was 80 out of whom 13 candidates or 48.8 per cent. were agriculturists, another drop of 1.5 per cent. If this is allowed to go on for another five or six years the drop will be very great. Do you mean to say that for a department for which the average percentage of zamindars has been fixed at 66 or 70 per cent., admissions to the extent of 48 per cent. would be sufficient if you really mean to give effect to the promises contained in the resolution of 1919? There must surely be a higher percentage of admissions than the percentage of posts laid down for zamindars. In answer to a question the Honourable Minister for Agriculture told me that those zamindar matriculates who had passed the Matriculation Examination in the first division would be admitted to the Veterinary College. It is true that they

can be admitted to the Veterinary College, but under what conditions? The condition is that if any vacancies are left over after F.A. and F.Sc. candidates have been admitted, they might be admitted. Even this halting concession is to last only for the first two or three years. So it reduces itself to nothing.

Then again, there were three scholarships previously out of which two were reserved for agriculturists. Now the number of scholarships for the different classes has been raised to 10 for each class and not one of these scholarships has been reserved for agriculturists. The Honourable Minister in answer to a question told me that agriculturists were welcome to win these scholarships by merit. That means precious little.

Now from the Veterinary College I may pass on to the Agricultural College at Lyallpur. There again, the Honourable Minister for Agriculture has done the same thing, or proposes to do the same thing. The standard of education for admission used to be the Matriculation Examination and the student had to undergo a course of two years to qualify himself for the post of Agricultural Assistant, B Class and a course of four years if he wanted to qualify himself for a higher grade. What is now proposed to be done is to raise the standard for admission to F.A. or F.Sc., and to raise the period of training in the college to four years, for all, thus abolishing the two years' course entirely.

I really fail to understand how there could be any justification for this raising of the standard. After all you want men with sound practical education and some technical education given at the Lyallpur College. This is all that is really required for men who have to do district work among zamindars. I do not say that for your research work or for technical work of a higher nature, you should not have men of very high qualifications. But, for your district work you require men with practical commonsense, ordinary education and a short course of agricultural training at the Lyallpur College. The higher the qualifications of a man, the higher the pay he would expect and if you insist that all your Agricultural Assistants should be F.A. or F.Sc.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I think the honourable member was talking about Veterinary College.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : If you ask me to sit down I will gladly do so.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I thought he was discussing the Veterinary College.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : No I have passed on to the Agricultural College.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : You pass on too quickly.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Some people take long time to pass.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : When your turn comes I may have to return the compliment by interruptions. I was just submitting that it is not at all necessary or even desirable that for the post of an ordinary-type involving ordinary work among zamindars you should insist on men with high academical qualifications. All that is needed is education on the Arts side up to the matriculation standard and then a two years' course at the Lyallpur College. If you insist on any higher academical qualifications for admission and then a long course of training at the Lyallpur College, the result would be that men who graduate from the Lyallpur College would insist on getting very high pay and the department would become so expensive that even from the Government point of view the new changes would be most undesirable. Anyway, it is impossible for an average zamindar to put his son through an Arts education first for twelve years and then again another long course of four years of agricultural training at the Lyallpur College. If you insist upon that standard of education, then it can only result in the practical elimination of the average class of zamindars. Only the richer class of zamindars will be able to send their sons to the Lyallpur Agricultural College and probably they would not care to do so. Therefore, the contingency that will arise and that we all shall have to face would be that the ranks of Agricultural Assistants of A & B class would be monopolised by non-agriculturists who would not be able to do the same amount of work in the same efficient manner as zamindar Agricultural Assistants are able to do. That the tendency has been to discourage zamindars will appear from the figures relating to the entries in 1926, 1927 and 1928. In 1926, 74 students were admitted in the Lyallpur College out of whom 61 or 82 per cent. were agriculturists. In 1927, the number of students admitted in the College was 83 out of whom 62 were agriculturists, that is 74.7 per cent. a drop of nearly 8 per cent in a single year. In 1928 the total number of students admitted to the Lyallpur College was 68. Out of these 46 were agriculturists which means 67.6 per cent, another drop of 7 per cent. in a single year. If things go on.....

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : You mean statutory agriculturists or ordinary agriculturists.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I mean statutory agriculturists. If things are allowed to proceed at this pace and along these lines, the day is not far distant when the proportion of zamindars admitted to the Lyallpur College will fall below 40 per cent. and if the number of zamindar entrants to the Lyallpur College falls below the proportion that has been fixed in the resolution of 1919, the inevitable result will be that you would not be able to employ zamindars in proper proportion even if you wished. It is, therefore, time that the Honourable Minister for Agriculture turned his serious attention to what he has been doing or what he has been asked to do or what he is being expected to do. I wonder whether the Honourable Minister for Agriculture has really applied his mind to the policy that is being followed in the department. If he had seriously considered the effect of the changes that he was being asked to introduce or that he was introducing himself, he would have seen clearly enough that the results from the point of view of agriculturists would be disastrous. After all at every session questions bearing on this subject are asked and the figures that he gives pass through his hands. Presumably he reads them.

and I hope he must have tried to follow the significance of these figures. In view of the figures that I have quoted from his own answers it is obvious that the zamindar members of the House, that elected section of the House that represents the zamindar population, cannot view this change with equanimity. In fact these changes are sufficient to cause serious concern to all those who have any sympathy with the zamindar class. There is another sentence in the answer that he gave to one of my questions which makes me think that the Honourable Minister for Agriculture really fails to apply his mind to what he says. In his answer to my question No. 1762 he says:—

"In the case of Lyallpur College, no question of safeguards arises, as agriculturists constitute an overwhelming majority among those admitted in the College."

Now if the Honourable Minister had given a little serious thought to the question and the object which the question had in view, he would have seen at once that even now the proportion of agriculturists who were admitted to the Lyallpur College in 1929 was below the proportion that was fixed for zamindars in the resolution of 1919 and if he allows the falling off of this proportion to continue, the result would be that in a few years it would be impossible for him to obtain qualified agriculturists to fill even 50 per cent of the posts which should really go to zamindars.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : What proportion is fixed for the agriculturists?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : So far as the department of agriculture is concerned, I think it is 80 to 90 per cent.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : What was the proportion fixed in the resolution of 1919?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I am not sure but I think it is between 80 and 90 per cent.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : What I mean to ask is whether this proportion was for statutory agriculturists or agriculturists.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : It is true that the proportion that was laid down in the resolution of 1919 covered the share of zamindars under which class were included statutory agriculturists and some others as well.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : May I ask a question, Sir? The proportions which the honourable member refers to, are they fixed for the imperial or the provincial or the subordinate services?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I think the proportions were laid down for provincial and subordinate services only. As a matter of fact, I have made no reference whatever to imperial posts. Now for the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to say that no safeguards are really needed so far as admission to the Agricultural College is concerned does not impress me at all. It will not impress anybody. I have made it abundantly clear that the proportion of zamindar students admitted to the College falls below the proportion that was laid down in the resolution of 1919. Again it seems he has not noticed that there has been a drop of 15 per cent. in the course of 3 years. If that is allowed to continue for another 4 or 5 years the percentage of zamindars admitted to the Lyallpur College

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will fall below 40 per cent. I sent in this cut in order to discuss this question as freely and as frankly as I could and to draw pointedly the attention of the Honourable Minister to the disastrous consequences of the policy which he seems to have followed, whether of his own accord or at the instance of those by whom he is surrounded and who probably always ask him to care only for efficiency, by which they always meant only academical qualifications. I warn him seriously against the consequences of this policy to the zamindar class. As he is himself a zamindar I hope he will take the warning seriously and change the course that he has been following lately.

Mr. President: Demand under consideration, amendment moved:

'That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.'

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang [North-West Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban]: Sir, I have not heard the whole of my learned friend's speech, but I do not think it was absolutely necessary to hear it in order to know what he said, in connection with this motion, because we all know that he is obsessed with this idea in every activity of his life, at any rate his life as a member of this House. I am sure it will do him much good to have the reputation of having this mentality.

(At this stage Chaudhri Chhotu Ram left the Chamber.)

That is not fair, Chaudhri Sahib. *(Chaudhri Dulai Chand: I am ready.)* Oh, yes, his lieutenant is here. The speech a part of which I heard to-day and the speeches of this character that I hear very often, unfortunately too often in this House, remind me of a certain lady, well known in the Punjabi legend, who was riding a first class dromedary, most richly caparisoned, followed and preceded by liveried servants with silver maces in their hands.

(At this stage Chaudhri Chhotu Ram re-entered the Chamber.)

Mr. President: Order, order. I think, common courtesy requires that an honourable member after making a speech of the type the honourable member Chaudhri Chhotu Ram had made, should remain in his seat to hear what the other honourable members say in reply to his allegations.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: I am very sorry, Sir.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: The lady herself was richly dressed and laden with costly jewellery. She happened to meet a poor dervesh on the road who was coming from the opposite direction. He naturally salaamed her with great respect and expected that he would get something from that rich lady. The rich lady probably threw him a rupee or so and said: My good man, pray for me and ask for some blessing from the Divine Being for me. The reply that he gave would not bear repetition in this House and may well be left to the imagination or to the knowledge of those who are familiar with the legend. That is exactly the case, I think, with the mentality of my honourable friend, Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram and those who think with him. I feel and there are thousands outside this House who feel with me that this joke has really gone too far. *(A voice: Is it a joke?)*

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq: Sir, the honourable member has referred to a story. If the story is obnoxious or abusive it should not have been repeated in the House. I protest strongly against it and ask him to withdraw it. It is a most disgraceful allegation to be made in this House.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Is it a point of order ?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : He is making allegations against people who are supporting Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, and it is a very serious thing. Never before has such an obnoxious thing been heard in this House. He should apologise. It is a thing which everybody knows to be obnoxious. Those who know the story understand how obnoxious it is. It is most disgraceful that such a thing should have been repeated here and allegations made against certain members.

Mr. President : Is the honourable member prepared to withdraw ? Some members of the House appear to take exception to it. Perhaps he did not mean anything.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I am the last person to offend anybody's susceptibilities, and I would be following the bad example set by my learned friend the other day if I did not withdraw any word that might in the least be calculated to give offence to anyone. Now, Sir, I was submitting that this joke.....

Mr. President : May I take it that the honourable member is prepared to withdraw if his words have given offence to any one ?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I have submitted to you, Sir, what my feeling in such matters is. I should like to hear from some gentleman on this side of the House to say that he has taken exception to my reference. If Chaudhri Chhotu Ram himself or some one else on his side says that I have really given offence to any one, if *they* think I have given them offence, I will withdraw and the whole thing may be deleted from the proceedings. I am not a man.....

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : The reference he has made in the House is most insulting.

Mr. President : Is it only the honourable member from Amritsar who has understood the reference to be insulting ?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Everybody in the House has taken it to be insulting. The honourable member from Sheikhupura has taken it to be insulting, the honourable member from Hoshiarpur has taken it to be insulting.....

Mr. President : How many members in the whole House have taken offence ? In other words, how many members agree with the honourable member for Amritsar ? Will they please raise their hands ?

(Sir hands went up.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I doubt whether it is necessary to know that, and whether it would be worth while going into such detail in the matter, and I do not think it is necessary for him to withdraw it. He never intended really to offend anyone, and I think the whole matter might be left at that, and even if it was a slip on his part, it is unnecessary to rub it in and rub it in.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : The honourable member has made a personal attack on me. He said just now that if any other members also had taken his speech in the light in which the honourable member for Amritsar has taken it he will have no hesitation in withdrawing it. Now that there

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are other members who have taken it in the same light, he should withdraw.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I thought it had been accepted by my learned friend. I apprehended that there was some ulterior motive behind the protest.

Mr. President : I call upon the learned doctor to withdraw the imputation of "ulterior motive" ascribed to the honourable member for Amritsar. I hope he will withdraw it without any hesitation.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I apprehended that there was an ulterior motive. I did not say positively that he had an ulterior motive. But even that apprehension may be withdrawn.

Mr. President : Yet the expression ascribing an "ulterior motive" to a member of this House, even if made unwittingly, should be withdrawn.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Knowing the history of what happened last week perhaps you would agree with me that my apprehension was not entirely unfounded. Nevertheless.....

Mr. President : After what has happened, I think it is my duty to explain to the House that I have allowed the honourable members too much latitude in their speeches. The other day I overlooked the remote significance and consequences of a remark which appeared to be innocent at first. Had I stopped the honourable member for Amritsar as soon as he had made the remark to which exception was taken afterwards, the resulting unpleasantness might have been averted and the two honourable members of the House would not have accused each other of untruths. In view of this sad experience, I request the learned Doctor not to allow the matter to go further and to withdraw the expression "ulterior motive".

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : If he says that he had no ulterior motive I will withdraw. If he says that that remark was not prompted by any ill-will, I will withdraw.

Mr. President : Is the honourable member prepared to say that he did not raise his objection with any "ulterior motive"?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Who is he to ask me? How does he know my mind? I never had any ulterior motive.

Mr. President : I would ask the honourable member to resume his seat.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : As the honourable member has said that the remark was not prompted by any feelings of ill-will, I take it as a genuine expression and, therefore, I withdraw the words that he took to be offensive.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Sir, with due respect, I beg to say that this is a new system started.....

Mr. President : Order, order. The honourable member, Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq, could very well have refused to answer the question of the honourable Dr. Narang, but he has no justification to grumble now.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I hope, Sir, that this little storm which was, I submit, unnecessarily raised would not ruffle the minds of honourable members of the House and that they would, in order to apply their minds to the discussion of the motion which is before the House, forget for a moment what has transpired within the last five or ten minutes. I was addressing the House on the motion of Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. Although sometimes hard comments were exchanged between us as a party and the party to which my honourable friend belongs, I am glad to say that our minds have never been ruffled nor has any malice or animosity ever been created either in this House or outside it. We are fighting here for the causes that we espouse and we should fight in a noble and generous spirit and should not try to create any ill-will or animosity or malice where they have no business to be. These words I use simply to soften the minds of those whose minds might have been disturbed a bit over this little breeze and I shall now address myself to the merits of the motion before the House.

I was submitting that there is a feeling and that feeling is shared by thousands outside this House that this debate which this motion has raised again before the House has already gone too far. I am saying this not with a view to minimise the importance in any way of the motion that has been moved by my honourable friend, but certainly it is a matter which has gone beyond its proper limits. We who unfortunately under circumstances over which we had no control are not agriculturists are really sick of hearing complaints made on behalf of zamindars with respect to grievances which really do not exist. If we look round we find that the administration of this Province is, if anything, highly zamindarish in its character. I need not count the various heads of departments; a glance at this House alone would be able to convince that the administration of this Province does not suffer from the elimination or lack of zamindar element in it. In fact I feel that the zamindars have already got more than their share in many departments of administration. And, therefore, such complaints do not come with good grace from the protagonists of the zamindars. We know that the military classes and the non-zamindars.....

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : On a point of order, Sir. My honourable friend is introducing things which have absolutely nothing to do with the subject matter of my motion. I was prevented from saying anything which did not fall within the scope of the motion.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : That is not, I submit, a point of order. Supposing there are 20 rooms in a house and 18 are occupied by a certain class of people and two by certain others.....

Mr. President : Before the honourable member came in to-day, it was ruled by the Chair that the honourable mover of the motion, Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, could not discuss the policy of the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture in all departments under his control. The motion under discussion is confined to the branches of the Department of Agriculture, viz., Agriculture proper, Veterinary Colleges and Co-operative Societies. There is no fourth head. Therefore, discussion should be confined to these three sub-heads.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Quite so, Sir. I apprehended this objection but at the same time, I thought that there was no force in it. As to what you have been pleased to observe, Sir, I would submit that probably the necessity of making those observations would have been obviated if you had allowed me just to finish my sentence. I was going to submit that for instance, if there is a house containing 20 rooms and 18 of them are occupied by a certain class of people and two are occupied, let us suppose, by another class, the people who have occupied 18 rooms cannot grumble that the other two should be occupied by others. That is the argument which I wanted to put before the House to support my proposition that the zamindars had no cause for complaint. They had got more than their share in many of the departments and so they cannot insist that they should have the whole for themselves to the exclusion of others entirely. That is the argument which I was going to submit and that is why I referred to the Military Department, to the Police Department, to the Co-operative Department and to the Agricultural Department, as a whole, to show that they have to be satisfied with what they had got already, the whole Province being treated as one house with the various departments representing the various rooms in my illustration. With respect to the proposition which has been advanced, there are several aspects of this question. One is whether any community or any class can, simply because it is that class, claim a preferential treatment in any particular department of the administration or not. That is one question. The second is whether, as a matter of fact, if the loaves and fishes of Government are to be distributed according to caste and tribes, any particular class which is now represented by my honourable friend has suffered in that distribution or has not got its legitimate share. With respect to the first, I would submit that it is a most mischievous principle. We are already complaining that in this Province particularly, and in this country generally, the loaves and fishes of the Government are distributed not on merit but on other considerations. The result is that the efficiency of the department has to suffer and I am sure the heads of departments who are sitting here would agree with me that this principle which has been thrust upon them by circumstances is really interfering with the efficiency of the various departments when they are called upon to take so many persons because they belonged to this particular class or that. That is really from its very nature a nefarious principle and I think that no Government, no civilised Government, that wants to do justice and wants to stick to the policy of fair play to all communities would follow such a principle, especially when it is particular as to the maintenance of its efficiency of administration. I know that this argument does not appeal to a large number of my friends sitting on the opposite benches because somehow they think that they are not yet at that stage of education and efficiency that their accretion to the various departments would not impair their efficiency. And, therefore, they want to put efficiency in the secondary position and caste, tribal and communal considerations in the first place. That is a principle against which we fight and we shall continue to fight, not only in the interests of the communities or classes that might suffer by the undue and unjust claims of one particular class or community but also in the interests of the country as a whole, and in the interests of the efficiency of the administration. Then, Sir, my learned friend has not

really pointed out in what particular branches of the Agricultural Department the zamindars are sufferers. He has, so far as I have been able to follow him, made a special point of and quoted certain figures relating to the Agricultural College. When he was talking about them I put him a certain question; when he said that a certain proportion had been fixed in 1919 and that was 80 or 90 per cent. he was not sure which, I asked him whether that proportion was fixed with respect to agriculturists or with respect to statutory agriculturists. He had to admit that the proportion was fixed with respect to agriculturists as a whole and not agriculturists as classified under the Punjab Land Alienation Act, otherwise called statutory agriculturists. With this fact in view, you would see that his whole argument tumbles to the ground. My honourable friend was then saying that from 80 or 90 the percentage came down to 74, from 74 to 68 and so on. When I asked him whether this 74 and 68 represented the proportion of agriculturists or statutory agriculturists, he had to admit that they represented the statutory agriculturists. On the one hand he says the proportion was 80 or 90 per cent. with respect to all agriculturists, the complaint is based on the ground of reduction in the percentage not with respect to the entire body of agriculturists but of the statutory agriculturists. The argument on the face of it, I submit, is forceless. He should have pointed out whether the percentage of agriculturists as such had come down and unless he pointed that out his argument really points to nothing. That is assuming that the agriculturists have got a right as such to have an overwhelming majority in the Agricultural Department, but why should that assumption be made? I have submitted even on that assumption the argument of my honourable friend is fallacious and proves nothing. But why should that assumption be made? Supposing a person who is not a statutory agriculturist or not even an agriculturist according to the definition which was framed by the Government some time ago, is he to be debarred even from receiving education in the science of Agriculture simply because he is not a statutory agriculturist or an agriculturist? Sir, is it absolutely necessary that a zamindar who has got a large area of cultivable land should necessarily depend for guidance and advice and scientific help upon a man who belongs to a statutory agricultural tribe? It would come to this, that no patient who belongs to an agricultural tribe would like to consult a surgeon or a doctor who does not happen to belong to an agricultural tribe. He would not go to a college where the professor of Chemistry or the professor of Physics or of any other subject does not happen to be a member of the agricultural tribe. This is entirely what my learned friend's argument would come to. It is hardly necessary to point out that on the face of it, with due deference to my friend, it is absurd, and it would lead to absurdity. It is, therefore, time that my learned friend and his friends who are holding the same views should understand that to make undue claims on the ground of birth, caste, which is only determinable by birth, is really not productive of good-will between the various tribes and communities, nor is it good for those people who ask for these concessions, nor as I have submitted is it good for the administration of the country as a whole. I standing here on this side of the House make it clear that this is not to help Government or to help the Minister in charge that I am opposing the motion of Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. But it is to explain to the Minister

[Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang.]

and to the heads of various departments that they have already been too much carried away by those cries to the great detriment of the interests of the non-agricultural communities. I would, therefore, warn them that they should not be carried away any further by these meaningless cries that are being raised by my honourable friend and his colleagues on the other side of the House. There might have been a time when the agricultural element in the various departments was not sufficiently strong. That time has already passed. There might have been a time, in fact, there was at time I concede, when this class might have been treated as a backward class, but I assure you, Sir, I sincerely and solemnly submit before you, that the time has come when the non-agriculturist communities could be rightly described as backward classes. Whenever my friends put forward such extraordinary claims on behalf of the agriculturists, do they ever think of the non-agriculturists also? Are they to be deprived of their occupations? Are they to be deprived of the patronage that the Government of the Province could give them? Do they ever think of the principle of live and let live, or do they think that everything should be monopolized like the Agricultural Department by them? It is already over-agricultural in its character. He has not quoted facts and figures to show the *anti-zamindar* drift of the policy. These are the words in the motion, "to draw the attention of the Ministry of Agriculture to the general *anti-zamindar* drift of the policy." Now, if he had worded his motion differently and had said "to draw the attention of the Government to the desirability of having a larger agricultural element in the Agricultural Department," it would have been less open to objection.

Mr. President : A motion, in that form would not have been quite in order.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Sir, that raises a point.....

Mr. President : Speaking generally it is not open to the members of this House to lay down a policy for the guidance of a Minister in future. On exceptional occasions such a course may be followed, no doubt, but the real object of motions for nominal reductions is to (i) examine the policy of Government, (ii) criticise the work done in the past by the Ministers or their subordinates, and (iii) emphasize the grievances of the services or of the public. If it is intended to guide the Ministers as to how they should act in the future, this may be done by a Resolution of the House.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I was not really discussing this matter, Sir, on any technical or constitutional point of view. At this stage I was only discussing it from the point of view of forcefulness or forcelessness of the motion which has been laid before the House. There would have been, I may say, if it had been permissible to put the motion in that way, some sense in the motion than there is now, because this condemns the policy of the Minister for Agriculture wholesale and really accuses him of bias as if it were against zamindars as such. That, I would submit has not been made out by my honourable friend, Rai Sahib Chandhri Chhotu Ram at all. If he means that, then he is doing a great injustice to the gentleman in charge of this department. And I do not think that any great difference if at all has been made in the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture since the retirement of my honourable friend

Chaudhri Ohhotu Ram from the Cabinet. In any case the proposition that the policy of the Ministry has been *anti-zamindar* is entirely unfounded and it has not been proved at all. It is not to discuss other things but only to point out that things have been carried too far that I should state that when we come to sub-judges, we find my honourable friend or some one of his friends claiming so many sub-judgeships. When we come to Public Prosecutors, we find the same claim that so many of them should be zamindars. When we come to the Co-operative Department, again, we still hear of complaints of lack of zamindar element in the department. In this way, there is not a department which is not accused of being rather negligent of the interests of the zamindars. I am only referring to these things in order to show the mentality of the author of this motion, not that the grievance is real but because these things have to be said, so that the heads of departments might not get lax in their efforts to promote zamindar interests. That is no doubt one kind of advocacy to forestall the cries and complaints of others so that others might not even get their legitimate share in the loaves and fishes of Government. What I want is this, that each community, each tribe, each caste should not be unmindful of the interests of other communities as well. Act upon the golden principle of living and letting others live. Let us be sure at least that the Government will not be carried away either by the threats or by the cajolments of the zamindar party and will hold the balance even between the various communities living in this Province.

Chaudhri Duli Chand [Karnal (Non-Muhammadian), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I had no intention to take part in the debate on this motion but for the fact that Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang referred, in his speech, to a very obnoxious matter in a story. I do not think that official members understood what Dr. Narang was referring to.....

Mr. President: I am afraid I cannot allow the honourable member to re-open that topic.

Chaudhri Duli Chand: I can relate any number of such stories which I am sure will not fail to disturb the peace of mind of the Doctor, but I refrain from doing so because I do not like to talk of dirty things. However, I will, with your permission, Sir, just give an illustration, which has nothing unpleasant in it, to clear the point of view of Dr. Narang and those who think with him. Once it happened that certain persons in a village forcibly took possession of the property of another class of persons in the same village on which a quarrel arose between the two parties. The population of that village consisted largely of persons who belonged to the aggressor's party and they all, gathering together, began to advise the members of the aggrieved party that there was no use quarrelling and fighting over such a trifling matter, and that it should be let alone and that no fuss should be created over it. Dr. Gokul Chand is a typical representative of the party of aggressors while my honourable friend Rai Sahib Chaudhri Ohhotu Ram belongs to the aggrieved party and that is why Dr. Narang, waxing eloquent, said that ours was a meaningless cry and a joke which had gone too far. If he had been straightforward and fair-minded, he ought to have seen for himself that his class was holding a monopoly in almost all Government services and he ought to

[Chandhri Duli Chand.]

have conceded that it was only just and fair that we should ask for our legitimate share in the administration of the province. I was really surprised to hear Dr. Narang saying that we were exceeding the proper limits in making that demand. I fail to understand the reasons on which he based that remark. The honourable mover of the amendment proved by facts and figures, in a very temperate speech, that the number of zamindars was decreasing every year in various Government services and particularly in the Agriculture Department where, we expected, it ought to have increased. I cannot help saying that Government is a liar inasmuch as it has not fulfilled its promises.

Mr. President : I cannot allow the use of the word "liar."

Chandhri Duli Chand : I withdraw it, Sir. (Laughter). As reference was made to the circular of 1919, I would like to state the reasons and the circumstances under which the resolution, contained in the circular, was passed and circulated to all heads of Government departments. At that time Government very badly needed the help of those who were prepared to shed their blood for the defence of the country. Now agriculturists were the only people to whom Government looked forward for help. They did not belie the expectations of Government and, according to their traditions, rose to the call and saved the country from the bondage of slavery. One wonders which power would have been ruling over us at this time if the zamindars had not risen to the occasion. And it was on account of the sacrifices on that occasion on the part of the zamindars that the circular in question was issued. Happily the Governor was also a strong man at that time.

Mr. President : In what year was the circular issued by the Government and which war is the honourable member referring to?

Captain Sardar Sikendar Hyat Khan : On behalf of the honourable member, may I just say that the reference is probably to the last Afghan War which was started in 1919 and no peace was actually entered into until November 1919.

Chandhri Duli Chand : Sir, under these circumstances the circular was issued. It is really deplorable that Government has gone into slumber and is trying to forget the promises it had made to the agriculturists at that time.

The learned Doctor was further pleased to advise us that we should not raise the question of caste, creed and colour. I may let him know that his advice, if acted upon, will not bring about Hindu-Muslim unity. It will rather go to create a wider gulf between the two communities. He should further understand that we are in reality trying to remove the differences between Hindus and Muslims. By representing and advocating the cause of agriculturists and agricultural labourers, as we are, we are in fact trying to achieve what the so-called Swarajists have naturally failed to achieve. Dr. Narang belongs to the class of monopolists and he is afraid of the awakening and the rising power of agriculturists and agricultural labourers lest the latter should storm their citadel and break the monopoly that he and his men are at present holding.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : We are ourselves labourers.

Chaudhri Duli Chand : Dr. Narang also remarked that zamindars were in an overwhelming majority in Government services. He has perhaps forgotten that in most of these departments his class of people are in largest number. In the department of Education, Public Works Department, Medical and in Police, the number of agriculturists is very small and also other departments are filled by the non-agriculturists.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : The honourable member said that there was a monopoly in the Police department.....

Mr. President : Is that a personal explanation ?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Yes, Sir, a personal explanation. Chaudhri Duli Chand said that there was a monopoly of non-agriculturists in the Police department. The fact is that 68.8 per cent. of the posts in that department are held by agriculturists as is clear from this Statement.

Chaudhri Duli Chand : Among Hindu Police Officers the number of statutory agriculturists is negligibly small. The standard of admission to the Agricultural College has recently been raised to F.Sc. or F.A., as if those who had joined this college as matriculates, had all failed to understand and learn what is taught in that college. I have reasons to suspect that this standard has been raised to debar the zamindar students from gaining admission to that college and my suspicion is confirmed when I see that the standard of admission to the Veterinary College has also been raised recently. Is there any sense in raising to F.Sc. or F.A. the standard of admission to the Veterinary College where the students have only to learn the treatment of animals while the standard of admission to the Medical School at Amritsar where students learn the treatment of men is matriculation. I fear it is the result of the tactics so often employed by my clever non-agriculturist friends. Otherwise there was no necessity for introducing such changes. It has been hammered into the brain of the officers of the Government that efficiency is at stake and they have been, as if, compelled to fix such high standards. My friends miss no opportunity to create imaginary foes in the minds of the officers of Government so that the latter may not do justice to the zamindars and that their monopoly in services may not be disturbed.

Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath (Punjab Landholders, General) : Sir, I was a member of the committee appointed to go into the question of raising the standard of admission to the Agricultural College. It sat in Simla. It was presided over by the Financial Commissioner and several members who took interest in the case of the agriculturists were members of the committee. The Director of Agriculture also was a member. We went into the question thoroughly and considered the standard of education that has been fixed for admission to other colleges of the same nature, for instance, the Moghulpura and the Rasul colleges where the standard has been fixed as the F.A., or the F.Sc. Education in the Agricultural College is by no means inferior; if anything, it is superior to education elsewhere. Well, Sir, this sort of spoon-feeding for agriculturists or, for the matter of that, for any other class is not calculated to promote their ultimate good. If a student comes to the college with lower educational qualifications he cannot follow the

[Raja Narendra Nath.]

lectures which are given. That leads to failure in the higher examinations. It leads to stagnation. It leads to wastage of their money and energy and their life. It leads to the wastage of public money. Then, Sir, something was said in connection with the question of entry into Government service. I would ask the House to consider this. The Agricultural College confers an academic distinction. It is not an institution meant for the manufacture of candidates for Government service. That view of the Agricultural College or, for the matter of that, of any other educational institution, is entirely wrong. If the reasoning adopted by my honourable friend Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhoku Ram applied to all educational institutions where higher education is given the result will be this, that in order to facilitate the entry of zamindars into Government Colleges you might lower the standard of entrance examination, and the standard of the B.A. or the F.Sc. may be lowered in order to enable more zamindar students to pass the examination. In order to enable more zamindar students to pass the B.A. examination, that standard also might be lowered. The Agricultural College is an institution as also other colleges, which is intended for the benefit of the country at large and for the province as a whole. It is not solely intended for the benefit of the agricultural classes. Its sole object is not to manufacture candidates for Government service. If there are non-agriculturists who are equally well-qualified to do the work which the agriculturists are supposed to do, there is no reason why there should be any discrimination.

Well, Sir, as far as the bigger question of the employment of a larger number of agriculturists is concerned, the subject has been discussed *ad nauseam* in this Council. Dr. Narang has made a lucid speech and has fully gone into the question. I have somewhere else, though not in speech but in writing, given my views at full length. It is not necessary to raise that issue again and to repeat those arguments. But there is only one thing to which I should like to make a reference. Several *Magna Chartas* have been quoted in this council by gentlemen belonging to one caste or one tribe or another. There are the *Magna Charta* of the Act of 1900 and the *Magna Charta* of the resolution of 1919. I, for one, cannot reconcile the two. I do not see how the interests of agriculture would be served by dissociating the people from their hereditary profession and putting them in the services. I do not go into that question now. It has been discussed at length and I do not want to tire your patience by advancing old arguments. But I want to point out this. In appealing to these *Magna Chartas* one higher *Magna Charta* is ignored and that *Magna Charta* is the *Magna Charta* which recognises the equality of the rights of all the citizens of the State. By creating preferential rights and special privileges that *Magna Charta* which ought to be given priority above all other *Magna Chartas* is ignored. I have said enough to defend the policy of the Minister and I have done it in pursuance of my own conscientious conviction that the policy is right and not merely to help the Minister, though I should be only too glad to do so where I feel he is following the right policy.

* **Mr. Din Muhammad** [East and West Central Towns (Muhammads), Urban]: Sir, I deem it absolutely necessary, not only in the interests of the agricultural community but also in the interests of the agricultural department, to expose the fallacious arguments advanced by the honourable

member for Rawalpindi, Dr. Gokal Chand, Narang. He remarked that the demand of the agriculturists was just like that of the man who having occupied 18 rooms asked for a share in the other two rooms also which happened, to be occupied by strangers. Sir, he posed himself as conscientious and just a brother as the one who asked his other brothers who were less educated and less intelligent to be satisfied with three stables, two kitchens, four out-houses and five cow-sheds and allow himself to remain in the only four main rooms of the building which he happened to occupy. As I understood the matter, what Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram said was this, that the agriculturists were not adequately provided for in the Agricultural Department. Leave alone other departments. It is a genuine grievance of the agriculturists that their interests are being ignored in the Agricultural Department. No satisfactory reply has been given by the honourable member for Rawalpindi nor by the honourable the Raja Sahib to this demand of the agriculturists. We have here of late been acquainted with such divisions made.

از فرش خانه تا به لب بام زان من و ز بام خانه تا به تریا آزان تو

"From the ground floor to the top storey, leave it to me; and from the top storey to the highest heaven of your imagination, take yourself." Well, Sir, that is the division which the honourable member for Rawalpindi proposed for the agricultural community. In the previous motion for the reduction of the grant, the honourable member Sayad Muhammad Hussain laid stress on the fact that the money spent on the Agricultural Department was wasted. Now this is one of the main reasons why the money is being wasted. The non-agriculturists are entrusted with the working of the department and they have absolutely no interest in land; they have not been initiated into the mysteries of agriculture; they have no initiative, no intelligence and no brains in this direction to apply themselves to the improvement of the condition of the land. (*Hear, hear*). And how could it be, when they have absolutely no sympathy whatsoever with the interests of the agricultural community whose interests they are appointed to safeguard? It was to impress this aspect of the affair that the previous motion was brought forward in the House. Whenever a just demand is made or a genuine grievance is represented, the bogey of "efficiency" is raised before us. This shrewd and crafty argument is advanced simply to threaten the heads of departments and prevent them from pursuing the right course. This is the mentality of the honourable members who have spoken just now. They want to threaten the Government and warn them that if they pursued a policy which would affect their vested interests, their support would be withdrawn from them. They think that by such threats, they would succeed in making the heads of departments refrain from doing their duty by the people and go to slumber. It was remarked by the honourable member from Rawalpindi that this demand of the agriculturists was meaningless. If it is meaningless on the one hand, it is absolutely selfish on the other hand. Here again it is nothing but the old question of vested interests clashing against rightful claims. When we place our grievances and our calamities and our difficulties before you, we are told, by the members occupying the opposite benches: "Look here, you are not efficient; you are quite novices in this department; you are not fit for the work; you are not up to the mark. We are qualified; we are up to the mark and fully competent in this respect and we are holding the posts for you. You keep

[Mr. Din Muhammad,]

out of our way." This is not a policy which will do credit to any administration which claims to be just and sympathetic. The honourable Raja Sahib referred to the noble principle of equality of status while meeting the arguments advanced by Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. I would not go to the length of quoting that phrase which ends with "quoting scripture," because it might be considered that I am overstepping the bounds but he must know that the agricultural community too demands equality of status everywhere and in every department and every line that is open to every other member of the non-agricultural community in India. But whenever a demand is made on their behalf.....

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Is there any *vice versa*?

Mr. Din Muhammad : Quite so, perfectly right. We do not want to monopolise all posts for the agricultural community. All we say is that according to the population and according to the number of the qualified people in that population their interests should be safeguarded and protected (*Hear, hear*), and this is the one point which you always try to hoodwink and side track (*A voice : Never*). This is the only way in which education can be encouraged among rural classes and if their qualified persons even are shunted from door to door like shuttle-cocks, they would naturally be discouraged; education would not spread among them with the result that the rural masses would be left without education. With these few remarks, I beg to support the cut that has been moved by Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri [Amritsar City (Non-Muhammadian) Urban] (Urdu) : Sir, my friend Lala Duli Chand.....

Chaudhri Duli Chand : On a point of order, Sir. The honourable member has called me Lala (*laughter*) and he has purposely done so.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : Sir, I will not say Lala if he takes offence to the use of that word and I will say Mr. Duli Chand.... (*A voice : it is again insulting*). Very well, Sir. I will say Chaudhri Duli Chand although he is a Chaudhri without Chaudhar.

Pir Akbar Ali : How does the honourable member know that he is Chaudhri without Chaudhar?

Mr. President : The honourable member ought to behave properly. The use of temperate and decorous language is never more desirable than when one is canvassing the opinions of his opponents. I have observed with regret that some members have gone beyond the limits of decorum and propriety. I hope they will not use objectionable language in future. At the termination of to-day's business I propose to appeal to the Leaders of the House and parties to bring about a compromise between the members who, owing to certain misunderstandings, do not like each other and therefore exchange improper and objectionable language. Unless they give the assurance to the House that they will forgive and forget the past we should not let them go out of the House. I hope all members will co-operate with me in bringing about a reconciliation between the members among whom a sort of misunderstanding has arisen.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I never meant to give offence by the use of the word 'Lala.'

Mr. President : The honourable member may proceed with his speech.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : Sir, my friend Chaudhri Duli Chand has alleged that we, on this side of the House, have illegally taken possession of their property. It is for the first time that I know that Government services are the property of the zamindars. We have never been given any Government post without any exertion on our part. From the very beginning we have been securing these posts by proving our worth in competitive examinations. My friends demand concessions and privileges because accidentally their forefathers used to till lands and they say that they must have these privileges whether they possess any merit or not. My friend was further pleased to remark that there was no justification for the raising of the standard of admission to the Veterinary College, Lahore, to F. Sc. as the treatment of animals, in his opinion, did not require much intelligence. May I know whether he thinks that duffers can understand and learn the science of the treatment of animals because it is also after all a science? For teachers they have fixed a high standard of B.A., B. T. and for legal practice as high a standard as B. A. has been fixed and where is the harm if for admission to the Veterinary College, the standard of F. Sc. has been fixed? But my friends want that no qualifications should be necessary for admission to such colleges. In their opinion if a candidate seeking admission is a Jat he should be admitted without any hesitation.

Mr. President : Again the honourable member is attributing to Rai-Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram a statement which he never made. He never said that no qualification was necessary.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I am replying to the arguments of Chaudhri Duli Chand.

Mr. President : Some honourable members assume certain things and proceed to base their arguments on those assumptions. That is not fair.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : You may be right Sir, but from what I have noted in my note-book, it is clear that my friend Chaudhri Duli Chand said that the qualification of F. Sc. was not necessary for admission to that college. Has my friend ever taken this fact into consideration that those students, who have passed the F. Sc. examination, are better able to understand what is taught in the Veterinary College? He should have realised that if such students are admitted into that college, they will certainly prove of great help to the zamindars inasmuch as they will be able to suggest the best means as to how the health of the bullocks can be best preserved.

Mr. President : Order, order. The honourable member is not addressing the Chair.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : My honourable friend, Chaudhri Duli Chand further said that we were holding the monopoly everywhere. He has perhaps forgotten that they have got a monopoly of lands.

Mr. President : Again the honourable member is addressing a particular member of the House. He should address the Chair.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I am addressing him through you, Sir. I was saying, Sir, that my friends on the opposite benches are holding the monopoly of lands and now they want that they should be given all Government posts to the exclusion of all other classes. In support of this demand my friend referred to the charter of 1919 which was granted to the zamindars by the Government and according to which a certain percentage of posts was fixed for them. My friend says that Government has not fulfilled its promise.

Mr. President : It is the third time that I have had to warn the honourable member. I am afraid I will have to ask him to resume his seat.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I am addressing him through you, Sir. We are, Sir, very grateful to Chaudhri Sahib and his men for their sacrifices which they had to make to save us from the bondage of slavery. It is through their efforts that slavery has not dared to come near us. We are to-day free because our friends on my right offered to give their lives for Rs. 20 a month. I wish that they should be given squares of lands for all this trouble and sacrifice that they made to save us from the bondage of slavery. But the pity is that now there are no lands available to be granted to them.

Mr. President : The honourable member is again speaking ironically. I would request him not to do so.

Pir Akbar Ali : I submit, Sir, that the member means that all the zamindars sell their lives for Rs. 20. It is an insult to the zamindars and to the soldiers.

Pandit Nanak Chand : There is nothing wrong in the statement. It is absolutely correct.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : Sir, to disillusion my friends I may say that their time is gone. It is now the time of aeroplanes and guns. We no longer depend upon soldiers and we can protect and safeguard our lives without their help. I can say that I am as strong as a fakir belonging to an agricultural tribe is. Most of the agriculturists are engaged in the same professions in which we are engaged. I wonder why they should ask for special privileges. If my friends had asked for some concessions for those who actually till lands, there would have been some sense in it. But I fail to understand the demand for the zamindars as a class. They should thank their stars that at present there are at least three, if not four, zamindars in the cabinet and if these zamindars, who understand the claims of the zamindars better than any one else can understand them, have not been able to satisfy them, they cannot expect anything from us (*Hear, hear*). The zamindar members of the cabinet know the difficulties of the zamindars too well and they are doing their best to remove them. It appears that the zamindar members are yet hankering after more concessions and God knows where their demands will end. I am reminded of an appropriate Urdu couplet which reads :

مرضِ بڑھتی گئی جون جون دوا کی

(A voice : It is not like that. It is

مرضِ بڑھتا گیا جون جون دوا کی

I am sorry. Urdu is not my mother tongue. We, on this side of the House, cannot help to cure them of that disease.

The honourable mover of the amendment talked of the drift of the policy of the Minister for Agriculture. He made a general remark. He did not care to give us facts and figures showing the direction which this drift had taken and the extent to which it had gone. If he had done so, means should be found to prevent that drift. Then the non-agriculturists were attacked on the ground that they live in magnificent *kothis*. May I know whether all the agriculturists live in out-houses? The fact is that most of them have and are having much more magnificent bungalows than we have got, but if, in spite of that, they are displeased with us, we are prepared to leave this earth and go to live in heaven if that would please them.

5 P.M.

Sardar Buta Singh : Sir, he is beyond the mark altogether. We are discussing here agricultural grant, but he is giving a lecture on something else.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : The honourable member for Gujranwala said that he was not able to understand the illustration given by Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang. There was no mystery in it. It was quite clear. We are prepared to help the zamindars at all times. The present Ministry is doing a lot for them. And if they are still unsatisfied, they should make up their minds just now to send only such Ministers who would be prepared to do all their biddings whether reasonable or unreasonable. There is, in my opinion, no other remedy for the *dangars*.....

Mr. President : I request the honourable member to resume his seat. He has gone beyond the limits of decorum.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I am thankful for the courtesy shown.

Chaudhri Zaftrullah Khan : Sir, is it not an insult to the Chair?

Mr. President : Order, order. Unless the honourable member withdraws his last words, I shall have to.....

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I withdraw, if that is taken in that light.

Mr. President : I wish to repeat the appeal which I made to the House a few minutes ago. I venture to say that the present tone and temper of some of the honourable members of the House are far from consistent with its high dignity. I request, therefore, the gentlemen concerned with all the humility that I can command, to consider their position and responsibility and give satisfactory assurances to this House before we disperse to-day that hereafter they will behave as dignifiedly, gentlemanly and honourably as they have been behaving for so many years. The most controversial measure, the Money Lenders' Bill, was discussed in this Council about three years ago and yet no heat was exhibited in the Council. I hope all honourable members sitting in this House will help me in bringing about a reconciliation between those who have been exchanging hot words and accusing each other.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member): Sir, the position is certainly one which is by no means enviable. I have been in this House more than eight years but never has such a thing happened before. As you have been pleased to point out, Sir, we have unfortunately, since a few days, lapsed into some sort of ill temper, wherein one is not at all tolerant of the speech of the other, and the other sees, perhaps at times, things that the one who was speaking did not intend to import. It is essential for us to develop not only tolerance but also forgiveness.

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

where one has transgressed the limits. It would never do to insist upon "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." In a matter like this it would never do to try to allocate blame to one party or the other. We must bury the hatchet and be the best of friends we have always been, and I have not the slightest doubt that the leaders of the various parties will follow and assure you, Sir, on behalf of their members that next time we meet here we will meet in the way we were wont to meet and not in the way that unfortunately we have been meeting for some days past. As Leader of the House I represent not only the official benches but the whole House, and it has always been a matter of some satisfaction to me that whether I have departed from the requisite standard or somebody else has done so, very soon we have regained the position. I trust when I am saying so I am speaking on behalf of the members of the House in giving you the assurance that these incidents will be an absolutely closed book and that we will make an entirely new beginning.

(At this stage, Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq rose to speak).

Mr. President : I cannot allow long speeches, but if the members concerned will come forward to give assurances that they will forgive and forget and will behave in future as they have been behaving in the past, I think the whole matter will end.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Sir, when you appeal for forgiveness and forgetfulness, how can there be any accusations? Your orders must be obeyed.

Mr. President : I hope the honourable member will set an example.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I am going to do it (*Hear, hear*). Sir, after the appeal made by the Leader of the House although I am the aggrieved person, for the sake of the dignity of this House and for love of country, I want not only to forgive and forget but even want to be forgiven though I feel that I have done nothing wrong. I know the future liberty of the country depends upon this House and unless we can behave and tolerate each other all our future liberty will be an illusion. I take this opportunity of assuring this House many times over that I have never borne malice against any one. I am very frank and that is my fault. Many people like me for that, though there are some who hate me for it, and I want that those who hate me should not hate me. I can assure them that never once has malice prompted me to insult anybody in this House. (*Hear, hear*).

Mr. President : Now, it is for the honourable member Pandit Nanak Chand to follow the example set by Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq.

Pandit Nanak Chand : You will remember that when you asked me about this incident I left the whole matter and I said that I cherished no ill-will. I considered the incident closed on that very day. (*Hear, hear*).

Mr. President : I hope Lala Kesho Ram realises that his speech was not what it should have been.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : I am very sorry that that impression was ever created.

The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M. on Thursday, the 21st March 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 8RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 21st March, 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the Clock. Mr. President in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PATWARIS.

***2062. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state whether any steps have been taken to make the posts of patwaris pensionable, and if so, what?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A provident fund is now ready to be started.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan (Urdu) : Will the Honourable Member kindly state approximately the date when the provident fund for patwaris may be expected to be started?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Urdu) : The scheme is quite ready, but it is difficult to state the date when the fund will be started.

PATWARIS' CONFERENCE.

***2063. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state, whether his attention has been drawn to the proceedings of the conference of patwaris which was held at Amritsar on the 26th January last? If so, what action has been taken to meet the demands of patwaris contained in the proceedings?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Government received no copy of the proceedings of the conference.

PATWARIS.

***2064. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state the decision at which Government has arrived in regard to the creation of a provident fund for patwaris?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Government has decided to start a Provident Fund for patwaris, and details of the scheme are being worked out.

ILLEGAL LIQUOR DISTILLATION.

*2065. **Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state whether it is a fact that zamindars of the villages, the residents of which were found to indulge in illegal distillation of liquor, have been deprived of grants of land.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I am not at all clear what the honourable member is referring to.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Is it not a fact that a letter was issued by Government requiring that lambardars and zaildars of the villages, the residents of which may be found to indulge in illicit distillation of liquor, should be deprived of grants?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I have no knowledge of such a letter having been issued and I know of no case of such a person whose grant may have been confiscated although it should be a matter of satisfaction for all if such persons were deprived of grants.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, NAWANSHAHAR.

*2066. **Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the business of the small town committee, Nawanshahr, is transacted by the president himself without the sanction or co-operation of the committee;
- (b) if so, will he kindly lay on the table the list of business so transacted by the president and also state what action he proposes to take in the matter?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) On the 5th August 1928 certain resolutions were passed by the president as he was the only member who attended the adjourned meeting held on that date. Business can be transacted at such a meeting whether a quorum is present or not.

(b) The President cancelled the resolutions in question on the 4th September 1928.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, NAWANSHAHAR.

*2067. **Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that all the members of the small town committee, Nawanshahr have made an application to the higher authorities for the removal of the president of the said committee;

(b) if so, what action has been taken on that application?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Certain members of the town committee in question passed a resolution that the president should be removed from office.

(b) As the meeting at which the resolution was passed was not convened in accordance with the rules, the resolution in question, which was the only business transacted, was suspended by the Deputy Commissioner.

FREE CONCESSIONS TO MILITARY CLASSES.

***2068. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that students of military classes are granted fee concession in colleges as well ;
- (b) if not, why ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Military scholarships are granted to college students also. The scholarship is usually Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 and more than covers the cost of fees (which range from Rs. 8 to Rs. 15) in most cases.

ZAMINDARS AND HIGHER APPOINTMENTS.

***2069. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the reasons for which no regard is paid to the claims of zamindars while making higher appointments ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The honourable member's question is based on an erroneous assumption.

MONEY LENDERS BILL.

***2070. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state when Government proposes to introduce the new Money Lenders Bill ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : It is hoped that draft of the new Regulation of Accounts Bill will be ready within the course of the next few weeks. Some honourable members have already been consulted and it is hoped to consult others.

SAUNDERS' MEMORIAL FUND.

***2071. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava :** Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some district magistrates in the Province took keen interest in the collection of the memorial fund for Messrs. Saunders and Chanan Singh ;
- (b) if so, what action does the Government intend to take in the matter ?

Mr. J. G. Benzley : (a) The attention of Government has been drawn only to one such case.

(b) The attention of the district magistrate has been invited to the instructions on the subject which issued during his absence on leave and he has been warned to be careful in future not to associate himself with the collection of subscriptions for funds which have not been specifically approved by Government.

EX-SOLDIERS' JATHA.

***2072. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the action which the police took in stopping the jatha of ex-soldiers last month on the Mela Ram Road in Lahore City was under the directions of the Government ;
- (b) whether the police has distributed any reward for any services in the above connection ;
- (c) what is the amount of money spent by the police in connection with this affair ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) The jatha was not ordered by Government or the Police to squat on the Mela Ram Road. Their squatting in the public road created a difficult situation not only for Government, but for those living in that neighbourhood. In that connection the public spirited citizens living in the neighbourhood were helpful to all concerned, the public press rendered valuable assistance, and through the efforts of all a difficult situation fortunately solved itself. Surely, the honourable member does not regret peaceful and non-violent solution of such a difficult problem which had all the potentialities of unpleasant developments. Among those public spirited citizens was a gentleman, who, besides helping members of the jatha, was kind enough to place his house at the disposal of officers on duty ; and as a token of appreciation of his kindness the Council will be glad to hear the Senior Superintendent of Police presented a clock to him.

- (c) Below Rs. 5,000.

HONORARY MAGISTRATE, LAHORE.

***2073. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a vacancy has occurred in the bench of honorary magistrates of Lahore City ;
- (b) if so, whether it is the practice of Government to confine the new appointment to the community to which the vacating incumbent belonged ?

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

- (b) The matter is in the discretion of Government.

BREWERY IN AMRITSAR.

***2074. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a licensed brewery is situated within the municipal limits of Amritsar ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government was moved by Amritsar Municipal Committee to order the removal of the brewery from its present site ;
- (c) if so, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state what action has the Government so far taken in this matter ?

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

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I know whether the Government are now considering the desirability of removing the brewery from the municipal limits of Amritsar?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The municipal committee has not moved in the matter.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Is it a case of the municipality moving the Government or the Government moving the municipality? I should have thought the latter.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : No, Sir. The question is whether the municipality have made any representation and I have answered that they have not taken any such action.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I ask whether the Government of their own accord is willing to remove the brewery?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : That is a new question. Government does not wish to interfere with the discretion of the municipal committee and the private owners of the brewery.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : If the municipality wishes to move in the matter, will the Government interfere in the matter?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : There are the Local Option Act and the Excise Act under which alone Government can take action and not outside their scope.

NAZUL LANDS IN AMRITSAR.

***2075. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Nazul lands outside Hathi Gate, Amritsar, have been taken possession of by the Durgiana (Temple) authorities;
- (b) whether it is a fact that even public roads near Durgiana outside Hathi Gate have also been encroached upon;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the municipal committee and local Government have been requested to remedy the state of affairs;
- (d) if so, with what effect?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A report has been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, and his reply is awaited. The answer when ready will be communicated to the honourable member.

MALTEMTMENT BY AMRITSAR POLICE.

***2076. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some serious complaints have been made to the Superintendent of Police with respect to the maltreatment by the special police, Amritsar, generally called Durti Jetha;
- (b) if so, what steps have been taken on these complaints?

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

(b) Does not arise.

AMRITSAR POLICE.

***2077. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received complaints that the general behaviour of Amritsar police is not what is desired ;

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this respect ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

DISTRICT BOARD, LYALLPUR.

***2078. Lala Bodh Raj :** (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state whether it is a fact that the district board, Lyallpur, has passed resolutions :—

(i) placing restrictions on the non-agriculturists being employed by the board in its service ;

(ii) disallowing the press representatives or the members of the public to hear the proceedings of the board's meetings ?

(b) If so, will he kindly lay the copies of such resolutions on the table.

(c) Has the Honourable Minister approved of the said policy of the board ? If not, what action has been taken to remove the grievances of the persons concerned ?

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

(ii) Such a resolution was passed but was subsequently superseded by a resolution admitting members of the public and of the press under certain conditions.

(b) Copies of the relevant resolutions are laid on the table.

(c) The matters are primarily for the board to decide but Government are making further enquiries into the matter of the proposed exclusion of non-agriculturists from district board service.

COPY OF DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION No. 12, DATED THE 26th JANUARY 1928.
No. 12.

Read the following proposal received from Resolution carried unanimously.
Giani Kartar Singh, member District Board.

"That in future all vacancies in district board service be filled up by zamindars of this district, and in case when no suitable candidate is forthcoming the vacancy be filled up by a non-zamindar or outsider with the special permission of the board.

COPY OF DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION No. 4, DATED THE 80TH AUGUST 1928.

No. 4.

Proposed by Sardar Bhagat Singh, member district board and seconded by Sardar Amar Singh that press reporters, visitors and zamindars of the district should be allowed to witness the general meeting of the board. Proposal rejected.

COPY OF DISTRICT BOARD RESOLUTION No. 6, DATED 20TH DECEMBER 1928.
No. 6.

Under chairman's order, dated 25th November 1928, considered again the question of admission of the public and the press to the meetings of this Board.

Resolved that 48 men of the public as maximum number be allowed to attend the meeting but the admission ticket will be issued by the secretary, District board, on the recommendation of the members of the board. Each member will be entitled to recommend one man.

On a reference to the Punjab Government for a ruling on the subject the Secretary to Government, Punjab, Transferred Departments intimates in his letter No. 31011, dated 1st November 1928, that there are no provisions of the law or of rules on the subject of admission of the public and the press to the meetings of the local bodies, but in the opinion of Government they should be admitted to meetings.

As regards the press the board authorizes the chairman to admit or refuse admission according to his own discretion without assigning reasons.

DISTRICT BOARD, LYALLPUR.

*2079. **Lala Bodh Raj:** (i) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the year 1928 increase in pay or higher grades once granted by the district board, Lyallpur, to several teachers working in the schools under the board were withdrawn;
- (b) what were the reasons for such withdrawal;
- (c) were the said teachers asked to refund the amount that had been allowed to them under the orders sanctioning these grades, which orders were afterwards cancelled, if not, why?

(ii) Will the Honourable Minister please lay on the table a copy of the order cancelling the original orders sanctioning the increase in pay or higher grades?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : It is regretted that the reply is not ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

DISTRICT BOARD, LYALLPUR.

***2080. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the year 1928, the education committee of the district board, Lyallpur, dismissed a number of teachers on the plea of their being non-agriculturists?
- (b) what was the number of the teachers dismissed according to different communities?
- (c) how many of them were respectively re-employed and what were the reasons of their re-employment?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : It is regretted that the reply is not ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

DISTRICT BOARD, LYALLPUR.

***2081. Lala Bodh Raj :** (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state whether any representation has been received by the Government from the Secretary, Shop-keepers' Committee, Lyallpur, expressing the grievances of non-agriculturists against the district board, Lyallpur, in the month of December, 1928, or so;

- (b) If so, what action has been taken thereon;
- (c) Will the Honourable Minister kindly lay a copy of the said representation on the table?

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

(b) No action was considered to be necessary, but Government are making further enquiries into the matter.

(c) A copy of the petition is laid on the table.

No. 14790, dated the 8th December 1928.

From—The Secretary, Shop-keepers' Committee, Douglas Street, Lyallpur,

To—The Minister for Local Self-Government, Punjab.

We have drawn your kind attention to the numerous injustices of Lyallpur District Board, through the columns of our weekly organ "*The Insaaf*" but we very much regret to notice that the matters here have not improved in the least.

The majority of the members of this district board are Muhammadans, so they are doing whatever they choose.

Before I point out the different acts of injustice done by this district board, I would like to point out that the population of this district consists of :—

Hindus	1,81,488	They have no member.
Muhammadans	5,94,917	They have 27 members.
Sikhs	1,60,821	They have 13 members.
Christians	42,004	They have one member.
Others	866	..

The income of the district is about 5-6 lakhs a year a part of which is contributed by non-agriculturists as well, and the Government of Punjab is paying about Rs.-2,50,000 a year, major part of which comes from the income-tax contributed by non-agriculturists mostly. It is most regrettable, therefore, that there is not even a single member elected by the non-agriculturists. Is it not extremely unjust specially when it is proclaimed that justice and equality is recognised by all the departments of the Government ?

Even according to communal representation, Muhammadans are entitled to have only 56 per cent. of the members, but non-existence of even a single Hindu member is extremely unjustified.

It appears that you have not paid any attention to this point, and under the present conditions we fail to see how the interests of non-agriculturists can be protected and I am inclined to think that this is responsible for the following resolutions passed by the board :—

- (1) No press representative or member of the public is allowed to hear the proceedings of the board meetings.
- (2) No non-agriculturist can be employed by the district board.

In inviting your kind attention to these funny resolutions of the district board, I venture to point out that I have not heard of any such restrictions being imposed either by the Punjab Council, or even the Central Legislature, or any other district board, and therefore, fail to understand as to what secret compels the district board of Lyallpur to pass such resolutions.

I would respectfully point out that the non-agriculturists are also paying income tax, and other taxes and fees, sarai rent, taxes on roads, cattle fairs, school fees, etc., and to impose such restrictions on non-agriculturists particularly appears to be extremely unjust.

I am acquainted that the board had given increase of several thousand rupees to Muslim teachers under cover of agriculturist and non-agriculturist questions.

We protested against all this and even approached His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab, as a result of which the new grades granted to those teachers have been withdrawn now but the amounts paid to them at a higher rate has not yet been recovered from them, although a great agitation exists in the public here on this point.

The greatest restrictions are being maintained as far as non-agriculturists are concerned. Only a short time ago, the Education Committee of this district board dismissed nearly 88 non-agriculturist teachers, but

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

out of these the few Muhammadans who were dismissed, were re-employed after a short time.

The matters do not end here, but the district board is charging double the rent for its shops from Hindus and only half of that from Muhammadans, same thing exists in connection with tonga stands. Such injustices naturally give rise to the question, if any body sees or questions the unjust activities of this district board and lack of such control apparently gives them the courage to perpetrate these injustices without fear of any criticism.

I respectfully pointed out these and other grievances when you visited this place at the time of cattle fair and we expected that you would pay some attention to these facts, but having waited for all this time, I am compelled to draw your kind attention again to these irregularities and injustices which are oppressing a respectable portion of His Majesty's subjects, who are simply surprised as to why such injustice is being done to them, in spite of their paying all the taxes and rendering all sorts of service and otherwise co-operating with the Government in all manners and we feel that so long as the following things are not done these injustices will continue and would, therefore, respectfully suggest the following:—

- (1) That the present district board be dissolved.
- (2) That seats be provided for the non-agriculturists.
- (3) That restrictions to hear the proceedings by any press representative or a member of the public be removed.
- (4) That restrictions regarding employment of non-agriculturists in the district board service should be removed.

We feel confident that you will kindly pay your attention to this memorial and thereby pacify the increasing agitation in connection with these matters, and thereby maintain the proverbial tradition of British justice.

CANAL CLERKS.

***2082. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether any representation was made in the year 1928 by canal clerks in the province against supersessions in their department;
- (b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

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

(b) Still under consideration.

SLAUGHTER HOUSE AT LEHRA.

***2083. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang:** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a slaughter house for slaughtering cows has been started at Lehra, a small town near Lahore, just opposite to the Hindu temple of Chandraata;

- (b) whether any license has been obtained for opening the slaughter house?
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that Hindu public in general is greatly excited over this question?
- (d) what steps does the Government propose to take in connection with the matter?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No, but about 1,000 yards from the small town of Ichhm and a quarter of a mile from the temple of Chand-rata which is served by a different road.

(b) No.

(c) and (d) Government is not aware of any general excitement, though a petition on the subject was received by the Deputy Commissioner from some residents of Ichhm and the matter is being enquired into further.

GREY CANAL ESTABLISHMENT.

***2081. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to amalgamation of half the Grey Canals with the Sutlej Valley Canals, it was proposed to bring certain officials of the former department under reduction.
- (b) if so, the names of the officials proposed to be brought under reduction;
- (c) whether appeals were preferred by any of the persons mentioned in clause (b) against the proposal of reduction mentioned in clause (a)?
- (d) If the answer to above be in affirmative, will the Government kindly give—
 - (1) the names of the appellants;
 - (2) the dates of the submission of their appeals, and
 - (3) the names of authorities to which the appeals were submitted, and
 - (4) the result of each appeal?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the table.

(c) Yes.

(d) A statement is laid on the table.

Statement referred to in part (b).

1. M. Hashmat Ali	..	..	Engineer Assistant.
2. B. Abdul Karim	..	..	Supervisor.
3. L. Kishan Chand	..	..	Do.

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

4. B. Barkat Ali	Sub-Overseer.
5. B. Abdul Malik	Do.
6. B. Jiwan Singh	Do.
7. B. Ismail Shah	Do.
8. B. Amarat Ali	Do.
9. B. Niaz Muhammad	Do.
10. B. Mushtaq Ali	Do.
11. M. Muhammad Hassan	Reader.
12. M. Jowala Singh	Moharrir.
13. M. Sardar Ali Shah	Do.
14. B. Muhammad Latif	Accountant.
15. B. Abdul Karim	Accounts Clerk.

Statement referred to in part (d).

1	2	3	4
B. Abdul Karim, Supervisor.	12th October 1927	Commissioner	Still pending.
L. Kishen Chand, Supervisor.	17th October 1927	Ditto	Appointed Overseer on Rs. 120 per mensem.
M. Jowala Singh, Moharrir.	27th October 1927	Ditto	Accepted.
M. Muhammad Hassan, Reader.	21st March 1928..	Ditto	Appeal withdrawn. Got an appointment in Deputy Commissioner's office.
B. Abdul Karim, Accounts Clerk.	1st June 1928 ..	Ditto	Rejected.

GREY CANALS ESTABLISHMENT.

*2035. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq:** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that the Engineer Assistant, the Senior Supervisor and the Junior Supervisor were served with notices of discharge as a consequence of the reduction in staff of the Grey Canals on account of the amalgamation?
- If the answer to the above be in affirmative will the Honourable Member please state, if any of them have been re-engaged, if so, which of them and on what posts?
- The qualifications of the Senior Supervisor and the Junior Supervisor, respectively, mentioned in clause (a) (i)?
- If any of the said two Supervisors had ever worked as Assistant to the Superintendent Grey Canals; if so, will the Honourable Member kindly mention his name?

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

(ii) M. Hashmat Ali has been reengaged as Superintendent and Lala Kishen Chand as Overseer on the Grey Canals.

(b) The Senior Supervisor has passed the first examination in Civil Engineering of the Punjab University. The Junior Supervisor has 28 years' practical experience on the Grey Canals.

(c) M. Abdul Karim.

SUPERVISOR, GREY CANALS.

***2086. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Senior and the Junior Supervisors of the Grey Canals, Ferozepore, were served with a notice of discharge as a consequence of the reduction in staff due to amalgamation;

(b) whether it is a fact that before the service of the aforesaid notice of discharge, both the Supervisors of the Grey Canals were suspended;

(c) the dates on which they were suspended and the dates on which charges of suspension were communicated to both or either of them;

(d) if the answer to the above be in the negative, will the Honourable Member be pleased to state the grounds for suspension of the Supervisor to whom the charges were not communicated?

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

(c) The Junior Supervisor was suspended on 24th October 1926 and the Senior on 7th December 1926. The former was, however, reinstated by the Commissioner's order on the Deputy Commissioner's recommendation. Charges were not formally communicated to the latter, as he was given a month's notice and discharged on 30th September 1927. The charges were, however, communicated to him later under Commissioner's orders in March 1928.

(d) Does not arise.

PUNJAB VETERINARY COLLEGE.

***2087. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the head clerkship of the Punjab Veterinary College has been held by members of one family since the establishment of the college;

(b) the number of clerks community-wise in the Veterinary College;

(c) whether there is a paucity of Muslim clerks in the office? If so, why?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The head clerks have been related to each other but have not been of one family.

(b) Muhammadan	..	..	..	..	1
Sikh	..	..	..	..	1
Hindus	..	..	..	..	5

(c) Yes. Recently some Muhammadan clerks have left the office on transfer to more lucrative appointments. When the last vacancy occurred, and as prescribed, inquiries were made from the Central Model School, Lahore, only a Hindu and a Sikh were recommended for employment. The Sikh was selected by the Principal.

PUNJAB VETERINARY COLLEGE.

***2082. Chandhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of External Examiners community-wise employed each year since 1922 at the Punjab Veterinary College?

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

Year.	English.	Hindus.	Muham- madians.	Sikhs.
1922	5	..	..	..
1923	7	..	..	..
1924	7	..	..	..
1925	8	..	..	..
1926	6	1	..	1
1927	7	1	..	1
1928	8	3	..	..

PUNJAB VETERINARY SERVICE.

***2083. Chandhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a Veterinary graduate of the Punjab Veterinary College, who had passed three years' vernacular course, was offered a post in the Civil Veterinary Department intended only for the Licentiate Veterinary Practitioners, but that he refused it;

(b) whether it is a fact that the same gentleman is going to be offered an appointment in the Punjab Veterinary Service?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The gentleman to whom the question apparently refers at one time held an appointment in the Subordinate Veterinary Service in the Punjab, but left it to take up an appointment abroad. Sometime after his return to this country he was offered an appointment as Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, but in consequence of his unwillingness to accept the terms offered, the offer was withdrawn.

(b) Subsequently on his renewing his application for employment, he was offered the post of Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and it is understood that he has accepted this offer.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

***2090. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state if the office staff of the Director, Civil Veterinary Department, is being re-organized?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Yes.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

***2091. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that for the posts of the Superintendent and Head Assistant to be created in the re-organization of the Veterinary Department office besides the present Head Clerk and Accountant, there are other applicants from outside the Department as well;

(b) if so, whether it has been decided whom to offer these appointments?

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

(b) The proposals for the re-organization of the office and the arrangements consequent thereon are still under consideration.

GREY CANAL DEPARTMENT.

***2092. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that certain officials of the Grey Canals Department were suspended in or about December 1926;

(b) whether the procedure adopted in effecting the suspensions was in accordance with the rules;

(c) the dates on which the final orders were passed on each case of suspension?

(d) (e) whether the persons suspended were exonerated of the charges against them;

(f) if so, were they paid their salaries from the date of suspension to the date of exoneration; was there any exception to this, if so, which;

(g) if any of the persons under suspension, was during the course of suspension, granted a subsistence allowance admissible under the rules?

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

(b) There were defects in the procedure, but the rules referred to were not strictly applicable to the men in question who are not Government servants. There is no reason to think that substantial justice was not done.

(c) Lala Kishan Chand, Supervisor, and B. Abdul Malik, Sub-Overseer, were reinstated on 23rd July 1927, while the order regarding B. Abdul Karim, Supervisor was passed on 12th June 1928.

(d) (i) It was considered that the charges were not satisfactorily proved. The men were not exonerated from all blames.

(ii) Yes. B. Abdul Karim, Supervisor, was paid his dues from the date of his suspension to 30th September 1927, when his services were dispensed with by serving him with one month's notice.

(e) No; for the reasons given in reply to part (b).

ACTION OF TAHSILDAR, LAHORE, REGARDING SARDAR KARTAR SINGH.

***2093. Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tahsildar of Lahore tahsil recently called for an explanation from Sardar Kartar Singh, member, village Panchayat at Ghawind, for being one of the conveners of the meeting of zamindars held in connection with the reduction made in supply of canal water;

(b) under what rules, if any, the said Tahsildar, took such action;

(c) have Government issued any orders debarbing the members of Panchayats from attending political or zamindars meetings?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The naib-tahsildar of Lahore sent for the lambardars of Ghawind and Sardar Kartar Singh in order to ascertain the grievances of the zamindars in connection with which the meeting was held.

(b) The naib-tahsildar acted under the orders of the revenue assistant whose duty it was to discover the grievances of zamindars within his jurisdiction.

(c) No.

FALL IN COTTON PRICES.

***2094. Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on account of the failure of the last three crops and the fall in price of cotton some of those zamindars who purchased lands in the Nili Bar Colony have not been able to pay up the price of those lands;

(b) if so, what relief Government intend to allow to such zamindars?

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

(b) The matter is under consideration.

LAHORE-PATTI RAILWAY.

***2095. Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that survey in connection with the construction of railway line between Lahore and Patti was made in 1927 ;
- (b) if so, when the construction of the said railway line will be taken in hand ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The traffic and engineering surveys have recently been completed and the reports in this connection are at present being considered by the Railway Department.

(b) Until these reports have been fully considered, it is useless to enquire of the Railway Board when the construction of this line is likely to be undertaken.

MONTGOMERY CENTRAL JAIL PRISONERS.

***2096. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please say—

- (a) whether it is a fact that ten prisoners of the Montgomery Central Jail recently made good their escape by digging a tunnel of about 75 feet long and 6 feet deep ;
- (b) whether any enquiry was made by the Government into this extraordinary escape ; and if so, will the result of the enquiry be laid on the table ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Ten prisoners escaped through a tunnel. It has not been ascertained whether the tunnel was dug by prisoners or not.

(b) Yes. The enquiries are not yet complete.

LAHORE JAIL PRISONERS.

***2097. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to say—

- (i) whether it is a fact that five prisoners made an attempt to escape from the Lahore Central Jail, in February 1929 ;
- (ii) whether any of those five prisoners met with his death in the attempt to escape ;
- (iii) whether *post-mortem* examination was made by a Medical Officer not connected with the Jail department ;
- (iv) whether any inquest as required by the jail rules in the case of sudden death was made ;
- (v) will the results of such *post-mortem* examination and of the inquest be laid on the table ?

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

(ii) One.

(iii) No. *Post-mortem* examination was made by the Medical Officer of the Jail, as authorised by rules.

(iv) Yes.

(v) Copies are laid on the table.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the honourable member please state whether it is not a fact that recent orders of Government are that the *post-mortem* examination should be made by a medical officer other than one who is connected with the jail staff?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Not that I am aware of.

Post mortem examination held by Major P. D. Chopra, Superintendent, Central Jail, Lahore, on the body of convict No. 2420 Kehr Singh, son of Bishen Singh of the Central Jail, Lahore, at 2-15 p.m. on 4-2-1929.

Body—that of a well nourished young man about 24 years of age.

He is a Sikh.

External injuries observed :—

- (1) There is a punctured wound situated on the inner aspect of upper third of right leg. This wound is 2 inches long, 1 inch wide and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. The lips of the wound gaping apart and the bone underneath can be felt on palpating with finger. The muscle tissue is protruding.
- (2) A small punctured wound on the front of middle third of right forearm. This is circular in shape and only skin deep, with $\frac{1}{8}$ " diameter.
- (3) A linear scratch "abrasion" situated on the middle of left forearm. This is $1" \times 1/10"$ in dimension.
- (4) A linear scratch on the lower third of the left forearm on its outer aspect. This is about $1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1/10"$ in dimension.
- (5) An irregular abrasion on the upper part of right knee cap. Epidermis here is absent. Dimension $1" \times \frac{1}{2}"$.
- (6) A small lacerated wound about $\frac{1}{2}" \times \frac{1}{2}"$ skin deep situated on the front and upper third of left thigh.

No other marks of external injuries are found.

Rigor Mortis.—Not present.

Face appears blanched.

Lips.—Anæmic, pale and blanched.

Conjunctiva of both eyes, white.

Pupils.—Both eyes widely dilated.

EXAMINATION OF VISCERA.

Heart.

Pericardium.—About 2 drachms of serous fluid present in pericardial cavity.

Right Auricle.—Empty, endocardium and valves, nothing abnormal.

Right Ventricle.—Empty.

Left Auricle

Left Ventricle

} Both empty, valves and endocardium nothing abnormal.

Lungs.

Right plural cavity.—Normal. No fluid or adhesions.

Left plural cavity.—Slightly adherent to parietis at the lateral and posterior aspect.

Right Lung.—Weight 24 oz.

Left Lung.—Weight 21oz.

Both Lungs.—Nothing abnormal.—Pieces of lung tissues float in water. Not engorged with blood. On pressing slight frothy mucus present and slight blood oozes out from the surface.

Larynx.—Nothing abnormal.

Trachea.—Mucus membrane normal, frothy mucus present in lower part.

Abdominal cavity opened.—Peritonium normal, no fluid or blood present in the peritoneal cavity. Abdominal viscera in their proper position.

Liver.—Nothing abnormal. Weight 55 oz., Surface entire. Liver piece cut shows engorged with blood.

Gall Bladder.—Is entire and full of bile. No stones present.

Spleen.—Very much enlarged, mottled appearance, surface entire, no signs of rupture. Weight 1lb. 12 oz. Slight blood oozes out from the cut surface of a piece of spleen.

Stomach.—Outer surface nothing abnormal.

Stomach contents.—Curdled milk about 12 fluid ounces present. Smell of sour milk present.

Mucus membrane of stomach appears normal. No congestion or any marks of hemorrhage or any petechiae present.

KIDNEY.

Left.—Weight 4½ oz. Surface entire, capsule normal. Cut surface of kidney very pale. There was no oozing of blood.

Right.—Weight 5 oz. Surface and capsule entire. Cut surface is very pale.

Small intestines.—Duodenum contains milk and bile tinged semi-digested food. Mucus membrane is normal and shows no petechiae or erosion or sign of congestion.

Small intestine, nothing abnormal, contains fecal matter.

Large intestine mucus membrane normal and contains fecal matter.

Rectum.—Full of semi fluid bile tinged fecal matter mucus membrane shows no congestion.

Local wound situated at the inner and upper third of right leg.—This wound was enlarged and it was found that the muscle tissue was torn and in lacerated condition. There was clotted blood in the base of the wound and the wound was found directed towards the posterior aspect of the leg. *in type*

Skull.—Skin of the skull full of hair and normal. Skull cap normal, no sign of puncture of any bone. Dura mater entire, other meninges normal. Brain surface normal and not congested, rather slightly white.

[Hon. Mr. Stow.]

Brain section made and no signs of any local hæmorrhage were found in any part.

Bladder.—Not full, found in collapsed condition. Surface entire. Contents urine 1 oz. Mucous membrane normal.

The cause of death in my opinion is excessive loss of blood due to profuse bleeding from the deep wound situated on the upper part of right leg.

Copy of report of inquest on the death of prisoner Kehr Singh, son of Bishen Singh in the Central Jail, Lahore.

On the 4th February 1929, Lala Jowahar Lal, Inspector of Police, phoned to me from the Central Jail to record the dying declaration of a prisoner. On my reaching there soon after 12 I was told that the prisoner had already died. I was taken to the place where I found the dead body of Kehr Singh, covered with a blanket. On removal of the blanket I found his right knee bandaged. There was no other visible mark of injury on the body.

I was then taken to the place where it was alleged that the prisoners had escaped over night. I saw marks both on the wall and on the ground as if something had been pulled down. I was also shown a very big bar of iron with spokes on all four sides projecting. There was blood on one of the spokes.

At the place of occurrence there was plenty of blood and from this place right up to the Hospital there was blood in the way.

I examined nine witnesses. It is clear from their evidence, especially from the evidence of two, i.e., Nadir Khan and Faiz Ali, that while Kehr Singh and his companions were trying to escape over the wall they pulled down the ladder. Four prisoners escaped and while Kehr Singh was trying to scale over the wall, the ladder was pulled down. He fell to the ground and one of the spokes made a deep wound into his right knee. All the witnesses say that Kehr Singh did not even complain to them that he was given a beating by any one in the jail or mal-treated by any one there. The doctors and others say that Kehr Singh had definitely told them that he had received an injury in the knee by the spokes. The doctors who had attended him say that Kehr Singh died of loss of blood by profuse bleeding from his knee and the *post-mortem* examination also shows that he died of excessive loss of blood due to profuse bleeding from the leg. I am satisfied that Kehr Singh died of the injury received in his knee by the fall on the ladder *vice versa* and that he was not given any beating by anybody in the jail.

(Sd.) H. L. PHAILBUS,
City Magistrate, Lahore.

11-2-1929.

JAILS.

*2098. **Chandhri Afzal Haq**: Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that very recently several escapes and riots have occurred in different jails of the Province;
- (b) if so, whether any general independent enquiry into the causes of the same has been made by the Government;

- (c) what was the result of that enquiry ;
(d) what remedy or remedies have been suggested to stop the recurrence of such events ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) If the honourable member refers to the jails at Lahore and Montgomery, yes.

(b) and (c) The phrase "general independent enquiry" is not understood. In both recent cases in Montgomery a magisterial enquiry was held.

(d) The honourable member may rest assured that Government has applied and is ready to apply every means of preventing the recurrence of such events.

MONTGOMERY CENTRAL JAIL.

***2099. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to say—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some prisoners were whipped in the Montgomery Central Jail on or about the 24th January 1929 ;
(b) whether full entries were made in Register No. 5, and in the history tickets of the prisoners concerned on the very day the punishment was awarded ;
(c) is there any circular or order to the effect that the report of every whipping should be submitted to the Inspector-General of Prisons immediately, and if so, was it complied with in this case and if not, why not ?

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

(b) No.

(c) The orders require the prompt submission of a special report. In this case there was some delay which has been dealt with by the Inspector-General of Prisons.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : How was it dealt with ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Departmentally.

DALHOUSIE MUNICIPALITY.

***2100. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the population of Hindus, Muslims and Christians respectively within the Dalhousie Municipality ;
(b) the number of elected Hindu, Muslim and Christian members of the Dalhousie Municipality ; and
(c) the number of nominated official and non-official Hindu, Muslim and Christian members of the Dalhousie Municipality ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Hindus 846, Muslims 410, Christians 161.

(b) Hindus 2, Muslim 1, Christian Nil.

(c) Of appointed non-official members, one is a Hindu and two are Christians. There are 4 official members but the seat of one is vacant. The remaining official members are at present all Christians.

DALHOUSIE MUNICIPALITY.

***2101. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is only one Muhammadan member of the Dalhousie Municipality; and
- (b) whether it is proposed to add to the Muhammadan representation on the said Municipality by nomination?

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

(b) There is at present no vacancy to which a Muslim non-official could be appointed.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, KOT ADA.

1051. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been invited to the issue of the "*Vir Kesri*". Multan, dated the 9th February 1929, page 10, on which appeared some alleged complaints against the Small Town Committee, Kot Ada;

- (b) If so, what action does he propose to take to make enquiries into the matter?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Government have now seen the article in question.

(b) The matter of allowing the town committee to elect a non-official president was under consideration and the Commissioner has now been asked to remove the tahsildar-president from membership of the committee.

SANDY AND KALLAR LANDS IN NILI BAR.

1052. Sardar Hira Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Government is aware that sandy and kallar lands in the Nili Bar Colony (circa Pakpattan) were given on long leases for purposes of temporary cultivation with a view to reclaim them.
- (b) whether Government is also aware that many parts of these lands are so unfertile that it is not worth while to irrigate them;
- (c) whether it is a fact that these leases are being either given up by the lease-holders or confiscated by Government;
- (d) does Government intend to allot these lands to colonists.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Areas given out on temporary leases in the Nili Bar Colony (by means of inviting tenders) include a good proportion of land of inferior quality. Generally such lands have been given on lease for longer periods, in view of the fact that it is some

time before they can be expected to yield a good return; it was also hoped that after such periods, the lands would have become in better condition for permanent allotment or sale. The rates of *malikana* for such lands were tendered by the lessees themselves, after inspection.

(b) No. It is believed that the application of capital and of careful methods of cultivation will bring by far the greater part of these lands into reasonable bearing.

(c) Only two or three such areas have so far been abandoned by lessees who tendered a higher rate of *malikana* than they have found themselves able to pay. No areas, other than those voluntarily abandoned by the lessees, have been resumed by Government.

(d) The method of disposal of these lands will be considered by Government when the leases terminate, having regard to all the circumstances, including the quality of the soil.

LALA DEVI DASS AND LAHORE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

1053. Mr. M. A. Ghani: Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that one Lala Devi Dass, son of Lala Dulu Shah, a resident of Miri Shah, Lahore, has built a number of houses without the permission of the Lahore Municipal Committee?

(ii) whether it is a fact that he has also encroached upon the municipal land;

(iii) if so, what action has the Lahore Municipal Committee taken against him?

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

(ii) Four houses built by Lala Devi Dass conflict with the lay-out plan sanctioned by the Commissioner, but it is not so far known whether municipal land has been encroached on.

(iii) The committee has served Lala Devi Dass with notices under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

1054. Mr. M. A. Ghani: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many Head Masters of the Industrial Schools in the Punjab are (i) trained and (ii) untrained, in arts and crafts section.

(b) their salaries and allowances;

(c) whether it is contemplated to get the untrained trained?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: (a) 18 Head Masters of the Industrial Schools in the Punjab are trained in at least one technical subject. None is trained in all subjects, as this is obviously impossible. These Head Masters have in addition considerable experience of the working of arts and crafts in industrial schools.

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal]

(b) The salary of each Head Master is given below:

Name	Grade	Pay
1. Mr. G. S. Ashta, Ambala Cantonment	Rs. 80-4-100	Rs. 92
2. L. Jell Farahai, Amritsar	200-10-250	200
3. M. Hamid-ul-Rahman, Dera Ghazi Khan	80-4-100	88
4. L. Haid Ram, Ferozepore	140-10-180	170
5. M. Inayat Ullah, Gujranwala	140-10-180	180
6. Mr. T. B. Routh, Gujrat	120-20-300	280
7. Mr. L. M. De, Hoshiarpur	120-20-300	280
8. Ahmed Shah, Jhang Maghiana	80-4-100	80
9. L. Arjan Das, Jullundur	100-5-138	102
10. M. Ahmad Din, Kasur	100-5-138	135
11. L. Ram Lal, Kulu	80-4-100	92
12. L. Khushwant Rai, Ludhiana	100-5-138	110
13. Mr. R. N. Davin, Lyallpur	80-4-100	84
14. M. Barkat Ali, Montgomery	100-5-138	120
15. Ja. Bang Lal, Multan	120-20-300	260
16. Mr. M. Lathian, Rawalpindi	80-4-100	84
17. M. Ghulam Nabi, Rohtak	140-10-180	180
18. Ghanshi Das, Sahiwal	80-4-100	92
19. Mr. S. A. Chatterji, Sialkot	120-20-300	260

(c) The need for the training has not made itself felt yet.

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY COLD WAVE.

1055. **Sardar Hira Singh:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent cold wave has done a great deal of damage to the wheat, mustard and sugarcane crops as well as to the gardens in the province;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to take any steps in the matter of remitting the land revenue and abans for these crops?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answers given to Council question Nos. 1019¹ and 1984² (starred) on the 18th March.

TRAMWAY LINES IN LYALLPUR AND LAHORE DISTRICT.

1056. Sardar Hira Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a proposal was made by the Communication Board that tramway lines be constructed in some of the bigger villages of the Lyallpur and Lahore districts ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Government postponed this scheme on account of paucity of funds and also owing to the heavy expenditure involved ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme can supply electric power at a cheap cost.
- (d) If the reply to the above parts be in the affirmative, will Government please say if they intend to proceed with the scheme or have definitely abandoned it ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes. The Communications Board suggested the construction of narrow gauge agricultural tramways between Lyallpur and Tandlianwala in the Lyallpur district and Pattoki and Chumian in the Lahore district.

(b) As examination showed that such tramways could not be expected to compete successfully against other kinds of transport the projects were dropped.

A railway line on the broad gauge is now under construction between Lyallpur and Tandlianwala and similar lines to serve the area in the Lahore district have been investigated and await orders of the Railway Board.

(c) and (d) do not arise, in view of the answer to (b).

GRANT OF LAND TO MILITARY PENSIONERS.

1057. Sardar Hira Singh : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state, whether it is a fact that the military pensioners who were granted land on temporary cultivation have to pay double the amount of land revenue for the same ? If so why ;

(b) whether Government have under consideration any proposals to grant the lands mentioned in (a) above in perpetuity to the military pensioners ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The honourable member has not stated to what district or districts his question refers. Military pensioners like other temporary lessees of land, have to pay rent as well as land revenue. Minimum rents have been prescribed for temporary lessees in certain colony districts, varying from Rs. 4 to Rs. 10 per acre.

(b) No.

¹ Page 863 ante.

² Page 836 ante.

CATTLE GRAZING.

1058. Sardar Hira Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the various settlement officers held out promises to the original inhabitants of village Her Gurru ke asal and the heirs of Mussammat Hato of village Bole, tehsil and district Lahore, original residents of Bakh Bangotah, to the effect that when Bakh Bangotah would be brought under cultivation their claims to graze cattle in the said Bakh would be considered by the Government ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the inhabitants of the said villages applied to the Financial Commissioner for copies of records drawn up by the settlement officers but their request was refused.
- (c) If so, what action Government intend to take in the matter.

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

BIKANER CANAL.

1059. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the length of the Bikaner Canal that has been lined ;
- (b) what is the loss from percolation on the above length and what is the loss from evaporation and if loss under each head cannot be stated separately, the total loss in the above length ;
- (c) what percentage it is of the discharge at the head of the canal ;
- (d) what is the percentage of loss from evaporation and percolation in the earthen channel running parallel to the Bikaner lined canal for a similar length ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) About eighty miles.

(b) the losses from percolation and evaporation are not observed separately : the total loss is estimated at about 60 cusecs on a discharge of about 1,600 cusecs.

(c) 3.75 per cent.

(d) This is not known.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

1060. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of local bodies that have introduced compulsory education in areas under their control, with dates of introduction ;
- (b) is there any penalty attached for cases where boys are absent without adequate reason ;
- (c) if so, has this penalty been imposed by any local body and if so, by how many ;
- (d) what is the name of the local body that has imposed such penalty the largest number of times and what is this number ?

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

OLYMPIC GAMES ASSOCIATION.

1061. Mr. E. Maya Das: Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is an Olympic Games Association in the Panjab;
- (b) If so, from what source does it derive its income;
- (c) whether Government has contributed to its funds in the past, if so, to what extent;
- (d) whether Government contemplates making a further contribution to its funds. If so, when and to what extent?

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

(b) Subscriptions from the general public.

(c) Yes, Rs. 1,500 (in 1926-27).

(d) Yes, the question of a grant of Rs. 1,500 per annum is under consideration.

DISTANCE BETWEEN ROAD AND RAILWAY BRIDGES NEAR FERROZPORE.

1062. Mr. E. Maya Das: Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the distance of the new road bridge from the Railway bridge on the river Sutlej near Ferozepore;
- (b) whether there is any other road bridge in the province so close to a railway bridge; if so, where;
- (c) what is the width of the road passage of the new road bridge; is it greater or smaller than that of the old bridge;
- (d) whether it is a fact that animals passing on the road bridge are likely to take fright from passing trains;
- (e) if it is so, what action is proposed to be taken to prevent accidents?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: (a) Distance: centre of road bridge to centre of railway bridge .. 19'-11".

(b) Yes. Jhelum Bridge over the Jhelum River near Jhelum.

(c) New Bridge—

(i) Clear roadway between kerbs	18'-8"
(ii) Sidepaths width	2'-0" each.
(iii) Between railings	22'-8"
Old Bridge—	
(i) Clear roadway between kerbs	18'
(ii) Sidepaths width	4' each.
(iii) Between railings	26'

Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

(d) Past experience does not suggest that there is such likelihood. The pack animals and bullocks employed in the collection of materials during construction did not take fright when trains passed.

(e) There is provided a railing on each side of 8" x 4" x $\frac{3}{8}$ " angle steel posts and 8" x 8" x $\frac{3}{8}$ " angle steel top rail and three lines of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter pipes. If these railings are found in practice to be inadequate more substantial protection is possible.

AUDIT OF DISTRICT BOARDS ACCOUNTS.

1063. Mr. E. Maya Das: Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the number of days allotted to auditors for checking of accounts of district boards;
- (b) when was this period fixed;
- (c) how is the period worked out;
- (d) since when has the volume of work increased, if so, to what extent;
- (e) if the volume of work has increased, has the number of days been proportionately increased if not, why not;
- (f) are the auditors able to complete the required amount of work in the space of time allotted;
- (g) are the district boards required to pay for the audit of their accounts;
- (h) if so, how is the amount calculated;
- (i) is the amount based on the total income for the year, if so, the account audited is for the whole year or a part of it?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: (a) The number of days fixed varies for each district board as shown in the attached statement, and is based on the assumption that two auditors work together at each place.

(b) Originally in 1915, but it was revised in 1928-29.

(c) On the average amount of time which experience has shown to be required for the audit of the accounts of each district board.

(d) The work has increased steadily since the introduction of the Reforms. It is difficult to gauge accurately the extent of the increase of work, but the income and expenditure of district boards has nearly doubled since 1919-20.

(e) The number of days in question have been increased by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the number of days originally fixed, and any further increase will involve the levy from district boards of a larger amount of contribution towards the cost of audit. Moreover cent. per cent. increase in the income and expenditure of district boards does not necessarily imply that there should be a proportionate increase in the number of days fixed for the audit of accounts.

(f) As a general rule the accounts of two months are audited in detail and the accounts of the remaining months are reviewed.

(g) Yes.

(h) According to rule 95 of the District Board Account Code, 1923.

(i) The amount is based on the income for the whole year for there is a general audit though the accounts of two months only are audited in detail.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE TIME ALLOTTED FOR THE
AUDIT OF TWO MONTHS' ACCOUNTS FOR THE DIS-
TRICT BOARDS IN THE PUNJAB. (SEE ANSWER
TO QUESTION (a) ABOVE.)

Serial No.	Name of District Board.	No. of days.
1	Hissar	27
2	Bohlik	28
3	Gurgaon	28
4	Karnal	30
5	Ambala	26
6	Simla	4
7	Kangra	23
8	Hoshiarpur	30
9	Jalandhar	24
10	Ludhiana	15
11	Ferozepore	28
12	Lahore	18
13	Amritsar	27
14	Gurdaspur	25
15	Sialkot	23
16	Gujranwala	25
17	Sheikhpura	25
18	Gujrat	15
19	Shahpur	35
20	Jhelum	22
21	Rawalpindi	18
22	Attock	25
23	Mianwali	20
24	Montgomery	28
25	Lyallpur	45
26	Jhang	21
27	Multan	20
28	Muzaffargarh	13
29	Dera Ghazi Khan	19

TERMINAL TAX.

1064. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has given its approval to the principle of terminal tax being levied by district boards;
- (b) if so, will Government be pleased to give the names of district boards that have succeeded in levying this tax;
- (c) if no district board has as yet been able to levy this tax, will Government be pleased to state what difficulties are keeping them from doing so?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) In 1924 the Punjab Government announced that they would be prepared to consider the possibility of a terminal tax on rail-borne articles imported into and exported from district board areas provided the estimated income from the tax justified the consequent interference with local trade.

(b) There are no such boards.

(c) The district boards of Shahpur and Jhelum proposed to impose a tax on minerals and salt but the Government of India, whose sanction is necessary, are not prepared to sanction such taxes at present but will reconsider the question after ascertaining the views of the Indian Statutory Commission on the subject.

METALLED ROADS.

1065. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) The total length of metalled roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the last financial year;
- (b) the amount of receipts from trees from the sides of these roads;
- (c) the percentage of the expenditure was met by the receipts of the road side trees?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) 2,149.42 miles.

(b) No separate account is kept of such receipts and to obtain the total it would be necessary to go through the monthly accounts of all the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch Divisions, entailing an amount of labour which the importance of the subject does not appear to justify.

(c) The honourable member seems to be under the impression that a quasi-commercial account is kept concerning roadside arboriculture, but this is not so. The cost of arboricultural operations is merged in the cost of road maintenance and the receipts are merged in the general Provincial Revenue Receipts.

UNMETALLED ROADS.

1066. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the total length of unmetalled roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the last financial year;

- (b) what was the amount of receipts from trees growing on the sides of these roads;
- (c) what proportion of the expenditure was met by the receipts of the road side trees?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) 1787·86 miles.
 (b) and (c) The honourable member is referred to the answer already given to parts (b) and (c) of his question No. 1065.

LEPROSY.

1067. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the number of lepers in the Punjab;
- (b) in what parts do they predominate;
- (c) has the Government undertaken any active programme for the eradication of leprosy? If so, whether any special funds have been set apart for combating it, and the number of years it will take to carry out the programme?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) According to the census of 1921 there were 1,627 lepers in British territory in the Punjab and about 1,100 in Indian States within and around the borders of the Punjab.

(b) It is believed that leprosy is indigenous only in the districts of Kangra, Hoshiarpur and Simla though there are some colonies of lepers in the Shahpur, Karnal and Ludhiana districts, who appear to have migrated to these districts. The disease may, however, be endemic in Ambala, Rawalpindi, Anritsar and Gurdaspur also.

(c) There are five leper asylums in the province to which Government contribute annually about Rs. 75,000 as a grant-in-aid towards the cost of maintenance. This amount represents much more than 75 per cent. of the cost of maintenance of these institutions. It has now been decided to have medical officers posted to the Kangra district trained at Calcutta in the treatment of leprosy. Government are not aware as to what more can be done.

LEPROSY.

1068. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the article "Hope for the lepers," which appeared on page 2 of the *Civil and Military Gazette* of 21st May 1928;
- (b) whether hydnocarpus tree grows in India; if so, where;
- (c) whether it grows in the Punjab;
- (d) whether the conditions in the Punjab are favourable for its growth;
- (e) if it does not grow in the Punjab at present, but if the conditions appear to be favourable for its growth, whether the Government intends to introduce it in the Punjab?

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

(b) The tree *Hydnocarpus Wightiana* grows in the Western Ghats from the Konkan southward.

(c) No.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

APPROACHES TO RAILWAY CROSSINGS.

1069. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what agency is responsible for the maintenance of approaches to railway crossings in the case of village roads ;

(b) whether such agency is reminded of its duty from time to time, if so, by whom ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) (i) Inside railway limits : the Railway administration.

(ii) Outside railway limits : village communities.

(b) No such steps have been taken by Government.

GROUND RENT.

1070. Mr. E. Maya Das : (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state, whether municipalities are authorised to charge ground rent from owners of motor vehicles when they make use of their vehicle stands,

(b) If answer to (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if district boards are similarly authorised ; If not, why not ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) There is nothing to debar municipal committees from charging rent in such cases.

(b) A district board can also claim rent from motor vehicles using stands maintained by the board.

INSPECTORS TO CHECK RASH MOTOR DRIVING.

1071. Mr. E. Maya Das : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government is considering the question of appointing Inspectors for exercising a check on motorists that drive too fast ;

(b) If so, will these Inspectors be supplied with motor bikes ;

(c) In what district will these Inspectors be introduced first ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No, but the honourable member's attention is invited to the answer to Part ii. of Council question No. 490¹, asked in 1927,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MINIMUM WIDTH FOR ROADS.

1072. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) what minimum width has been fixed for the following roads :—
Class A, B & C.
- (b) if no such width has been fixed whether Government is considering the question of fixing such a width ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) and (b) The roads in the Province have been classified as follows and not as A, B and C—

Class I.—Arterial Roads.

Class II.—Main Roads.

Class III.—Roads other than those falling in either of the first two classes.

Village Roads, not classified.

Class I roads are maintained solely from provincial revenues and their metalled widths, which entirely depend on the traffic they have to carry, vary from 9 feet in the open country with light traffic to considerably more in heavily trafficked portions, e.g., in or near towns. By far the greater length of arterial roads has been metalled to a width of 12 feet.

No minimum widths of metalling have been laid down for those roads which are not under the control of the Public Works Department.

CATTLE-BREEDING SOCIETIES.

1073. Makhdoomzada Sayad Muhammad Raza Shah, Gilani : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of cattle breeding societies in the Punjab and the methods the Government has adopted for their improvement ;
- (b) how many cattle breeding Inspectors are there at present and when their number is going to be raised ;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to give effect to the recommendation of the Royal Agricultural Commission, 1928, contained in paragraph No. 213, part No. 50 ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :

- (a) 174 Societies and 3 Associations on July 1st, 1928.

They are encouraged both by the Co-operative and by the Veterinary Departments. The Punjab Government has made grants to district boards and the boards are encouraging cattle-breeding and working largely through cattle-breeding societies.

- (b) 2.

It is not at present proposed to appoint any more Cattle-Breeding Inspectors.

- (c) Effect is being given to the recommendations in question.

GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL SCHOOL, LAHORE.

1074. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what are (i) the qualifications, (ii) the present pay, (iii) the allowances and (iv) and length of service of (a) the Head Master and (b) Second Master of the Government Technical School, Lahore;

(b) who officiates for the Head Master when he is on tour or is on leave;

(c) whether the officiating Head Master is paid any allowance or not;

(d) If not, reasons for the non-payment of the allowance?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal :

(a) *Head Master—*

(i) B.A., S.A.-V.

(ii) Rs. 475 plus Rs. 50 special pay for working as Head Master, School for Disabled Soldiers.

(iii) Nil.

(iv) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer to Council question No. 966¹ of July 1927.

Second Master—

(i) B.A., S.A.-V.

(ii) Rs. 190.

(iii) Nil.

(iv) 22½ years.

(b) The Head Master is not entrusted with any touring duties. The Second Master officiates for the Head Master when he is on leave.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

WARDEN OF FISHERIES.

1075. Shaikh Faiz Muhammad : With reference to starred question No. 218² asked and answered on 22nd March 1927, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

(a) the name of the Muhammadan official mentioned in the answer;

(b) whether the same official has been given an appointment in the Provincial Civil Service and if not what are the reasons;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said official took the Provincial Civil Service departmental examination and passed it in higher standard with credit;

¹ Vol. X-B, pages 297-98.

² Vol. X-A, page 632.

- (d) whether it is a fact that when the Honourable Minister answered the question No. 218 referred to above the said Muhammadan official was already a gazetted officer ;
- (e) why the claims of the said Muhammadan official to officiate as Warden of Fisheries in 1927 were overlooked ;
- (f) if not, in what manner the claims of the said Muhammadan officer are to be protected ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) It is not the practice of Government to give the names of its officers in reply to questions in Council.

(b) Under the new rules a gazetted officer is not eligible for acceptance as an Extra Assistant Commissioner candidate.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) The claims of the official in question were not overlooked.

(f) The Punjab Government is responsible for giving full consideration to the reasonable claims of all officers serving under it and his claims will receive consideration.

"RAM GAUS" IN LUDHIANA DISTRICT.

1076. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that wandering cows called "Ram Gaus" belonging to Patiala State devastate the crops of tahsil Jagraon, district Ludhiana ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government received complaints that in very recent years these "Ram Gaus" have enormously increased in number and are doing unbearable loss to the zamindars ;
- (c) if so, what steps the Government have taken to remedy the state of affairs ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member is referred to the reply given to his question No. 24¹ in March 1927

LALA KISHAN CHAND, SUPERVISOR IN THE GREY CANAL DEPARTMENT.

1077. Pir Akbar Ali : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the senior and the junior Supervisors of the Grey Canal Department were brought under reduction as a consequence of the amalgamation of the Grey Canals ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the junior supervisor, Lala Kishan Chand, is possessed of no engineering qualifications ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in or about 1917, the said Lala Kishan Chand was on the suggestion of the then Superintendent, Grey Canals, subjected to a test by the Executive Engineer ;

[Pir Akbar Ali:]

(d) if the answer to (c) be in affirmative, what was the result of the above mentioned test;

(e) whether it is a fact that the said Lala Kishan Chand in or about 1919 was suspended; if so, will the Honourable Member please state the grounds of his suspension and the name of the officer on whose report he was suspended; will he further be pleased to lay a copy of the said report resulting in the suspension of the said Lala Kishan Chand?

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

(b) He has many years' practical experience of the working of the Grey Canals.

(c) and (d) The information is not available.

(e) He was suspended in 1919 on the report of the Engineer Assistant, but subsequently exonerated from all blame and reinstated. After this lapse of time, Government does not consider it would answer any useful purpose to go into this matter further.

LALA KISHAN CHAND, SUPERVISOR ON THE GREY CANALS.

1078. Pir Akbar Ali: Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1922, the Superintendent, Grey Canals, Ferozepore, had reported to the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepore, against the conduct of one Lala Kishan Chand then Supervisor on the Grey canals;

(b) if the answer to the above be in affirmative will the Government be pleased to lay a copy of the said report with a copy of the Deputy Commissioner's order on it?

The Honourable Mian Sir Mian Fazl-i-Husain: (a) The alleged report is not traceable.

(b) Does not arise.

HARTAL IN SAHIWAL.

1079. Chaudhri Ali Ahmad: Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the residents of Sahiwal in the Shalipur district observed complete hartal from 1st December to 12th December as a protest against the increased rate of octroi imposed by the municipal committee, Sahiwal;

(b) whether it is a fact that a deputation, on behalf of the people of Sahiwal, waited upon the Deputy Commissioner as well as upon the Commissioner to represent the real state of affairs;

(c) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, will Government kindly state what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) A partial hartal began on the 1st December 1928, and the number of shops which remained closed decreased on every successive day till all shops were opened on the 11th December 1928.

(b) Yes.

(c) No action is proposed to be taken in the matter. Government have found no grounds for refusing to sanction the schedule as passed by the municipal committee.

MOTOR VEHICLES TAX.

1080. Mr. E. Maya-Das : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state:—

(1) what was the quantity of petrol consumed in the province during 1928 or preferably during the last financial year;

(2) what was the amount of motor vehicles tax recovered during the same period;

(3) what was the number of motor vehicles that paid this tax?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (1) The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

(2) Rupees 8,16,782-14-0.

(3) It is estimated to be approximately 11,700.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

AGRICULTURE GRANT (*continued*.)

Mr. President : The Council will now resume discussion on Rai Sahib Chandhri Chhotu Ram's motion.¹

Sardar Hira Singh [Lahore, Sikh Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, it gave me really great pain to hear the debate that took place on the floor of this House the day before yesterday on the motion before the House. It was not worthy of the honourable members of this honourable House to indulge in attacks on each other. It seems that the question of loaves and fishes [which should occupy really only a secondary position and which could easily be solved at leisure], has come to engross the whole of our attention and energies. We appear to be so much absorbed in this question that we have lost sight of the main and the most important problem. We ought to have unanimously tried to wrest that power from the hands of the Government by which we are being ruled over by a foreign nation. We ought to have put a hard fight to win back our birth right, but it is a pity that most of us seem to have never given any serious thought to that problem. I have no hesitation in saying that those who stand up apparently to plead the cause of this community or that community and wax eloquent over the miserable or enviable position of zamindars or non-zamindars, do so, not because they love a certain community, but to serve what they mistake

¹ "That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1." [To draw attention to the general anti-Zamindar drift of policy followed by the Ministry of Agriculture.]

[Sardar Hira Singh.]

to be their own personal interests. Their sole object is to curry favour with the Government. - Their speeches, I may tell them, go to create differences between the different communities and to strengthen the hands of the irresponsible Government. By this attitude of theirs they are helping to prolong the life of slavery of their countrymen (*hear, hear*). One honourable member, who spoke on this motion, was very much proud to say that the previous Governor of the province was a strong man and a well-wisher of the zamindars. He is mistaken. He should have known that the present Government is like that woman in a story who promised to marry all who came across her, but who, in fact, never married any one of them....

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Is this about the Agricultural Department?

Sardar Hira Singh: Because it has no love for this country. Its only aim is to promote the interests of its own native land.....

Mr. President: Is the honourable member discussing the Agricultural Department or the Punjab Government as a whole?

Sardar Hira Singh: The honourable mover of the motion was right when he said that unnecessary restrictions had been placed on admission to colleges under the charge of the Minister for Agriculture. The raising of the standard to F. Sc. for admission to the Agricultural college is undoubtedly detrimental to the interests of zamindars. That a large number of F. Sc. students are now available in the market is no justification for raising that standard. Besides the fact that the number of such students is still very limited amongst the zamindars, it is very desirable that the students should not be compelled to waste two years of their precious lives in studying in Arts colleges. They should be permitted to gain admission to that college after matriculation as usual so that they may be able to utilise those two years, which they will have to spend in some Arts college, in qualifying themselves for a profession. The fact that a large number of F. Sc. students, who mostly belong to the non-agricultural classes, come forward to seek admission in that college should not carry any weight with the Government. In my opinion the Department of Agriculture and for the matter of that the Agricultural College exists for the benefit of the agricultural classes and should be open to these classes alone. The non-agricultural classes are not fit for agricultural work. They are best suited for the work that is done in offices like the office of the Accountant-General and such offices are already open to them. I say so because once I happened to go to a school and to see the work of a teacher who was employed to teach students the subject of agriculture. He had sown jute round the field in which cotton had been sown. I was naturally surprised and questioned the teacher why he had sown jute where flax should have been sown. The poor fellow was non-plussed and said that he was not aware whether jute was harmful and flax was useful. It is known as a proverb that the people in the cities are so ignorant, so far as agriculture is concerned, that they do not know whether wheat is a plant or a tree. It is, therefore, highly desirable that agricultural students should be admitted into the Agricultural College in a larger number.

I understand that last year a son of a washerman was admitted into that college and many Jats were refused admission. That should not be. At the same time I may point out that we who demand these concessions, should stick to one principle. Either we should put forward these demands on the basis of communities or on the basis of religion. I have seen that some members, at one time, base their demands on the fact that they are zamindars and at other times, they come forward to ask for concession on the ground that they are Muhammadans or Hindus or Sikhs. That makes the position complicated and the Ministers fail to understand and decide what principle or basis they should accept and what they should reject. A good deal of heart-burning has already been created by the discussion over this motion and to avoid further clash between the various parties in the Council, I would request the honourable mover to withdraw his motion.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture): Sir, I think I may begin by acknowledging the ready co-operation which my predecessor has always given me in all that concerns agriculture. I have always found him willing to give me the advantage of his experience. I also feel that he is quite justified in calling me to account and examining the working of the agricultural department. It is the right of every agriculturist in the province to ask what the ministry is doing to promote the interests of agriculture. I therefore, rejoice that this discussion is taking place. I hope the result of the discussion will be a larger support for a broader agricultural policy. The mover of the resolution is certainly a zamindar by birth, but by profession he has converted himself into a lawyer, a profession where words matter more than deeds.

I am an agriculturist both by birth and by profession. He feels that the interests of the agriculturists can be promoted by securing appointments for them in all the departments of the Government. I, on the other hand, feel that the only way of securing better agriculture is to equip the agriculturists with knowledge to enable them to cultivate their lands profitably. I have spent years in following the plough and watching the crops grow. He has spent his time in the mureal atmosphere of the law courts. He believes that things can be achieved by legislative action; I believe that the only possible way of improving agriculture is to equip agriculturists with modern knowledge so that they may work out their own deliverance. (Hear, hear).

He talked light-heartedly of the Department of Agriculture being too heavy. I may for his information tell him, that all that we have so far done is to appoint one specialist officer for each important crop. So far as the districts are concerned we have not been able to obtain an officer of the provincial service to direct the policy of each district. He is aware, as the Director of Agriculture pointed out the other day, that the average area under crop in each district is in the neighbourhood of 9 lakhs of acres. I am quite sure he will admit the need for extending the activities of the department, so that we may at least have one qualified officer for each district to look after agricultural interests.

Then again, I am sure he will agree with me that agriculture is a business; and it is necessary that the business of agriculture should be administered efficiently. It has become the fashion to call efficiency a bogey. I hope

[Hon'ble Sir, Jogendra Singh.]

that the ex-Minister for Agriculture will realise that efficiency is one of the most important things in administration and nothing can be done without efficient, responsible and hard-working officers. I hope that no responsible member of this House will talk light-heartedly about efficiency. Efficiency will have to be maintained and even raised to a higher level if our country is to occupy its rightful place in the comity of nations which its position entitles it to. May I now mention for his information that the officers that we have employed and who, he thinks, are making the department top-heavy, are only half a dozen specialists? To mention one I am quite sure he will agree with me that two fruit specialists are hardly adequate to look after the interests of the fruit growers of the province. Then there is one specialist for cotton and another for wheat, one cerealist, a second agricultural chemist, a work-shop superintendent, a bacteriologist, a boring engineer, and two boring sub-divisional officers. This is all. I am quite sure that for many years to come there is no fear of the Department of Agriculture becoming top-heavy.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : We are not discussing the utility of the Department of Agriculture; we are only discussing a specific grievance mentioned in Bai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram's amendment.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I am coming to that also. But previous speakers have raised the points I am now referring to.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : So far, the Honourable Minister has not replied to the amendment that is under discussion.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I am only referring to the points mentioned by the honourable mover and by other speakers. I think it is necessary to give some explanation of the various points raised.

Mr. President : The honourable mover was asked to speak to the motion. The Honourable Minister need not refer to the other points.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It was only with reference to the Public Works Department that he was asked not to argue a matter which was not under consideration. But with reference to the Agricultural Department he was allowed to make all these references. I think it is proper that I should explain matters.

I was about to submit that the agricultural department of the Punjab was only in the making. The Punjab is twice the size of England and greater by nine million acres than the whole of Great Britain. The Ministry of Agriculture in England receives a grant of two million pounds and another five lakhs of pounds from the Development Fund. It has a staff numbering about 8,500.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : On a point of order, Sir, we are not now discussing the various activities of the agricultural department. The only point under discussion is the anti-zamindar drift of the policy of the department.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I am going to take up the charge of the anti-zamindar drift of my policy but before I do so I think I am justified in making one or two observations and defining my policy.

Mr. President : Did not the honourable mover of the motion restrict his speech only to the specific point mentioned in his motion?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Yes, Sir, the general anti-zamindar drift of his policy as indicated chiefly in admissions to various colleges and appointments to certain departments under the Honourable Minister.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : That is exactly what I am referring to.

He said that the resolution of 1919 fixed a proportion for the service⁸ which has not been maintained. In fairness to himself and to me he ought to have compared the new figures with the old figures at the time of handing over charge. For his enlightenment I would like to point out that in 1926 the total percentage of zamindars in the Agricultural Service was 67, it is 78 per cent. to-day. He will therefore see that there has been steady improvement all the time. There is one question I would like to ask the honourable mover and others of his persuasion. Can he point out if there is a single trained agriculturist passed out of the Lyallpur College whether Hindu, Muhammadan or Sikh, who is unemployed in this province? If there is.....(Voices: Many, in thousands.) Thousands? Then send their applications to me. As I said before, they should be fully trained men for the service that is available. (Chaudhri Duli Chand: You will support the banias) I repeat again, Sir, that so far as I am aware there is not a single trained student passed out of the Veterinary College at Lahore or the Agricultural College, Lyallpur, available at present. I am quite positive about it, as last year we had to curtail the programme of opening veterinary dispensaries on account of the paucity of trained men and many posts of agricultural assistants remain unfilled. If there were men available they would have been employed. You cannot for a moment sustain the charge that men were available but have not yet been employed. Members should verify their facts before they frame their charges.

I have dealt with the services and now I turn to the employment of clerks. I do not know how far it is the ambition of the zamindars to turn themselves into clerks. But I should remind the House of an old saying :

اتم مہیچلی مد پور پار
نہد چاکری بیگ دوار

Agriculture is superior to all ;

Then comes trade ;

And the worst of all is service,

Like beggary from door to door.

Is it to this servitude that he wants to reduce the free-born zamindars of this province? I must say that I differ from him entirely. Instead of driving agriculturists to become clerks I want to equip them with knowledge so that they might be able to make a much better use of their time and energy in the villages on their lands instead of sitting at the clerical tables. Then again, as ex-Minister he must know.

[Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

that so far as these appointments are concerned they are not made by the Minister, all appointments below the gazetted rank are made by the heads of departments. And appointments that are made by the Minister are made only by the concurrence of His Excellency the Governor who is the custodian of the interests of all the parties. Chaudhri Sahib knows what scope there is in any department to change the percentages. Next we come to the changes contemplated regarding the raising of the standard of the educational qualifications necessary for admission to the Veterinary and Agricultural Colleges. He knows that the vernacular classes in the Veterinary College were abolished after a great deal of discussion in 1921. When the present system was introduced it found the support of the honourable the mover of the amendment himself. When the question of raising the standard came under discussion in 1925, I think that the honourable member himself was the Minister in charge. It was Sir Malcolm Hailey who raised the question. It was held that the Punjab was no longer in the pre-education days when the low mental equipment of the matriculates made it desirable that the standard should not be raised. It was considered desirable to examine if the standard could not be raised to keep pace with improvement in education that had taken place. Take the Veterinary College. Since the vernacular course was abolished in 1921, 96 Hindus, 92 Muhammadans and 53 Sikhs were admitted. Out of these, 27 Hindus, 42 Muhammadans and 18 Sikhs left the college, chiefly on account of their inability to follow the course. I remember two or three hard cases that came to my notice. Some of these students had come to the fourth year standard and they could not pass the examination. The rules did not permit them to appear again for the examination. One of them came from Mysore. I had to intervene and allow one or two unsuccessful candidates to appear again for examination. It has been the practice at the Veterinary College to admit F. A. and F. Sc. students along with matriculates. Last year a number of F. Sc. students and a fair number of matriculates were admitted. The decision that has been now arrived at merely confirms the practice that was obtaining, namely, taking up a few first-class matriculates and F. Sc. students for admission to the Veterinary College.

There is one other point which was raised yesterday. It was said that perhaps the veterinary hospitals in the villages did not require highly qualified doctors and that the vernacular course should be re-started. All I can say is that I am going to get this point examined and perhaps I may have to appoint a committee to examine the possibility of starting vernacular classes in the college to produce less qualified men for small village hospitals. Regarding the Agricultural College, Sir, a committee was appointed to examine the position. The Committee was presided over by the honourable Mr. Craik. It consisted of the following members: Sardar Habib Ullah, Sardar Ujjal Singh, Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath and the Director of Agriculture and others. They examined the position and recommended that the standard should be raised. Later on the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture said that the first two years should be spent in an Intermediate College and the next three years at the Agricultural College.

Later on the University authorities considered this matter and it was held that it was not desirable that the less educated matriculates should be classed together with F. A.'s. and F. Sc.'s. It has therefore been decided to hold the decision in abeyance and get the whole question examined again. I hope this will satisfy the honourable member.

Now one word, Sir, regarding my Agricultural policy. My policy is to move forward in two directions, firstly, research and, secondly, experiments and demonstration. As I mentioned before, research officers have now been appointed for almost all the important crops. It is, however, my considered opinion that we need highly qualified research officers and we should get them and in the matter of experimental and district farms, the programme which we laid down five years ago is now being carried out and we can reasonably hope that the advantage which the Lyallpur College secured for one of our colonies will be secured for districts like Jhelum to which Nawab Talib Mehdi Khan drew such a pointed attention. In this connection, Sir, I assure you that a great deal depends on the efficiency of the administration of the department and I am deeply indebted to Mr. Craik who has assisted me in carrying out this policy of development: I am sincerely sorry he is leaving the Department. Our policy has received, as honourable members are aware, favourable notice from the Royal Commission on Agriculture. Indeed the Royal Commission on Agriculture discovered that some of their recommendations were anticipated in the Punjab by us. In the matter of agricultural policy the honourable members of this House can reasonably follow the recommendations made by the Royal Commission, a body of experts who have examined this problem from every side and made definite recommendations. It is in carrying out these recommendations that the future progress of agriculture in this province rests.

Personally, Sir, I stand for the reconciliation of all communities and classes (*hear, hear*). I feel that no Minister is worthy of his salt who cannot administer even-handed justice, protecting the weak, as well as the strong, and if I may say so, Sir, I feel every member of this House would be wiser and happier if he merged his individuality and that of his community for the common good of the nation and by consistent effort helped in educating the uneducated, supporting the weak, helping the unlearned, welding together the town and the village, urban and the rural, and raising the province to be a worthy part of India and the British Empire (*hear, hear*).

Mr. President: The question is—

"That the question be now put."

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: May I, Sir, for a moment intervene to ask whether in the agenda of to-day the newly printed one, the motion that had been discussed involved also the discussion of item Nos. 5 and 8?

Mr. President: These three motions overlap each other to a certain extent, but they are not quite identical.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: So you propose that they may be taken up one after the other.

Mr. President : I will decide that point when the motions are reached. It is possible that they may not be moved at all.

Pandit Nanak Chand : On a point of order, Sir, I wanted to move a cut of De. 1 to urge upon the Government the necessity of employing Hindu agriculturists to a large extent. I submit that I should have been given an opportunity to speak on this present amendment because these two questions are inter-connected and if you permit me to speak now, I will not move my amendment.

Mr. President : I have no objection.

Pandit Nanak Chand : [Hebharpur, (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] : I am speaking about Chaudhri Chhotu Ram's amendment and I will speak about my own as well. The amendment that has been moved by my friend Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram raises some very important issues and all of us who really prize the prosperity and welfare of our Province have to see whether these principles should be accepted and if accepted how far they should be applied to the present conditions of our Province. Sir, the honourable member from Rehtak wanted to discuss a certain matter, that is the policy of the Minister for Agriculture, which, according to him, showed an anti-zamindar bias. Now he for his support relied upon two main things. One was that the list that was prepared under the authority of the Government showing the percentage of the various communities, agriculturists and non-agriculturists, Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs that were employed in the department, shows that there has been a certain amount of reduction in the percentage of the zamindars employed in the Agriculture Department.

Mr. H. D. Craik : No, it does not show.

Pandit Nanak Chand : No, it was his argument. He definitely asserted that in one department there were 18 per cent. less agriculturists than there were before and in another there were 1 per cent. less. That was one of the arguments which he advanced and he relied for this upon the circular which was issued by the Government in 1919 and secondly while discussing this question he stated that there has been higher standard adopted for admission to the two colleges, the Lyallpur College of Agriculture and the Veterinary College of Lahore, and that the consequence of raising the standard was that many zamindars failed to get admission into these colleges. Now Sir, we must go thoroughly into this question and see whether the statements are borne out by facts and whether the policy which is pursued by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture is anti-zamindar or anti something else. Now, Sir, first of all, taking this document of 1919, I submit that it has not been properly read and properly explained before the House. There are various things in this document which show that the Government in 1919, first of all made efficiency as one of the first criterion of Government service. Secondly, no percentage, so far as the Department of Agriculture is concerned, was fixed. That is a thing which my learned friend and other members who support him ought to bear in mind, that is that no percentage of posts for zamindars, so far as the Agriculture Department was concerned, was fixed in this document of 1919. Thirdly, I would draw the attention of the House to this that this document expressly ruled out

the consideration of caste and tribe as the basis of the definition of a "zamindar." The members belonging to agricultural tribes under the Alienation of Land Act were not accepted as zamindars. I would refer you to a few lines in this document which is dated 2nd October 1919. It states:—

"For the purposes of its enquiries and suggestions the Committee laid down at an early stage of its proceedings that the word 'zamindar' should mean a member of the agricultural tribes notified under the Alienation of Land Act. In the letter forwarding the results of the Committee's deliberations it was stated that the Honourable Mr. Maynard disagreed with this decision and desired to dissociate himself therefrom. After careful consideration of the question His Honour is of the opinion....."

And these are the words which I would request the honourable members to note.

"His Honour is of opinion that the definition accepted by the Committee is unduly restrictive and is to some extent based on a misconception of the objects underlying the Alienation of Land Act. The intention of that measure is not to define exhaustively who are and who are not the persons whose real interests lie in the land and in agricultural callings, but to protect certain classes of landed proprietors and occupancy tenants by the imposition of disabilities from the consequences of their own economic weakness and of educational and other deficiencies. Much less it is the....."

and this is the most important line—

"Much less it is the intention of the Act to place particular rural tribes in a position which can in any proper sense be treated as one of privilege. His Honour accordingly is pleased to hold that for the purposes in view the term "zamindar" should include all hereditary proprietors or tenure holders of agricultural land mainly dependent thereon and residing in rural areas, as well as actual cultivators."

The definition adopted in this document was this that for purposes of defining zamindar you have to see whether he actually holds land or not, you have to see whether there are people who are actually dependant on agriculture or not. It would also include agricultural labourers. The percentage according to this circular of such zamindars would be about 70 or 80 per cent. in the Panjab and for these classes certain percentages were fixed in various departments of the Government. The intention of the Government at that time was not to adopt statutory agriculturists as "zamindars"; this term was not employed in the sense in which my honourable friend would like the House to adopt. This is an important point and it must be borne in mind when we are dealing with this question. The third point which is noticeable in this document is that whereas the agricultural population referred to is about 70 per cent., the percentage laid down for the services was much less than 70 per cent.; in some departments 60 per cent., in others less than that even. It is another fact which must be borne in mind that the actual percentage of people referred to in this document was 70 or 80 per cent., the percentage allowed in the services was less than this percentage. This is the third point which I wish the House to note. Accordingly, the Government started acting upon this circular and they wanted to give posts taking into consideration the qualifications referred to in this document. The result of that was that in most of the services you find that the actual number of gentlemen employed is less than the due share that should go to the people who fall under the definition of zamindars as defined in the document. Now, Sir, what principle does the honourable member from Rohilkhand want the House to

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adopt, and what is this charge against the Honourable Minister for Agriculture? His charge is and he read out certain figures about the various percentage of services from a list which takes into consideration statutory agriculturists as defined by the Alienation of Land Act; and not "zamindar" as defined in the document of 1919.

Now what is the actual state of affairs? The statutory agriculturists in the Punjab, if a census were to be taken, are between 50 and 51 per cent. Leaving out the land-holders who are not declared as members of an agricultural tribe and leaving out certain other people, the agricultural population under the term "statutory agriculturists" is between 50 and 51 per cent., and my friend wishes this House to accept the proposition that, whereas statutory agriculturists are between 50 and 51 per cent., the posts should be allotted to them to the extent of 60, 70 or even 80 per cent. and he asks this House to establish as the basis of the definition of "zamindar" the definition of the Land Alienation Act—a definition which was not adopted in 1919 and which was expressly ruled out. That is to say, he wants the House to adopt a principle, which is contrary to the spirit and intention of the circular of 1919 and he wants a monopoly of services for certain tribes and castes. This is the proposition which the House is asked to adopt by accepting the amendment of the honourable member, the ex-Minister for Agriculture.

Now, Sir, look at the thing from another point of view. Has the Government ever accepted this principle of fixing the percentages of castes, tribes or classes? So far as I have been able to study the speeches and writings of various Government officials who have had to deal with this matter, there is a definite statement that Government cannot accept percentages based on communal or caste basis. With your permission, Sir, I would refer to the speech delivered by Sir Geoffrey de Montmorency, now the Governor of the Punjab, at that time an honoured member of this House.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I rise to a point of order. Sir, the use of the Governor's name is unparliamentary.

Mr. President : The honourable member wishes to refer to a speech made by the then Finance Member.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What I wish to bring to your notice is the use of the name of the Governor. If he had used the name of the Honourable the Finance Member, I would not have objected. He is using the Governor's name to influence the vote of the House.

Mr. President : He did say, if I heard him aright, the then "honoured member of this House."

Pandit Nanak Chand : Here is what the Honourable Member for Finance said on 9th March 1928—

"Also, Sir, I venture to remind the House that Government is a Government for all, not for a class. If we recruit according to communal percentages, by communities, an idea—a very terrible idea—will get about in the service that a man is in the service not primarily to serve the Government, but because he belongs to a community and that in his actions in the service his chief occupation should be service to that particular community. That, I think, Sir, every one will admit, will lead to deplorable results. . . . But once communal percentages have been settled the tendency shown by these motions will increase

and harden into insisting on percentages also for various tribes and castes. When Hindu Jats have a percentage, why not Hindu Degra or Rajputs of Hoshiarpur and Kangra; why not Mussalman Jats from the Central and mid-west Punjab, why not Mussalman Rajputs from the western Punjab and why not Ahirs and Meos from Gurgaon? Where can it stop? The trouble may even be sectarian, that is within the percentage reserved for Hindus, there might be insistence on Samatan Dharma Hindus getting so many posts, Arya Samajists getting so many posts and so on. I need not pursue the argument. We must, therefore, conclude that to adopt hard and fast percentages would be destructive to real progress. We must have a system, which while it deals with obvious unfairness, is all the same elastic. Honourable members of this House often mention the depressed classes; they are rather hard perhaps to define but there are classes—whenever you may include in them—that are at present backward. They have not had the same facilities as other persons. If these schemes of development, if this increase in education on which we busy ourselves in this House are meant in earnest, if they are not merely eyewash, the day must come when members from these classes too will aspire to different kinds of service and will be educated and qualified for it.

"If, by then, the whole ground has been plotted out already, if it is all occupied by what may be called the elevated classes, the depressed classes of all kinds will storm the citadels in vain; for if anything is certain, this at least admits of no doubt that once a percentage has been fixed on communal basis, the community in whose favour that percentage has been fixed will make it their citadel and they will not agree to admit within the perimeter anyone except one of those belonging to the class to whom it was originally allotted."

This is an announcement made most authoritatively in this House. Now, Sir, the question as I have submitted, was definitely settled so far as the Government is concerned. The Government gave a definite reply through the Honourable the Finance Member who was a member of this Council in 1928. Not on one occasion but on various occasions, the Chief Secretary (Mr. Emerson) said the same thing over and over again. So it is wrong to say that it was ever the intention of Government to fix percentages for the services on the caste, tribe or communal basis. And now my learned friend comes forward and says: where are the statutory agriculturists? If he relies on the circular of 1919 then that circular goes against him. That circular definitely leaves out those caste and class considerations. On the other hand; a definite reply has been given by the Government. There would, I submit, be an injustice, as pointed out by the Government on that occasion in keeping out a number of people who are at this time backward and who have not got the benefit of education and for whom if you fix this percentage now, there would be no remedy.

Looking at the thing from the purely Hindu agriculturist's point of view, I submit that the ex-Minister by insisting on this certain percentage based upon castes and tribes is digging the grave for the Hindu agriculturists of the Punjab. (The honourable member may laugh, but here is a statement to which I direct his attention.

The Hindu agriculturists in the Punjab are less than 9 per cent., I mean the Hindu statutory agriculturists in the Punjab are less than 9 per cent.; the Muhammadan statutory agriculturists are 34 per cent. and the Sikh agriculturists in the Punjab are 7 per cent. Does he mean to say that the Hindu agriculturists of the Punjab should get only 9 per cent. of seats in the services? (A voice: What about the other population?) If you take into consideration the statutory agriculturists of the whole of the Punjab then they come only to 50 or 51 per cent. of the total population; the rest of the population is non-agricultural population, because

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it is not included in the notified tribes. I am not saying that they do not hold land, I am not saying that they are not the cultivators of the soil, I am not saying that they are not agricultural labourers; what I am saying is that they are not statutory agriculturists as defined in the Alienation of Land Act. If the honourable member insists that the statutory agriculturists in the Punjab should get services according to their percentage, then the Hindu agriculturists are entitled to no more than 9 per cent. I have been sent to the Council by the Hindu agriculturists of one district, and the honourable member has been sent by the Hindu agriculturists of another district. I would most earnestly declare that if what my honourable friend wants is accepted by Government, it will go a great way in destroying the just claims of the Hindu agriculturists. (Chaudhri Duli Chand : No). This percentage will not satisfy them. Sir, I have stated on more occasions than one, that so far as I am concerned and so far as the party to which I have the honour to belong is concerned, we do not want services to become a monopoly of anyone class. We believe that efficiency and efficiency alone should be the test. Recruitment on any class, tribal or communal basis will only intensify inter-communal and inter-class conflict. We do not want any concessions or favour for any one class, we believe that it is up to those who seek service to have the required education and to compete with others for the service and to get as many posts as they can, and once you accept the principle enunciated by the honourable member for Rohiak, I submit that it would really be injuring the best interests of the Hindu agriculturists—agriculturists who are termed agriculturists under the Land Alienation Act—and I protest most strongly against any attempt of that kind being made. As it is, there is already a definite attempt on the part of Government to make appointments on the basis of caste, and I have seen notices issued by various departments under the Agricultural Department where it has been stated definitely that only statutory agriculturists need apply. What has been the result? My friend referred to certain posts of mukaddams or agricultural assistants and so on. Let us look at the cream of the Agricultural Service—the services that are the best paid, let us see how many Hindu agriculturists there are in those services. Out of the three highest posts maintained by the Department, Director and Assistant Directors, two are held by Europeans and one by a Muhammadan. Next to that there are seven posts of Deputy Directors of Agriculture. Not one of the seven posts is held by a Hindu. Then we take the next important posts. Then there are certain other posts, 15 in number, out of which one is held by a Hindu—a member of an agricultural tribe—and that is a post which he does not hold permanently. So you will see that the far greater number of posts are either held by Muhammadans or here and there by Sikhs, but the majority of them are held by Muhammadans. This is the result of making statutory agriculturists as the basis of recruitment for the various services. Let us come now to clerks who are the real machinery of Government. What about the head clerks of the seven Deputy Directors? Out of the seven Head Clerks, one is a Hindu and the other six Muhammadans. Sir, can I now ask my honourable friend Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.... (Chaudhri Duli Chand : Ask Lala Harkishan Lal) Can I ask the ex-Minister who occupied the seat which Lala Harkishan Lal vacated and which is now being occupied by Sir Jogendra Singh, can I ask the ex-Minister

what he did to remedy the defect in the services? (*A voice*: He should have dismissed all these people). What attempt did he make to rectify this grave injustice which was done to the Hindu agriculturists? (*Chaudhri Duli Chand*: Hindu agriculturists were also appointed). The honourable member goes on interrupting and if you will permit me to reply to him I can reply to his interruptions.

Mr. President: If honourable members of the House do not wish any one individual member to go on for an indefinite time, it is open to one of them to move a motion to fix a time limit on speeches, but they should not interrupt.

Pandit Nanak Chand: No time limit has been fixed so far.

Mr. President: It is open to any honourable member to move for fixing a time limit.

Pandit Nanak Chand: That, I submit, has been the result of the policy which the honourable member and his supporters have from time to time advocated in this House. The result has been most detrimental to the interests of the Hindu zamindars of Rohtak, Hoshiarpur, Gurgaon and other places. Would my honourable friend still go on insisting that these percentages should be fixed and appointments to the extent of 9 per cent. should go only to the Hindu statutory agriculturists? Yes; his supporters like the honourable member, Chaudhri Duli Chand, are pleased to say; We do not care for Hindu, Muslim or Sikh or any other community; we are here to think as agriculturists, to act as agriculturists and to vote as agriculturists. Sir, I want to show by reference to a single incident in this House how they actually act up to the proposition which they want the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to adopt. Not many months ago with regard to the election of the Deputy President of this House, there was a Sikh agriculturist candidate standing and a Muhammadan agriculturist also. I ask these gentlemen how they voted at the election. Did they allow the Sikh agriculturist to take his own place which he occupied before he resigned? That, Sir, is a fact more eloquent than any speech made in this House. Every one of the Muslim members voted not as an agriculturist as Chaudhri Duli Chand would have us believe. (*Chaudhri Duli Chand*: I did vote for the agriculturist). I definitely ask the honourable members whether the Muslim members voted for Sardar Buta Singh.

Mr. President: The honourable member is requested not to speak on this point.

Pandit Nanak Chand: An argument was addressed to the House that so far as the question of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh unity was concerned, it would be solved by adopting not the division into Hindus, Muslims or Sikhs which has so far been adopted but the division into agriculturists and non-agriculturists. And I merely submit that the actions of honourable members definitely showed that they do not adhere to their creed.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: Is it open to pry into the secrets of the ballot, because I understand the particular election referred to took place by ballot?

Mr. President: The secrets of the ballot should be kept by the officers who hold it. I do not think the voters are prohibited from giving out for whom they voted.

Pandit Nanak Chand : On various other occasions this issue has been raised in this House and it has been decided more than once on religious basis. I remember in a debate the principle now explained by the honourable members from Rohtak and Karnal was not accepted by their party. Therefore I submit I would be the last person to see that this Hindu-Muslim-Sikh quarrel should continue in the land. I deplore that. But I maintain that by accepting the proposition the honourable member has placed before the House, you are not only raising the Hindu-Muslim-Sikh question but you are raising the caste question. You are raising the conflict between caste and caste, tribe and tribe and it would be a difficult thing for any member in this House or outside it if this principle permeates the masses to see that peace is maintained in this land which we all dearly love; and I would ask the honourable member that he should be the last person to raise issues of this kind. He loves the Jats as well as the non-Jats. He has the good of this Province at heart. He should be the last man to raise issues of this kind which will lead to a conflict which it will not be possible either for this Government or any Swaraj Government to put an end to. Already we have got evidence from the speeches to which I will not refer but which I can quote: if the honourable members want, that the conflict between the Hindus and Muslims is due to the fact that the two communities want to monopolise the posts in Government service and that they are not prepared to accept the principle of "live and let live." That point was definitely brought out by the honourable member Sheikh Faiz Muhammad in his speech which if honourable members wish, I shall quote. He said that it was the desire of his community particularly that has led to riots and bloodshed and to all sorts of trouble in the land. They wanted more share in the Government of the country and more posts than are allotted to them so far; and, Sir, if that principle of caste is accepted for recruitment to posts under Government, the conflict, I submit, would be more severe, more terrible and it would inflict untold sufferings on the people of the Punjab. I will not pursue this point any further.

Then there is the second point, namely that a number of people belonging to the agricultural tribes have been debarred from getting admission into the Agricultural College of Lyallpur and the Veterinary College of Lahore because the standard of educational qualifications has been raised. This document of 1919 and the subsequent pronouncements on the subject by the various officers of the Government, as I have already said, laid down that efficiency was the first consideration that would be taken into account and in order to raise the efficiency of the services it is necessary that the standard of education among the various classes of His Majesty's subjects should be raised. That standard is sought to be raised by raising this qualification for admission. I submit, Sir, that it is an insult to the agriculturists of this Province to say that there are no B.A.'s, F.A.'s, F.Sc.'s, or B.Sc.'s among them. If any doubt is entertained as to this, let the Honourable Minister for Agriculture give me an order. Any number of men belonging to the agricultural tribes, Hindus or Muslims, with those qualifications seeking admission into these Colleges, I shall place before him. The policy enunciated by the Honourable the Finance Member and by various other Government officers is that slowly and slowly, the educational qualifications of the various men seeking admission into the services must

be raised. From that it follows that you must raise the qualifications for admission into the various colleges which prepare men for different posts and different professions. It has been done in the case of the Law College. It has been done in the case of extra assistant commissioners, in the case of sub-tahsildars and tahsildars. And where has the Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh cared if he has raised the standard of qualification in his department too? Sir, you may be very desirous of getting a post under the Government; but the ordinary zamindar who cares more for his bullocks, who cares more for his chattel, would like to be treated not by a quack, not by a person who has got inferior medical qualifications but by a good medical man. How can my honourable friends here speak in the name of an ordinary zamindar who thinks little of the services, cares little about the quarrels and squabbles for posts which daily go on here, and who wants his cattle to be treated by properly qualified men? Has the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture committed a sin if he asks that admission to the colleges should be on a higher educational qualification. The argument was brought how can you fix F.Sc. qualification when for treatment of men you have fixed the matriculation standard for the Medical School. Two wrongs never make one right. I think in this House some time ago the honourable member, Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir, brought a motion that the qualification in respect of those men also should be raised. I do not now recollect whether it was defeated or whether the honourable member withdrew the motion, but considering the temper of the House, it must, I think, have been lost. Then there is also this difference. Man, as I said, is a thinking animal. He knows where his interests lie. If there are two doctors, one who has come out of the Medical College at Lahore and another, out of the Medical School at Amritsar, he can make his choice; but can the cattle do so? Therefore, if the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture has done so, he has taken a right step in the matter and he deserves the congratulations of the whole House that in the teeth of such opposition, such meaningless opposition, he has taken the right attitude and he has acted up to the principle which the Government of the Punjab wanted him to act up to. He does not deserve any censure. Far from it, he deserves our praise. I am ashamed to see that such things are being talked of only because a few men who are matriculates might be able to get posts in this department or other department. The welfare of the whole Province is going to be sacrificed in order to appease the communal appetite of a few men who otherwise would not be accepted by any one in Government service. But as I said, Sir, this is a slur on the Hindu agriculturists of the Punjab and the Muhammadan agriculturists as well, and for the matter of that on the agriculturists as a whole. They can put forward men with the qualifications which are being insisted upon for admission to these institutions. I submit most respectfully to my honourable friend, Chaudhri Chhotu, Ram that he must not persist in lowering the standard of efficiency, which is the only guarantee for the peace and welfare of any community or any country. In this he should join hands with the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture. That is the chief point. And I submit that when I tabled my motion my intention was to draw the attention of the various difficulties and grievances from which the Hindu agriculturists suffer in the Agricultural Department. That is the result of the policy which is being pursued. It is a

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mistake to think that I wanted 50 per cent. to be fixed for the Hindu agriculturists, but what I had in mind was to test the genuineness and the strength of feeling which honourable members exhibited on various occasions in favour of the agriculturists whether they are prepared to concede the claim that I make on behalf of the Hindu agriculturists. I fully know that if my motion were to be put it would be defeated, on the ground mainly because if once you accept the fixing of percentages there would be no end to communal squabbles and communal troubles. All of us desire that agriculturists, non-agriculturists and in fact everyone should enjoy prosperity and peace. The Punjab is so rich and so fertile that it can feed hundreds and thousands, nay, millions of people. Unfortunately our attempts are wrongly directed. (Dr. Shauik Muhammad Alam: The Punjab can feed even outsiders). As my honourable friend observes rightly the Punjab can feed even outsiders and it can feed the whole world. The soil is so rich that you cannot find a similar soil elsewhere. Therefore, if you sow these seeds of quarrel in the constitution you are taking a wrong step. I warn the Government on the one hand and on the other hand those politicians who want to solve the destinies of India by fixing communal percentages here, there and everywhere that they are really working on wrong lines. If people are not fit for Swaraj, if people are not prepared to do away with these communal percentages, then let us wait for some time. Where is the harm in waiting? We have been under this sort of Government for centuries. Would it do us any harm if we wait for ten years more until there is a feeling of friendship, amity, and good-will among the various members living in this Province and outside? Do you want really national home rule where there is no consideration of caste, creed and colour, or do you want communal and caste consideration to prevail in every sphere of life? I submit that this is a very wrong lead which people are given in this unfortunate Province. Other countries have solved their destinies. They are now enjoying peace and prosperity, because they have relegated these questions of caste and religion to their proper sphere. Let everyone enjoy the freedom of worship, freedom of religious propaganda and freedom of education; but when you ask to adopt caste and religion and race beyond their legitimate spheres, as the basis for distributing civil rights, when you take them to services, to local bodies, to legislatures and so on, you are digging the grave of efficiency, you are digging the grave of everything that we hold sacred and dear. (Hear, hear and cheers).

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: May I suggest that some time limit should be fixed for speeches so that we may have an opportunity of discussing other grants also?

Mr. President: What time limit does the honourable member suggest?

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: Ten minutes in the case of the mover and five minutes in the case of other members.

Mr. President: Will the honourable member please draft his motion and send it to me? Meanwhile the discussion on the motion will proceed.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram [South-East, Rohtak (Non-Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, the day before yesterday one of the honourable members of this House who is not present now was pleased to characterise my political creed as an obsession and my activities and speeches in the House in pursuance of that creed as a joke. There were some other members who used language which was by no means complimentary. However, I do not make any complaint whatsoever of the derisive and contemptuous manner in which reference was made to my creed or to my activity. I recognise that nobody who enters public life, and particularly parliamentary public life, can afford to be thin-skinned or extra-sensitive. I try to give hard knocks myself and expect hard knocks in return. As a matter of fact I did expect such knocks on this occasion. But to say that my political creed was a mere obsession is, I think, most unfair to my creed and to the intelligence and fairmindedness of the gentleman who gave this epithet to my political creed. My political creed, as everybody is aware, does not recognise any communalism. It is absolutely catholic. I do not care a tuppence in the secular field whether a man is a Hindu or a Muhammadan or a Sikh or a Christian (*Hear, hear*). My creed stands on the basis of common secular and economic interests which in every civilised country form the basis of political parties. This is a creed in which I firmly and passionately believe. This is a creed which, I believe, will ultimately solve the Hindu-Muslim tangle in this province and ultimately in the country at large. If a creed of that nature can be called an obsession by an honourable member in this House, I wonder what else would be a sane, sensible or suitable creed. If in spite of all this, honourable members who occupy these benches (*indicating the benches on his left*) think that this political creed of mine is a mere obsession, then the best thing for them to do is not to take seriously those who hold that creed. If the honourable member really believed that my political creed was only an obsession then he should not have taken me seriously. But the wonder of it is that whenever I get up to speak of the rights of the zamindars I see very unmistakable signs of nervous apprehension on these benches (*referring to his left*). The worthy doctor who is absent lets loose his tornado of eloquence on an unsuspecting House. He begins by saying, "Sir, I had no intention of speaking to the motion, but now that I have heard the speech of such and such a person I am tempted to make a speech myself." That is the key in which he starts and then he inundates this House with his torrential, though sometimes pointless, eloquence. As a matter of fact there are serious grounds for believing that this section of the House (*referring to his left*) knows and recognises that the political creed which I preach in this Council as well as outside will, in course of time, capture the imagination of the people. If once that creed captures the imagination of the people then the grand edifice of vested interests which generations of the class to which the worthy doctor belongs, have toiled to build, is likely to tumble down like a house of cards. That is the reason for the nervousness of my honourable friends on these benches. That is the reason why they want to decry everything that is said on the subject of zamindars and their rights. Then again the learned doctor said that there are many men in this House and thousands of men outside this House who think that my activities and preachings about zamindars have been carried too far, that it is a joke and that this joke should

[Rai Sahib Chandhri Chhotu Ram.]

not be carried any further. I may as well retort by saying that there are lakhs and lakhs of men who think that the joke of treating lightly the just demands of the zamindars has been carried too far; and I, for one, am determined to see that this joke is not allowed to be carried any further. (*Hear, hear*). The attempt of the urban members here to characterise my activities and my political faiths as a joke reminds me of a very famous incident in Indian History. Nadir Shah invaded India in 1739. He crossed the frontier. He marched through the Punjab and was rapidly advancing on the capital of the Moghul Emperor. The news of Nadir Shah having crossed the frontier and having made rapid marches through the Punjab was duly conveyed to Muhammad Shah. He, however, treated the whole thing as a joke. Suddenly Nadir Shah appeared at Karnal and wrote a personal letter to Muhammad Shah laying down certain conditions on the fulfilment of which Nadir Shah expected that bloodshed would be avoided. Muhammad Shah treated this letter also as a joke and threw it into a vessel which contained wine of which probably Muhammad Shah had already taken too much, and he accompanied this action of his by the words:-

“اين دفتر ہے معنی غرق مے ناب اولیٰ“

I am tempted to remind my critics of the consequences of the light-hearted manner in which Muhammad Shah took the advance of Nadir Shah. By treating the legitimate demands of the zamindars in a light-hearted fashion, they are running the same risk which Muhammad Shah ran. In a couple of days Muhammad Shah learnt to his cost that neither the advance of Nadir Shah nor his letter was a joke. I think the urban section of this House, inebriated with the wine of power which is derived from superior wealth (4 voices: Not the whole urban section.) (*Laughter*) Thank you for the correction. The occupants of these benches (*on the left*) who mainly represent urban interests inebriated with the wine of power which is derived from superior wealth, superior organisation and superior education think that the demands of the zamindars are a joke. Perhaps for the time being they can afford to say so. But the time is not far when the zamindar movement will gather strength and the tide of the zamindar movement will advance and will sweep away all including the worthy doctor before it. That day is not far distant. I offer a very solemn warning to the doctor and to those who share his views.

The honourable member who represents the North-West Hindu Urban constituency in this House was also pleased to offer a very sound advice to this House. He said that zamindars should adopt a policy of live and let live. I may assure the worthy doctor and his friends that the zamindars are prepared, and even keen, to meet the worthy doctor and his friends more than half way. We want to live a fuller life, an ampler life, a richer life and a happier life; and we are prepared to promise a generous spirit to our urban brethren. We are prepared not only not to hinder them but to actively help them in achieving a better station in life than all of us are in now. But this doctrine of live and let live contains an element of reciprocity. If the urban friends who occupy these benches are prepared to help us we are prepared to help them also.

If they are not prepared to let us live, we are not prepared to let them live. If they are not prepared to let us live in peace we are not prepared to let them live in peace.

My worthy friend further throw out a challenge to the zamindar members to show where in the Agricultural Department any injustice was done to them. Well, that gentleman was either not able to follow the figures; or perhaps he did not find it convenient to follow them and try to understand those which I quoted in my opening speech. I gave figures to show quite clearly that the share of the zamindars in the various departments under the Ministry of Agriculture was not sufficient. I showed very clearly the declining proportion in which the zamindars were being admitted to certain vocational institutions. Of course it was not convenient for him to follow those figures or to admit the accuracy of them. I have confronted both the Honourable Minister and others who care to differ from me with the figures given in the consolidated list which is issued under the authority of the Government. In order to convince my absent friend through others of his party who are present and also the Minister of Agriculture, I shall give two concrete instances in which injustice was done. They are only typical of the rest. Many others must have happened and I need not relate them to this House. *A* and *B* were both claimants for a post in the provincial grade. I am purposely omitting the names. *A* was a zamindar and *B* was a non-zamindar. *A* was qualified to perform the duties of the post to which the appointment had to be made. *B* was not so qualified. *B* was appointed to the post in spite of the fact that he was not qualified. The strangest thing of all is that *A* was either actually asked or was allowed to perform the duties of that post for more than a year. I can give you another instance.....

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Does the honourable member refer to the Agricultural Department? If he refers to the Agricultural Department or to the Veterinary Department, it is much better to give the names.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I shall give you the names privately if you like. I do not want to disclose them here.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Why should we be deprived of that information? Better we have them here.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I must resist the temptation.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Then talk to him privately.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : The description I have given of *A* and *B* is quite sufficient to enable honourable members to judge whether injustice was done or not.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I do not think it is fair to the House to withhold this information.

Mr. President : An illustration is not the same thing as an actual instance or example. If the honourable member is quoting specific instances or concrete cases, it is only fair that he should give the real names of the persons concerned. On the other hand, if he is only giving illustrations, and not actual instances, he is at liberty to use fictitious names.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Sir, the first instance refers to the appointment in the Veterinary College. One of the candidates was Chaudhri Mushtaq Ali and the other candidate was a non-agriculturist whose name I have forgotten. But I can give you sufficient facts to enable you to form a correct judgment. (A voice : The honourable member has forgotten everything). I shall give you another instance. A and B joined the Veterinary College.....

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : May I point out again that it is much better to give the names ?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I am not quite clear about the names.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Give some reference if you please.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : The reference that I give will be quite sufficient to enable the Honourable Minister to recollect the facts. A and B were both employed in the Veterinary Department as veterinary assistants or inspectors, I am not sure which. They were actually in service. Both of them applied to be admitted to the Veterinary College in order to undergo a certain special course of study which was necessary if they wanted to be promoted to the provincial service.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It will be better if the honourable member gives the names.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Well, if I give names there is one difficulty which suggests itself to me. The men whose names I may mention here may be doomed for ever. (Cries of "Yes, yes.")

Mr. President : If concrete cases are going to be quoted, as the honourable member is now going to do, it is only fair that the other honourable members, especially the Honourable Minister, should know the real names. But if in any case the honourable member is not certain about the names he will do well not to refer to the case.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I am sure of all the facts ; only I was hesitating to mention names. But if the ruling of the Chair is that I should do so, I am prepared to disclose the names, even if the persons bearing those names suffer. After all what I am doing now I am doing only in the interests of the public ; and if in my attempt to safeguard public interests individual interests suffer, I cannot help it.

Sir, one of the candidates was Jainti Ram. He joined the Veterinary College to undergo a special course of training, which is probably known as the post diploma course. The passing of this test is necessary, at least it used to be necessary then, if a man in the subordinate service wanted to be promoted to the provincial service. Another man whose name was, probably, Sham Singh, also joined the college about the same time. Jainti Ram was able to pass the examination which was held after this one year's training at college. The other man either left the college or was sent away as a person who was incapable of benefiting by remaining in the college. So he went out without taking that special qualification. The man who went out without taking that special qualification has been appointed to the provincial service. (A voice : Is he an agriculturist ?) I am not sure. He may be an agriculturist, or he may not be an agriculturist. But Jainti Ram was

surely an agriculturist. (*Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang*: If so what are you driving at?) I am driving at the anti-zamindar drift of the policy of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture. (*Laughter*.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: How can this be an instance of the anti-zamindar policy if both of them were zamindars?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: The one was surely a zamindar. As regards the other, I am not sure. (*Laughter*.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: Because he was given an appointment, he was not a zamindar. Is that so?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: I was not sure of the fact; so I did not like to make a categorical statement. But if the Honourable Minister made enquiries he would probably find that the gentleman was an Arora or an Ahluwalia.

Anyway, the man who underwent the training and passed the examination successfully was not appointed to the provincial service; but the man who had to go out without qualifying himself has been appointed to the provincial post.

These two instances ought to be sufficient to show.....(*A Voice*: Only one). One and a half at least. (*Laughter*). These two instances are sufficient to convince the Honourable Minister and the members of this House that the policy which has been pursued in the Department of Agriculture is an anti-zamindar policy.

I want to say a few words with regard to what Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath said. I have greater respect for him than for any other member occupying those benches. He said that the zamindars should demand no more than equal justice. I may assure the Raja Sahib that we are not demanding anything which is not justified by considerations of equal justice. In fact if he had carefully considered what I said he would have been convinced that the demand I put forward was not in excess of what was due to the zamindars on the basis of considerations of equal justice. Indeed, if the Raja Sahib is able to ensure us even a little less than what is due to us on considerations of equal justice we would be quite content. The real difficulty is this. Our complaint is that we do not get anything like what should fall to our share by considerations of equal justice. I made a reference to certain proportions that were laid down by a committee which sat in 1918 or 1919. That committee was presided over by Sir John Maynard. The members of that committee included both zamindars and non-zamindars. That committee made an elaborate enquiry, and after having made that elaborate enquiry came to certain conclusions.

Among these conclusions were also the proportions which were laid down as a proper share of zamindars in the various branches of administration. I am sure everybody, every fair-minded person in the House, would agree that Sir John Maynard was not an officer whom anybody can accuse of partiality or prejudice either for or against any individual or any class. He was the President of that committee. The proportions that were laid down, taken with the figures that I have quoted from this consolidated list, show that agriculturists have not anywhere got what was their due on the basis of these proportions. Now these proportions have been attacked by some members

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on these benches. One of the criticisms is that the proportions which were laid down in 1919 were proportions prescribed not for statutory agriculturists but for zamindars. I admit that the definition of zamindar adopted by Sir John Maynard's Committee is not identical with the definition of a statutory agriculturist. The definition that was adopted by that committee is that besides actual cultivators the term "zamindar" includes, all hereditary proprietors and tenure holders of land mainly dependant upon agriculture and residing in rural areas. Now statutory agriculturists would certainly form only a section, but an overwhelmingly large section, of the class which falls within the definition of "zamindar". After all how many non-statutory agriculturists are there who can fulfil all these conditions? There are three definite conditions, hereditary ownership or tenure holdership of land, dependance mainly upon agriculture, and residence in rural areas. Now how many hereditary landowners or tenure holders are there besides statutory agriculturists who fulfil all these three conditions? I admit that there is an appreciable number of people who are not statutory agriculturists and yet who own land, but how many are there who fulfil all these three conditions? I contend and maintain that the number of those other than statutory agriculturists who fall under the definition of "zamindar" is very very small indeed, and therefore, it would not make any very large difference in the proportions that have been fixed or prescribed as a share for zamindars. One of my friends stated that after all the proportion of statutory agriculturists in the population of the Punjab is only 50 or 51 per cent, and therefore proportions that have been laid down in the resolution of 1919 cannot really be regarded as the proper share of statutory agriculturists.

Pandit Nanak Chand : No proportions were laid down for statutory agriculturists in 1919. None whatever.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : There were certain proportions which were laid down as a share of zamindars and I maintain that statutory agriculturists exhaust over 90 per cent. of zamindars under that definition. Now the contention of those who do not share my views is that the proportion of statutory agriculturists in the population of the Punjab is only 50 or 51 per cent., they, therefore, should not be in a position to claim the benefit of the proportions that have been laid down under the resolution of 1919. Well, may I ask a question? Where is the rest of the share to go? Is it to go to money-lenders?

Pandit Nanak Chand : No.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Is it to go to members of money-lending classes who will squeeze the last drop of blood out of all zamindars whether statutory agriculturists or otherwise. (A voice: No). If that share is to go to anybody that share should go to statutory agriculturists who have the same disabilities and who have the same grievances and who have the same difficulties as the slightly larger class of people who are to be treated as zamindars under the definition adopted by Sir John Maynard's Committee.

I strongly object to the claim of certain urban members that they, or their class should be given all that may fall to the share of those who,

though zamindars are not statutory agriculturists. What have they in common with the *ghumars* in the villages, what have they in common with the *ghumars* in the villages, or with carpenters, or blacksmiths residing in the villages?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Disabilities.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Supposed disabilities exist in respect of only one thing. He constantly refers to the Alienation of Land Act. But, speaking logically, the Alienation of Land Act does not impose any disabilities on anybody who is not a statutory agriculturist. This disability refers to restricted powers of alienation and this restriction has been imposed only upon persons who belong to notified agricultural tribes; those who do not belong to those tribes are under no disabilities. This measure does not confer any right; it only casts a disability and that disability has been cast only upon members of notified agricultural tribes. It does not confer any privilege on any class. Sir, I was saying that commercial class people have absolutely no justification for claiming the share of those non-statutory agriculturists or non-agriculturists who reside in rural areas, and who have everything in common with the ordinary statutory agriculturist. Their share cannot be made over to urban people or to members of commercial or money-lending classes. If their share is made over to members of commercial or money-lending classes they will use the additional power which they will thus be able to possess themselves of against those very people whose share they claim. I, therefore, maintain and maintain very strongly that the share of those who really depend upon agriculture should go, if to any class, to the class of statutory agriculturists, because they are in the best position to champion the cause, and safeguard the interests of those humble classes who reside in rural areas, and live on agriculture, though they are not members of notified agricultural tribes.

Now, Sir, there is one honourable gentleman to whom I do not feel inclined to reply—the honourable member representing the urban Hindu constituency of Amritsar. He made a speech, the substance and form of which were not such as would appear to me or to anybody else as requiring any notice. I, therefore, pass on to the speech that was made by the honourable member who represents the rural Hindu constituency of Foshianpur. He sent in a cut urging that in the Department of Agriculture no less than 50 per cent. of appointments should be given to Hindu agriculturists. On the basis of that cut, on the strength of having sent in this cut, he made a request to the President that he may be allowed to make a speech on the motion that was moved by me. Well, he was given an opportunity. He made a speech. There were some people in this House who thought that for once Pandit Nanak Chand had, possibly, made up his mind to say something favourable to agriculturists. But I knew his object better. In fact he was frank enough to give it up towards the end of his speech.....

Pandit Nanak Chand : Not at the end of my speech. I pointedly stated so in the very beginning of my speech.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Well, in his motion he seeks to contend that as many as 50 per cent. appointments in the Department of Agriculture should be given to Hindu agriculturists. He made a speech

[Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.]

every word of which and every syllable of which gave the lie direct to the intention of that motion. To speak plainly the object of that motion was to create a little bad blood between zamindars and zamindars.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : That was an election propaganda.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Speaking under the cloak of that motion he wanted to say something favourable to Hindu agriculturists and he expected that as soon as he made a speech advocating a share of 50 per cent. for Hindu agriculturists alone, then Sikhs and Muhammadans who are agriculturists naturally would rise and oppose the motion and then he will have the opportunity of saying : Look here, here are your zamindars; I am not a zamindar and I moved a motion for your sake but it were the Sikhs and Muslims who opposed that demand.....

Mr. Din Muhammad : Thank God that object is not fulfilled.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : It is very easy to see through these things. It is not easy to deceive every member of this House. They I am sure, possess an average amount of intelligence.....

Mr. President : I do not think the honourable member is in order in attributing to another member of this House a motive which is not clearly expressed by the language of his motion. He will please withdraw his remarks.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I am very sorry, Sir, that I made that remark and I withdraw it unconditionally and I express my regret to my honourable friend. (*Voices : Very good. Hear, hear.*)

One of the points to which attention of the members of this House was drawn by the honourable member representing the rural population of Hoshiarpur was that by insisting upon any share of appointments for zamindars on the basis of their occupation we were really digging the graves of Hindu zamindars, because he thought that under that system nothing will fall to the share of Hindu zamindars, and he quoted certain figures relating to certain departments where Hindu zamindars were either not represented at all or were represented in a very meagre proportion and from that he wanted to draw the inference that the actual share of Hindu zamindars is much less than their due and the balance has gone to Sikh or Muhammadan zamindars and therefore Hindu zamindars have been given little or no share. Well, Sir, I admire the cheek of my honourable friend and I will draw his attention to figures relating to only four or five branches of the Department from which it will appear that the share which should have gone to Hindu zamindars has not gone to Muhammadans or Sikhs but has gone to non-agriculturist Hindus.

I will first take the provincial branch of the Agricultural Department. The shares stand thus : 14 Mussalmans, 18 of whom are agriculturists and 1 is a non-agriculturist; 11 Hindus, 4 of whom are agriculturists and 7 of whom are non-agriculturists. (*A voice : Were they there in 1919 or were they afterwards recruited ?*) Then there were 11 Sikhs out of whom 10 were agriculturists and 1 was a non-agriculturist. The proportion community-wise is 38.8.....

Pandit Nanak Chand : My friend has not understood my point. What I said was.....

Mr. President : Order, order. I have often explained that the proper time for making a personal explanation is after the member in possession of the House finishes his speech; but if he gives way and resumes his seat when another member rises to make a personal explanation, it may be made immediately.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Now, the percentage that has gone community-wise is as follows: 88.8 per cent. goes to Muhammadans, 30.6 per cent. to Hindus and 80.6 per cent. goes to Sikhs. As the share of Hindu agriculturists cannot go to Muhammadan or Sikh agriculturists, it has gone to Hindu non-agriculturists who get as many as 7 posts out of 11 in the Provincial Agricultural Service. Let us take the next post—that of the Agricultural Assistant. Here 64 posts go to Muhammadans out of whom 63 are agriculturists and 1 non-agriculturist. 56 posts go to Hindus, out of whom only 19 are agriculturists and as many as 37 are non-agriculturists. Then 74 posts go to Sikhs, out of whom 63 are agriculturists and the remaining 11 are non-agriculturists. Has the share of Hindu agriculturists gone over to Sikh agriculturists or to Muhammadan agriculturists? No, it has gone to Hindu non-agriculturists. Then again, Sir, take the posts of clerks. In all there are 108 posts of clerks, out of which 46 go to Muhammadans, 23 of whom are zamindars and 20 non-zamindars; then 46, an equal number, go to Hindus, and out of those 46 only 6 posts go to Hindu agriculturists and as many as 40 posts go to non-agriculturists; among Sikhs out of 18 only 3 are zamindars and 10 non-zamindars. Can it be suggested with any show of reason that the share of Hindu agriculturists has gone to Sikh agriculturists or to Muhammadan agriculturists? The share has been usurped and swallowed up by non-agriculturist Hindus, and that is the reason, the one reason, why the very mention of the rights of zamindars sends a wave of indignation to the hearts of urban Hindus. They are the usurpers. Musselman zamindars have got almost all they are entitled to in the Agricultural Department; the figures show this. The Sikh agriculturists have not got anything like the share to which they are entitled, but they also do not suffer to the same extent as do the Hindu zamindars, and as this division will deprive the urban Hindus, I mean the non-agriculturist Hindus, of a very large number of posts or a very substantial proportion of the patronage which at present goes to them, therefore they are the people who set up this howl. That is the explanation. There is nothing of nationalism or patriotism or anything of that kind about this howl; it is sheer selfishness and a pure question of vested interests.

I will refer to one more instance—that of the Provincial Veterinary Service. The total number of posts in the Department is 21. Out of these 21, 10 posts go to Mussalmans, 8 of whom are agriculturists and 2 non-agriculturists; 5 of these posts go to Hindus and out of these five posts not one falls to the lot of an agriculturist—all go to non-agriculturists; of the remainder, 4 fall to the share of Sikhs, three of which go to zamindars and one to a non-zamindar. Well, Sir, can any one say that the share of Hindu agriculturists has gone to Sikh agriculturists or to Musselman agriculturists?

[Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.]

The bulk of that share has been swallowed up by urban Hindus of non-agricultural classes and that, as I said just now, explains the loud howl which is raised in this House. Under the cloak of religion, under the cloak of nationalism, under the cloak of patriotism, under the cloak of maintaining the solidarity of the Hindu community and under the cloak of maintaining the cultural affinity between the Sikhs and Hindus, this howl, this cry is raised from this House, from the press and from the platform against the zamindar—non-zamindar line of division, but I maintain that the only thing which underlies this howl is class.....

Pandit Nanak Chand : Sir, the honourable member has referred to our speeches as howls; not only on one occasion in this speech, but on several occasions. This, I submit, is a most unparliamentary expression, and the honourable member should withdraw it.

Mr. President : I hope the honourable member will withdraw it unhesitatingly.

Pandit Nanak Chand : You made an appeal to the honourable members yesterday and you would have observed that I used the most moderate language.

Mr. President : I hope the honourable member will withdraw his words.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Personally I do not think that the word "howl".....

Mr. President : A request has been made that the expression objected to may be withdrawn.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : In response to that request I withdraw the expression.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : Sir, do I understand that the word is objectionable even if it is used in idiomatic form? As far as I understood him, he did not refer to the speeches of the honourable members of the House.

Mr. President : I have given my ruling. No discussion on a point of order can be raised without the permission of the Chair.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Then, Sir, a reference was also made to the election of Sardar Buta Singh as Deputy President, and though that point was not strictly relevant to the question under discussion it was brought out and a sort of charge was made against Chaudhri Duli Chand and, also, I think, against myself to the effect that though Sardar Buta Singh was a zamindar we did not stand by him. I beg, to submit, Sir, that my honourable friend does not know what the actual facts are. I not only supported but also formally proposed the name of Sardar Buta Singh and made efforts in several directions which I need not explain. Chaudhri Duli Chand definitely voted for him. Again there was a time when Sardar Buta Singh had the support, the solid support of the whole of the National Unionist Party, but later on when there was a contest between Sardar Buta Singh and Sardar Habib Ullah, only a few members of the National Unionist Party voted for Sardar Buta Singh. But, after all, that does not raise the question of a contest between a zamindar and a non-zamindar. Sardar Habib Ullah

is a zamindar no less than Sardar Bala Singh, and in relation to that point we were not in a position to make any distinction between Sardar Bala Singh and Sardar Habib Ullah.

Then, Sir, more members than one have made a reference to the necessity and advisability of maintaining a proper standard of efficiency in service. I have never said nor will any of the members occupying these benches ever say that due regard should not be paid to considerations of efficiency. We are all for efficiency. But the real difficulty arises when we come to define what the concept of efficiency should be. What is the scope, what is the exact connotation of the term efficiency? Some of my honourable friends will probably contend that efficiency should only be regarded as meaning intellectual brilliancy as denoted by the results of University examinations. I beg to differ from them there, on two grounds. In the first place, University results are no guide to the true intellectual capacity of a candidate. In the next place, even if we were to hold that the results of University examinations give a rough indication of the intellectual attainment of various candidates, I maintain that intellectual attainments alone do not exhaust the connotation of efficiency. There are other qualities of a finer nature, of a more refined character, i.e., subtler moral qualities which are as necessary as academical qualifications or intellectual attainments, and in some cases even more necessary. In almost all departments these qualities will be needed over and above intellectual capacity. Neither a competitive test nor a University examination can bring out those qualities other than intellectual attainment which enter into the concept of efficiency as I understand it. There are many departments where physical courage is needed, where strength of character is needed, where capacity to lead men is needed, where capacity to control and manage men is needed, where power of initiative and organisation is needed. Can any examination bring out these qualities; can any examination results throw any light on the possession or non-possession of these qualities? There is certainly another quality which may be required in certain circumstances, I mean the quality of sympathy, sympathy of a particular individual with the people among whom he has to work. A man may be very clever, he may have passed an examination with very high marks, yet he may lack that element of sympathy with the population in the midst of which he has to work without which his intellectual capacity, however high, will be of no avail. He will prove an utter failure. And, therefore, in certain cases we must insist that the element of sympathy is there. On these grounds I maintain that a zamindar in the Agricultural and Veterinary departments is far better, man for man, than a non-agriculturist and, therefore, the employment of a very large proportion of zamindars in these two departments is essential as much in the interests of efficiency as it is in the interests of justice.

I may be permitted to address a few words through you, Sir, to the Honourable Minister. He took a view of Government employment which does not coincide with mine. He thinks that we should stick to that old maxim of

Utam kheli madham ban, nikhad chakri bink nidhan."

He thinks that every zamindar should confine himself only to agriculture. Being a very big zamindar and a very large landholder probably he does not

[Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.]

understand the difficulties of the small zamindars who after economising their slender resources and stinting themselves in their daily needs, manage to put one of their boys through the school course. After having put a boy through that course, they desire that he should be a source of help to them. I may also tell my honourable friend that, generally speaking, it is only the surplus population of zamindars which goes to schools and colleges and gets an education. Therefore, agricultural interests do not suffer by dearth of men needed for agricultural work by zamindars. I am not advocating the cause of the sons of big landholders and large jagirdars, as the Honourable Minister is. I am advocating the cause of those who undergo a great deal of expenditure and trouble to educate the surplus population of their families in order that after receiving their education these extra hands, so to say, might prove of some economic value to the families.

Another point on which I differ from my honourable friend is this. He probably looks upon Government employment only as a source of earning so much money every month or every year. I do not take that view. I know it is true that every Government appointment means so much money every month or every year to the holder of that appointment. But it is not the money value alone of that post which I have in mind. With Government appointments goes a certain amount of prestige, a certain amount of power which may be used either for the service or disservice of His Majesty's subjects in this Province and in this country. Government employment, again, implies opportunities for service to the humbler sections of society whose cause I am here advocating. Therefore, his view that zamindars should not really be eager for Government posts does not commend itself to me.

Then, my honourable friend made another very surprising statement. He said that our complaints were all groundless and that there was no zamindar agricultural assistant who was without a post. He is misinformed there, and that is exactly my complaint. He does not know what is happening in his departments. Does he know how many candidates passed the 'B' class examination and how many of them were employed last year? (*Honourable Sir Jogendra Singh*: There is no 'B' class). Has the 'B' class been abolished, Sir? Does he know when that class was abolished? Is he aware of a two years' course class at Lyallpur? The real difficulty with my honourable friend is that he has no definite or clear information about his own departments. And he makes the categorical statement that we cannot point out any single zamindar who has passed an examination from the Agricultural College and who has not obtained an appointment. (*Honourable Sir Jogendra Singh*: Can you?) I will give you scores of applications to-morrow if you like, provided these applications do not get lost in your office.

The Honourable Minister also made a reference to certain conclusions which were arrived at by a committee which was appointed in my time. He said that the committee came to such and such a conclusion. I do not know whether it is permissible for any Honourable Minister or a private member to disclose any recommendations that may have been made by a committee. But, since he has made a mention of them, I will advise my

Honourable friend to go through the file carefully. Let him read all the recommendations together and then come to a conclusion as to the drift of those recommendations. Lastly, my Honourable friend took shelter behind the plea that after all the recommendation in favour of raising the educational standard for admission to the Agricultural College was made by a committee on which, besides officials, private members of this Council were also represented and those private members were, Sardar Ujjal Singh, Raja Narendra Nath and Sardar Habibullah Khan. Now I can understand why the standard was raised so easily. And if my honourable friend thinks that he is entitled to make use, in order to reinforce his argument, of a recommendation that may or may not have been made by a previous committee, I may also be allowed to say that Sardar Habibullah protested vehemently against the proposal to raise the standard of admission. The only zamindar member on the Committee was against such a recommendation being made.

Mr. President : Are the proceedings of the committee, referred to by the honourable member, in the hands of honourable members? Were they published?

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I do not know. A reference was made to them by the Honourable the Minister himself.

Mr. President : No reference should be made to a document which is not available.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : I will leave it there, Sir.

I had made it quite clear in the beginning that my intention was not to press this motion to a division or to suggest that my party or myself meant, by this motion, to express a formal condemnation or censure of the policy of the Honourable the Minister for Agriculture. We certainly wanted to draw his attention very forcibly to the defects which have crept into his policy. Now that I have drawn his attention to those defects and he has given an answer which, at least partially, is satisfactory, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

Pandit Nanak Chand : On a point of personal explanation. When I referred to certain services I did not refer to the services in the Agricultural College and other offices where recruitment had already taken place before 1919. I only referred to those services in which recruitment took place after 1919 and 1921, namely, to the posts of Directors, Assistant Directors and others in that line.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Is that a personal explanation?

Mr. President : That will do.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I should like just to say one word.....

Mr. President : Order, order. There is no right of reply when a motion is withdrawn.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The motion asking for leave to withdraw has not yet been put to the House and the House has not yet given the permission to withdraw.

Mr. President : I am going to put the withdrawal to the House. Is it your pleasure that the motion be withdrawn ?

(There were cries of 'yes' and 'no'.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : There is just one important matter to which reference has been made which needs clearing up in this House. Chaudhri Sahib specially mentioned two occasions when, he said, a zamindar was left out and a non-zamindar was promoted. I want to make it clear because it would be an abominable doctrine if this Council accepted the view, that a senior officer should be passed over for promotion in favour of a junior zamindar officer. Durga Dass was senior to Mushtaq Ahmad by some four years and it was not possible to ignore his rights of seniority and appoint a man who was junior to him. It may perhaps satisfy the Chaudhri Sahib if I say that both of them have now been promoted to the Provincial Service. (A voice : What experience has Durga Dass as a surgeon ?) It was not the question of appointing a surgeon but that of promotion to Provincial Service, and I should like to clear the confusion. Durga Dass and Mushtaq Ahmad were both in subordinate service, a vacancy occurred in the Provincial Service which was held by a Surgeon, and Durga Dass was promoted to Provincial Service, and continued to perform his own duties.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : How many black marks had Durga Dass got ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Durga Dass' record was good.

Mr. H. D. Craik : Sir, is it in order to make remarks like this in the Council about individual officers ?

Mr. President : As two officers of the Veterinary Department were particularly mentioned and their claims to promotion were discussed by one honourable member, I think the other members would be in order to elicit some further facts about them.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : May I put a question to the Honourable Minister ? May I know what was the designation of the post to which Mr. Durga Dass was appointed and whether it is a fact that the incumbent of that post was ordinarily expected to perform surgical operations or possess qualifications of a surgical nature and if that is so, whether Mr. Durga Dass possessed any of those qualifications ?

Dr. Gokul Cand, Narang : I just want it to be made clear whether apart from its being in good taste or bad taste, it is permissible for members of this Council to discuss the members of the various services individually. If that precedent is set up the reputation of many Government servants would be torn to pieces by questions put straight to Ministers or heads of departments.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I may straight-away answer the question put to me by saying that the promotion was to Provincial Service and not to a post and the officer so promoted performed the duties for which he was qualified.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Is that an answer to my question ?

Mr. President : Whether it is an answer to the honourable member's question or not is for the honourable member himself to judge. The Honourable Minister has given an answer according to his own lights.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I take it that there is no answer.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It is a bad habit that is beginning to grow in this House to question facts without verifying them, and to take what dissatisfied people say, as truth itself. If the members would only ascertain facts they will be in a better position and I am always ready to give information. I strongly deprecate the raising of these questions and mentioning of names in the Council.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I object to the use of the expression 'bad habit.' I wish the Honourable Minister would withdraw it.

Mr. President : What did the Honourable Minister say ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : I said that it is a bad habit to bring forward names of officers for discussion in the Council.

Mr. President : Order, order. When Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhoti Ram, in illustrating his case, kept back the names and simply said A was appointed in preference to B almost all honourable members of the House, especially the Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh, desired that the real names of the persons concerned should be given. Not a single voice was raised against the mention of names. Thus it was in accordance with the wishes of the Council that I called upon the honourable member for Rohlak to mention the names of officials about whom he spoke. Besides, when specific instances have to be discussed with a view to show the injustice done to individuals or to show that the Ministers have not acted properly, the mention of names is inevitable; otherwise the Minister concerned will not be able to appreciate and meet the criticism hurled against the proper exercise of his power. It is not very graceful indeed that the names of individual officers should be mentioned in the Council, but if a Minister is expected to explain his action, it is only fair, nay, necessary, that he should know the names of persons who are alleged to have been treated by him fairly or unfairly.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (Revenue Member) : I have simply got up to explain the position of the Government in a matter like this. It is very distressing to see that this discussion has taken a turn which may lead us to generalisations about the future course to be adopted just from this one instance. It would be a great mistake for me to request you to lay down a law as to whether in future individual officers should be criticised or not or the action of Ministers or Members or heads of departments in making particular appointments should be brought under discussion or not. I am glad that in your pronouncement you have simply summed up the position as it developed from the beginning of the discussion right up to the end and did not, as our President, lay down any ruling whatsoever whether it should be done or it should not be done. It is, as you rightly hinted, dependent upon the good sense of the House itself. Members have a right, but it is much better to understand our obligations rather than our rights. All our rights are not intended to be exercised and exercised rigorously. Far be it from me to hint that any member of this House

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

should forfeit any right that under the constitution he possesses. But it will not be wrong on my part to say that the exercise of all those rights might not always be resorted to and if they have to be inevitably resorted to, they should be resorted to in a way which will be conducive to the best interests of the services, their efficiency, their good name and everything relating to them. I have not the slightest doubt that the matter is of the utmost concern to this House, for, heads of departments may come and they may go; Ministers may be in office for a day, or a year or even ten years. But it is the Legislative Council to which belongs the privilege, the right, the duty of seeing that the integrity of the services is kept and maintained intact. There may be individual cases of good appointment or bad appointment. I have got nothing to do with that. The Council has no doubt to see that the discretion vested in me and my colleagues is properly exercised. But I beseech you to see that the Council does not develop into a committee which is going to check individual cases of appointments because although constitutionally it may have a right to do so, it is a right which by custom, by tradition, by long practice and by convention, the bodies, after the pattern of which our Council has been constituted, have not thought fit to exercise. I will not go so far as to say that I humbly advise the Council not to exercise that right, but I will say that they should exercise it very seldom and that this session should not become from the beginning to the end a discussion of individual cases in which unpleasantness is involved. I am sure honourable members will not press this matter of controversy of individual appointments. It is impossible for the best appointment that has been made and perfectly in good faith to be so explained in Council as to enable each member of the Council to arrive at an independent decision as to its merits or demerits. It is impossible, it cannot be done. Therefore, I request that the honourable members will kindly consider again the position and leave this debate on individual cases where it is, holding not that one party or the other has scored a victory, but practically treating the debate so far as the individual cases are concerned as if it did not form part of the controversy.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Sir, after what the Honourable Leader of the House has said I have nothing more to say. There is only one more matter to which I should like to refer and that is the percentage of the zamindars in the services. Take the Provincial Agricultural Service. The percentage was 69 in 1927 and in 1928 it was 75. Take the case of the Agricultural Assistants. The percentage was 70 in 1927 and 74 to-day. In the case of Mukaddams it was 91 in 1927 and 94 now. If I may mention, only 4 non-zamindars were admitted to the Lyallpur College out of 68. I may also say, Sir, that so far as the Agricultural Department is concerned, its head is a zamindar, its staff is overwhelmingly zamindar, its work is among the zamindars and it is for the benefit of the zamindars.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1."

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : On a point of order, Sir, I submit that no decision was given on the motion for leave to withdraw?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : The honourable member is sitting in his place and raising the point of order.

Mr. President : If a point of order is to be raised, when a division is going on, the member raising the point should not rise. He should remain seated.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : No decision was given on the motion for leave to withdraw, Sir.

Mr. President : Even if there is one dissentient voice, the Chair has to take it that the House is not willing to give leave. But there were many voices in this case.

The question is—

"That the grant be reduced by Re. 1."

The motion was lost.

Mr. President : The honourable Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan has moved a motion to the effect that in the discussion of demands for grants speeches may be limited to five minutes in the case of non-official members and to ten minutes in the case of Government members.

Mr. Labh Singh : Is it in order, Sir, to move a motion of that kind?

Mr. President : It is open to the House to fix a time limit to speeches.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : It may be 12 minutes in the case of Government members.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I have no doubt that the House will realise that the budget demands are a matter of very great importance to the House, and where a question of fixing the policy especially in the matter of the transferred departments is concerned, the question is whether the Honourable Ministers should not have an adequate opportunity of placing their point of view before the House.

Mr. President : I was just going to say, that in the case of Government members, it should be left to the Chair to give them as much time as it thinks necessary in order to enable them to defend themselves when they are attacked. But in the case of other members, 10 or 15 minutes, as the House may decide, will do. However, the movers of reduction motions will get the same amount of time as the Members of Government. Does the House wish to fix 10 or 15 minutes for non-official members?

Several honourable members : Ten minutes.

Mr. President : The House appears to be in favour of ten minutes.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Sir, is it permissible to pass a motion like this? I wish to oppose this motion as it curtails a valuable privilege.

Mr. President : I am not going to allow a speech. But if the honourable member wishes to oppose the motion, he is at liberty to do so.

Pandit Nanak Chand : I want to explain my views to the House.

Mr. President : I do not propose to permit a discussion. The honourable member may vote against the motion.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : In view of the fact that my motion has caused a misapprehension in the minds of my honourable friends on the left, I would rather not move it.

Mr. President : Does the honourable member wish to withdraw the motion?

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : Yes, Sir.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. President : I may inform the honourable member that only 38 minutes more can be devoted to the discussion of the grant under consideration.

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan [Jhelum, Muhammadan Bural], (Urdu) : Sir, I beg to move—

"That the total grants be reduced by Rs. 1."

(To press the Government to sink wells with machinery for irrigating land in the Jhelum District.)

Sir, the lands in the various bars which were lying uncultivated and uncared for only a few years back have been brought under cultivation and turned into voritable gardens by the introduction of canals. This benevolent act of the Government has contributed much to the prosperity of the province and the people have now got rid of the droughts and famines which used to visit the province so frequently. We are thankful to the Government for all this. But, I submit, Sir, that now there is not much scope for the introduction of new canals in the province and, therefore, it is time that the Government began to pay attention to the sad plight of the unfortunate people inhabiting hilly tracts. The land in the Rawalpindi division is rocky and very difficult to cultivate. The presence of ravines makes the condition all the worse, because even if a long expected shower of rain does happen to fall in this part of the province the water is at once carried to the river through those streams. On a previous occasion too I made a reference to our sad plight but failed to get any favourable assurance. Sir, before the introduction of canals people did not complain of their hard lot so much but now everyone wants more land to feed himself and his family. The Government cannot meet the wishes of all of them because it has not got so much land as might be sufficient for the purpose. I, therefore, request the Government to help those unfortunate people by sinking wells in these districts. I assure the Government that if any *abiana* is imposed in this connection we will not grudge it.

Now Sir, let me anticipate an objection that might be raised by the Government. It may be said that my proposal is impracticable because, firstly, the land is too rocky and the efforts of the Government may not be crowned with success and, secondly, that even if a certain amount of success is achieved the profit accruing out of it may not be sufficient to justify the expenditure which the suggestion involves.

With regard to the first part of the objection let me say that no sane person will care to endorse it because practically there is no enterprise which can be considered too great or impossible of achievement by modern science.

As to the second objection, I must admit that it carries some weight and it is quite clear that if my suggestion is accepted, the venture cannot be expected to prove so good a bargain as the introduction of canals in districts like Lyallpur. But permit me to say, Sir, that such an attitude would be against the true spirit of good government. It is the duty of every civilized government not to confine its activities to profitable enterprises

only, and not to extend its sympathy and regard to a particular section only, ignoring the grievances of the poorer classes. The condition of the people of the Rawalpindi division can be judged by the fact that when the cotton-crop is about to mature hundreds and thousands of them leave their homes and proceed to the cotton crop areas to pick cotton. I do not want to mention the hardships they have to undergo during this period. Suffice it to say that it is after a long and protracted absence from their homes and undergoing disgraceful treatment at the hands of the people among whom their lot has been thrown temporarily that they are able to earn a small amount of money by which to make both ends meet for a few months.

Another objection also might be raised by some of my honourable friends here. There is a saying that "God helps those who help themselves" the equivalent of which in Persian language is:—

همت مردان مدد خدا

Some one might accost me with the question what the people in the Jhelum district have done to help themselves, and in reply I would request that gentleman to pay a visit to the district, where I will be able to show him a large number of dams which have been thrown out of use and which have been washed away or fallen out of repairs bearing eloquent testimony to the continued efforts of the people. But now, Sir, the conditions are such that we are absolutely unable to put them right, not to speak of sinking new wells and constructing new dams. Let it be remembered that this part of the province was not always poor and wretched. There was a time when we too enjoyed a fair amount of affluence and prosperity. The Chakwal tahsil of the Jhelum district and a small trip of Rawalpindi went by the name of "Malhi ki Dhann." Those who have had occasion to read the memoirs of Emperor Bahar must be aware of the praise of the Dhanni horses recorded therein by the said Emperor. But now no good horse is to be seen and one comes across only a few wretched ponies owned by the money lending classes. This is all due to the poverty of the people, who cannot afford to rear horses, in preference to their children. This, Sir, is our sad plight which is difficult for those enjoying prosperity to appreciate. As the poet Hafiz, says:—

شب تاریک و نیم روز و گرد آید چمن حائل
کجا داند حال ما سبکسازان ساحل

The Government must remember that these people are responsible for the defence of the country and, therefore, it is not a wise policy to allow the present conditions to continue. Poverty and want are the fountain-head of immorality and deterioration. Therefore, if nothing is done to help these martial classes they are sure to lose their vitality. Sir, I do not ask the Government to confine its attention to my district only, all I wish to emphasise is that we too deserve its attention and sympathy. The loyal and brave people of my district are feeling the pinch of hunger and I request the Government to help them. This, Sir, is our humble request and I presume my seat after addressing a verse to the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, which runs as follows:—

گل پرینے ہیں او روں کی طرف بلاء شریبی
اے کلاہ بر انداز چمن کیجیہ تو ادھر بھی

Mr. President: Demand under consideration, motion moved.

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1,!

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (Minister for Agriculture) : Sir, I sympathise with the object of the mover, realising that Jhelum has about 600,000 acres of land out of which only 80,000 acres are irrigated. My attention was drawn to this by the popular Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Wilson, who is now our Revenue Secretary. He told me when I visited Jhelum how this district was suffering from want of irrigation. Immediately I asked the Department to select three typical areas and to make experiments by boring wells. Three typical areas were selected, one was at Dhulmal near Salt Range and we carried the boring to a depth of 101 feet where we met a hard rock and no water was discovered. Another bore was started at Bhim and that was carried to 809 feet without success and no water was discovered. The third area was taken up in a place called Lilla and we went to a depth of 280 feet without discovering any water. I can assure the honourable member that we are not going to drop the experiments in Jhelum. We started another experiment in Rawalpindi where we secured the services of a rock driller and even there we were disappointed. We went to a depth of 700 feet and no water was discovered. We are now trying to find other areas where experiments may be started. If we can by drilling or by any other method discover any supply of water for Jhelum, I can assure the honourable member, the Department will do its best (*Hear, hear*). In view of what I have said, I assure the honourable mover will not care to press his motion further. In any case I am not going to oppose him.

Mr. President : Is the honourable member prepared to withdraw his motion after the assurance given by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture?

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan : (Urdu) : Sir, I have already pointed out that the Government always tries to pacify us with evasive assurances. Whenever its attention is drawn to the grievances of the people one of the official members at once gets up to say that the Government has done this and the Government has done that in this connection and that some proposals for further development are still under consideration.....

Mr. President : Is the honourable member prepared to withdraw his motion or not?

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan : I will have it on, Sir. I am not withdrawing it.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana (Muhammadan) Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, I expected that the honourable member would withdraw his motion after the assurance given by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and I wish he had done so. But now that he wants to press the motion on, let me say a few words with regard to the matter to which he has drawn the attention of the Government and the House. Sir, I have every sympathy with the inhabitants of the Rawalpindi and Jhelum districts and I wish I could support the amendment moved by their honourable representative but there are certain facts and reasons which compel me to request the House to reject this motion. It has been universally admitted that it is exceedingly difficult to sink wells in these districts. The Government has tried to sink wells in that part of the province and has spent a

good deal of money and labour on the experiment. But the land being rocky the experiment proved a total failure. I admit that if the Government goes on trying one place after another it may be possible to sink one or two wells. But no sane person can recommend such a process because the result will not justify the expenditure thereon and this couple of wells will not be sufficient for irrigation purposes. Thus the land being naturally unfit for sinking wells it will be absolutely unwise to spend any more money on such useless experiments and I would advise the department to think of some other plan for helping the people of these districts.

Sir, I do not know much with regard to the fertility of the soil in that part of the province. It is just possible that the sinking of wells may make the people wealthy and prosperous. But even in that case there will be a danger of which I must warn the Government as well as the House. My honourable friend, Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan, has been singing the praises of his constituents and I am free to admit that we are all of us very proud of their achievements in the various battlefields. But it will not be wise on our part even to think of making these people too wealthy and prosperous because, then, there will be the danger of this martial race of ours becoming absolutely extinct. These people are responsible for the defence of the country and have been very useful to the Government. They got Tripoli for the Government, they conquered Iraq and many other places, and even now they are thinking of helping the Government in conquering Arabia. Thus they have done for the Government.....

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Is it not ironical?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : No, it is not. But you may take it that way if you like.

Mr. President : What did the honourable member say?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I was saying, Sir, that, as my honourable friend Nawab Sahib has pointed out, these people have rendered very useful services to the Government in various battlefields and, therefore, we cannot afford to weaken our defence by making them too rich. If they become capitalists they will not care to join His Majesty's forces for Rs. 17 a month and as the Legislative Assembly is very keen on effecting economy in the Military Department we will not be able to offer them any higher salaries.

Thus from both points of view the proposal of my honourable friend is unacceptable. Firstly, the land in these districts is unfit for sinking wells and the Government has already spent a lot of money in this direction without the least success. Therefore, any further experiments will be a sheer waste of money. Secondly, we cannot afford to let affluence be the cause of the deterioration of these brave people who are so useful for the defence of the country. Under these circumstances, it will be much better if instead of wasting money on these experiments the Government tries to sink wells in other districts where it is comparatively easy to do so, e.g., Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Ferozepore, Rohtak, etc.

Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath [Punjab Landholders (General)] (Urdu) : Sir, I too have some experience of this district although it is 83 years old now. At that time the plight of the agriculturists was really

[Bajo Narendra Nath.]

very sad in that part of the province and I am told that agricultural conditions there have not improved to any appreciable extent during such a long period and that even now these poor people are no better than they were 33 years ago. I beg to submit Sir, that the poor but brave people of this district deserve every sympathy and help at the hands of the Government. Every proposal that comes for consideration in this Council is, unfortunately, made the cause of contention between zamindars and non-zamindars. But let me assure the House and especially my honourable friends on the opposite benches that whenever a really useful and reasonable proposal is put forward every member whether he comes from a rural or an urban constituency will be only too glad to lend his support to it. The Honourable Minister was pleased to remark that the subsoil in this district is rocky and, therefore, it is very difficult to sink wells there. I quite agree with him. But it cannot be denied that it is the people of such districts who have the best and foremost claims on the sympathy and help of the Government. These people cannot help themselves to any great extent. The land in the Jhelum district being rocky the people cannot be sure of getting water if they tried to sink a well. Therefore, it is but natural that they should hesitate to spend money in this direction. This is also a reason why they hesitate to ask for treasury loans.

Now, Sir, as it is already getting late I will not say anything more. With these few words I support the amendment moved by Nawab Talib Mehdi Khan and I hope that all the honourable members sitting on this side of the House will also lend their support to it.

Mr. W. R. Wilson (Revenue Secretary): Sir, the honourable member for Hoshiarpur comes from a district which I believe is known as the "Garden of the Punjab" (*hear, hear*) and I wish to say that if he, coming from a garden as he does had himself seen in 1926 and 1927 the difficulties to which the Awans in the Jhelum Salt Range were put in trying not to irrigate their fields but endeavouring to get a prime necessity of life, drinking water, he would not then have objected to a suggestion made to the Agricultural Department that it should try to do something to improve the supply of water in wells that already exist, and also to endeavour to advise on localities where wells should be sunk in the future. I say that if the honourable member for Hoshiarpur had seen the conditions that prevailed in the Salt Range during the summer of 1927, I do not think he would have said that a modest attempt on the part of the Agricultural Department to improve conditions in the Salt Range was an unwise and ill-advised effort. As a matter of fact, what I suggested was simply that something might be done in the way of endeavouring to bring to completion several wells that the Awan villagers in the Jhelum hill have sunk, in the hope of getting water but who having gone down to a depth of 100 feet or thereabouts were met by stone, not only sandstone but hard lime stone, and had to leave the wells unfinished. That was my suggestion, but the Agricultural Department went further. They bored three wells, as pointed out by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture—one in Chakwal, where it was desirable to see whether there was any chance of getting water in that upland plateau, one in the village of Dhukial (Salt Range) which has the finest rearing record in India to its credit, and the third in the Pind Dadan Khan Thal,

where it might have been expected that water would be found at not a great depth. The Chakwal bore had gone down to 320 feet, the Dhulmial one to 100 feet and the Thal one to 200 feet. But up to the present these experiments have not been successful. If they had been successful, the little money which has been spent in making the experiments would have been well justified.

The fact is that nature in Jhelum has been niggardly. Jhelum is split up into broken country and it is impossible to have canals which have been the cause of prosperity to the Central Punjab, but it is because of the niggardliness of nature and not the fault of the Agricultural Department that the district lags behind the Central Punjab. You cannot blame the Department for that any more than you can blame the Department for finding difficulty in keeping an acclimatized cotton from deteriorating. And when the honourable member for Jhelum said that the present conditions in Jhelum are "no gufta be" I could not help recalling the remarks of a visitor who came to see me about a fortnight ago and said that the crops were such "ki koi hisab nahin." That perhaps may have been the meaning of the honourable member; at any rate it is true that there have never been such crops for a very long time as there are at the present moment, because Jhelum is a barani district and this year nature has been kind and has sent bountiful rain and some fine floods for the *robi*.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the question be now put."

Mr. President The question is—

"That the question be now put."

The motion was carried.

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan [Jhelum (Muhammadan) Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, I am very much surprised to hear what my honourable friend Chaudhri Afzal Haq has said with regard to my amendment. Had he said such and such a thing should be done for the Hoshiarpur district I would have been only too glad to support him. Let him come forward with a proposal that two crores of rupees should be spent for the welfare of his constituents and he will have my support. But to say that the Government should pay attention to the needs and grievances of the Hoshiarpur district only and let the other parts of the province go to hell is, to say the least, against all canons of justice and sportsmanlike spirit.

But let me drop this topic and pass over to another remark made by the Chaudhri Sahib. He was pleased to say that the inhabitants of the Jhelum district should not be allowed to become rich because it is only while their stomachs are empty that they can be expected to offer a good fight to the enemy like the proverbial hungry quail. But you will permit me to ask, Sir, why my honourable friend did not come forward with this invaluable piece of advice when the proposals and schemes for enriching the martial classes in other districts by the introduction of canals were introduced and accepted by this Council. I have already pointed out that poverty is the fountain head of immorality. In all religions of the world one finds such a prayer as "O God, save us from want and hunger!" Then how can you expect that the martial classes in the Jhelum district will be

[Nawab Talib Mehdi Khan.]

able to maintain their traditions with empty stomachs? Sir, we do not ask for being made capitalists or to be afforded opportunities to possess magnificent motor cars and other luxuries. All we require is sufficient food and clothes for ourselves and our families and we will be quite content with our lot. As regards the defence of the country and our joining His Majesty's forces if it be the pleasure of my honourable friend Chaudhri Afzal Haq I will be only too ready to write a bond to the effect that we will continue to render as good services to the Crown and the country as we have been doing in the past.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: Empty-stomached?

Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan: No, Sir, that would be impossible. No man with an empty stomach can be expected to offer a good fight in the battlefield.

I have given notice of another motion for reduction of a grant and I do not know whether I will be allowed by the Chair to refer to it.

(At this stage the time allowed for the discussion of the grant being over the honourable member was requested to resume his seat.)

Mr. President: Grant under consideration, amendment moved—

“That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.”

The question is that that amendment be adopted.

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 56,38,699 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 1920 in respect of Agriculture.”

The motion was carried.

MEDICAL (RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED) AND PUBLIC HEALTH (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

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

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 71,60,500 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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 1920 in respect of Medical (Reserved and Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).”

Mr. President: The question is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 71,60,500 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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 1920 in respect of Medical (Reserved and Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).”

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan: [Sialkot (Muhammadan) Rural]: Sir, I rise to move—

“That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 15,15,300—Public Health Establishment.”

As honourable members are aware the main function of the Public Health Department is to take steps in the direction of prevention, that is to say, to take steps to put down diseases or the recurrence of diseases.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : On a point of order, Sir. The other day you were pleased to give a ruling to the effect that cuts with respect to the total grant should come first before the items in respect to it could be discussed.

Mr. President : Motions for reduction of Rs. 1 only are not economic motions made with the object of saving money or reducing the grant. Their object generally is (i) to examine the policy of the Government ; (ii) to criticise the policy of the Ministers ; or (iii) to emphasise the grievances of the public or the services. Therefore, in discussing the last two demands, such motions were taken up before the reductions on items. But in the past we have been discussing individual items before the total grant. This is the correct practice and should not be departed from and I have already instructed the office accordingly.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I was submitting, Sir, that honourable members are aware that the main object of the Public Health Department was to take steps to prevent the prevalence or recurrence of epidemics and diseases in the Province. As I have risen to discuss the administration of the department both with regard to its activities in the Province and also so far as strict office administration and other cognate matters are concerned, I shall not begin by paying the usual compliments which in the present case may be taken for granted. For whatever the department has achieved so far it is entitled to the gratitude of the Province and of this House. My object is to draw attention to some of its shortcomings. There is no doubt that in several cases in recent years when epidemics have broken out in any part of the Province, the staff and the equipment of the department have not been found equal to the demands made upon them. Being outside the department myself, I cannot arrogate to myself the function of apportioning the blame as to where it should exactly lie. But there can be no doubt that the department generally must be held responsible for these shortcomings. Inasmuch as the activities of this department are so vitally connected with the health and happiness of the people of this Province any shortcoming in that respect is extremely to be deplored. In at least three recent instances, the outbreak of plague at Multan two years ago, the outbreak of cholera at Kasur, I believe, in 1927 and the outbreak of cholera in the Kangra Valley last year, the department, as is generally known, did not come up to the standard of efficiency which is expected of it and the immediate steps that were necessary to take on the occasion of such outbreaks were not taken. I shall not attempt to discuss those outbreaks in detail, certainly not the first two of them as those relate to a comparatively earlier period. But I wish to draw the attention of the House to the facts connected with the outbreak of cholera in the Kulu Valley last year.

With regard to the inefficiency of the department on that occasion certain protests were also addressed to the press. The salient facts are that cholera broke out in the Kulu Valley as early as the end of March or the beginning of April and the epidemic continued unchecked except for the

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

frantic efforts of the very limited normal district staff to cope with it, for several weeks before steps were taken by the headquarters of the department to deal effectively with the spread of the epidemic. It was even alleged that it was only when the menace to Simla itself became serious that the department bastirred itself in order to cope with the epidemic. Whether that is so or not, there is no doubt that many lives were lost and a great deal of suffering was caused to no doubt comparatively poorer people; but honourable members will agree that in respect of suffering and death and illness, no distinction can possibly be made between the poor and the rich. As I was saying, many lives were lost and a great deal of suffering was caused to the people in the Kulu Valley before the department took effective steps with regard to providing adequate staff and adequate equipment to enable them to check the further spread of the disease. Everybody will agree that the criticism with regard to lack of efficiency on the part of the department in that respect had absolutely nothing either racial or communal about it. It was a question of ordinary humane principles and the working of one of the departments of Government. Letters were addressed to the press. Some of them appeared in the *Civil and Military Gazette*. Notes were also written by several organs of the press drawing attention to this lack of efficiency on behalf of the department. The *Civil and Military Gazette* condemned the slow working of the department and even after the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government had been into the Kulu Valley and had concluded his tour and a representative of one of the local papers had interviewed him, after giving due weight to the difficulties pointed out by him, that paper nevertheless expressed its dissatisfaction with the way in which this outbreak was handled by the department. As I have said, I am not trying to apportion blame in this respect between the different sections of the department as I have not sufficient inside knowledge of the working of the department. But it must be conceded that when there has been such a serious outbreak of an epidemic disease, a disease of that particular virulence which spreads so rapidly, to permit several weeks to elapse before the heads of the department should bestir themselves as to any effective measures in order to check the disease calls for the strongest censure from this House. And as I have submitted that is not a solitary instance. I have given two more instances, of an older date no doubt, but sufficiently recent to be within the recollection of honourable members. And the point that I wish to make is this. The department may be all right with regard to the usual carrying out of inoculation and visiting places by the District and Municipal Medical Officers of Health and with regard to the tours of the Assistant Directors and the Director of Public Health and all that sort of routine business, but whenever the efficiency of the department has been tested with regard to this main object the department has been found wanting and has not justified its existence and the spending of large sums of money both upon its personnel and upon its equipment. I do not for a moment mean to imply that grants which are being made to this department should be reduced or that as a matter of fact they should not be considerably increased in order to expand the activities of the department. What I want to draw attention to is that along with these grants and increased grants as time might justify, the department must be alive to the calls which are from time to time made upon

it and be ready to meet these calls when they are made. Otherwise, if our experience of the past were repeated this House must come to the conclusion that the department is really a luxury, like an army in times of peace which is not able to achieve anything in times of war.

With regard to any suggestions as to what might be done, I might draw attention to one or two particular complaints made during the prevalence of the cholera epidemic in the Kulu Valley. One complaint was that sufficient vaccine was not available to carry out extensive inoculation operations, and to a certain extent the blame was laid upon some sort of red tape regulation which had to be complied with, that vaccine had to travel all the way from Simla to Dharmasala before it could be taken to Kulu and to the Medical Officer who was trying to deal with the epidemic on the spot. Whether that was so or not a certain amount of delay was caused and surely several weeks should not have been permitted to elapse before the necessary equipment were placed at the disposal of the medical officer.

Another difficulty which I understand exists at present is that there is an entire lack of co-ordination between the headquarters and the offices of the various Assistant Directors of Health in the several circles. I am not aware of the process actually followed by the headquarters in order to co-ordinate the various activities of the different members of the department in the different circles of the Province, for instance, whether any conferences are periodically held between those who are in charge of the circles and the Director of Public Health, whether any questions of principle or procedure are settled at those conferences and whether there is any exchange of views. So far as I am aware that is not being done. And I understand also that it is being felt that there is not given enough latitude or scope to the Assistant Directors of Health for initiative in regard to the carrying out of any policy which they may consider advisable to adopt, within their respective circles, that there is too much red tape and too much interference and too little co-operation between the various officers of the department. I do not know whether that criticism is fully justified and I am not absolutely sure about it, but any explanation which either the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government or the Director of Public Health will put forward with regard to this criticism, I shall be very willing to attentively listen to.

Mr. President: The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m. to-morrow.

The Council accordingly adjourned till 2 p.m. on Friday, the 22nd March, 1929.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 22nd March 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.

OATH OF OFFICE.

The following member was sworn in :—

Colonel H. M. Mackenzie (Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

BATALA ALIWAJ ROAD.

*2102. **Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the road from Batala to Aliwal in the Gurdaspur district has been taken over by the Public Works Department ;
- (b) if so, whether it is proposed to extend the metalling of this road from Aliwal to Fatehgarh, Ramdas or Ajnala ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It is proposed to take over this road next April for maintenance by the Public Works Department.

(b) As there is no intention of taking over the road beyond Aliwal for maintenance from Provincial funds the proposal has not been considered by Government.

TEMPORARY ENGINEERS IN THE IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

*2103. **Dr. Gokal Chand Narang :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a warning was issued to the Temporary Engineers in the Irrigation Department since the starting of Sutlej Valley Project that their services might be dispensed with on completion of the work ;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that new appointments of Temporary Engineers have been made notwithstanding the fact that a reduction in the strength of Temporary Engineers was contemplated ;
- (c) Will the Honourable Member be pleased to state the names of the Temporary Engineers, with their academic and other qualifications, appointed during the last two years ?

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

(b) Yes, but the new appointments have been made to fill vacancies.

(c) A statement is attached.

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

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES OF TEMPORARY ENGINEERS, WITH THEIR QUALIFICATIONS, RECRUITED SINCE 1927.

Serial No.	Name.	Qualifications.
1	M. Muhammad Ishaq Khan ..	Civil Engineering Class, Thomason College, Roorkee, 1911.
2	Mr. K. D'Souza (Mechanical Engineer).	Junior Cambriggs. (He was promoted from Sub-ordinate rank).
3	Sh. Farman Ali ..	Civil Engineering Class, Thomason College, Roorkee, 1910.
4	L. Behari Lal, Chopra ?	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Glasgow, 1914.
5	Mr. Sohan Lal, Bhatia ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Edinburgh, 1921.
6	Mr. Hakimullah ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Bristol, 1923.
7	Mirza Muhammad Ismail ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Glasgow, 1926.
8	Ch. Ali Muhammad ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Sheffield, 1923.
9	Malik Amir Baksh ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Edinburgh, 1922.
10	L. Gurbaksh Rai, Chopra ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of King's College, London, 1923.
11	Ch. Ghulam Qadir Khan ..	(1) City and Guilds Engineering College, London, 1923. (2) Royal Technical College, Glasgow, 1927.
12	S. Gurcharan Singh, Nakol ..	Civil Engineering, University of Sheffield, 1926.
13	S. Sant Singh ..	B.Sc. in Engineering, University of Glasgow 1926.
14	L. Vidya Ratna, Gorawar ..	Civil Engineering Class, Thomason College, Roorkee, 1926.
15	L. Bishambar Sarup, Mathur (Electrical and Mechanical Engineer).	Baroda Technical Institute, 1923.
16	L. Suraj Parkash, Sawhney ..	Civil Engineering Class, University of Sheffield, 1927.
17	M. Khurshaid Samdani ..	B.Sc. Civil Engineering, United States of America.
18	Malik Bashir Ahmad ..	B.Sc., Civil Engineering, University of Glasgow, 1927.
19	Bhai Narindar Singh, Sandhawala ..	B.Sc., Civil Engineering, University of Sheffield, 1924.
20	M. Muhammad Hayat ..	B.Sc. Civil Engineering, University of Bristol, 1926.
21	Mr. F. H. F. Manakshaw ..	B.Sc. Civil Engineering, London, 1926.
22	M. Mir Bashir ..	B.Sc. Civil Engineering, University of Edinburgh, 1927. (Resigned).
23	Lala Hukam Chand, Gupta ..	B.Sc. Civil Engineering, University of Bristol, 1926. (Has accepted offer of appointment but has not as yet joined).

PREPARATION OF LIST OF IMAMS AND CONDUCT OF POLICE.

***2104. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Police of Lahore are preparing a list of the Imams of Lahore mosques ;
- (b) if so, for what purposes ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a Police Officer approached Maulana Ghulam Murshid of Bhati Gate and Maulana Ahmad Ali of Sheranwala Gate, and impertinently demanded the names and father's name of the said Maulanas ;
- (d) if it is a fact that the unwarranted intrusion of the police officer has been resented by thousands of their followers ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that several articles appeared in the local Muslim dailies, protesting against the behaviour of the police officer ;
- (f) if so, what action Government intend to take in the matter ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, but no impertinence was shown to either of them.

(d) and (e) Government has no information except that a few articles appeared in certain local Muslim dailies, protesting against the action of the police officer.

(f) Government does not intend to take any action in the matter.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I know why the police asked for the name and father's name of each of these Maulanas ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I should like to have notice of the question, Sir.

GRANT OF LAND TO CRIMINAL TRIBES.

***2105. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that certain plots of land were granted to the members of the original tribes in the different settlements in the Punjab ;
- (b) whether the land was granted on " peasant conditions " to them ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a large number of them have so held it ever since 1865 ;
- (d) whether it is contemplated to grant proprietary rights to them ?

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

(b) No. The conditions on which the land was granted varied considerably ; but in no case was there any condition providing for the acquisition of proprietary right by the tenant.

(c) Some of the settlements, in which criminal tribesmen live, have been in existence since 1865.

(d) No.

COPIES OF THE PUNJAB CRIMINAL TRIBES ACT.

***2106. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Criminal Tribes Act (v) in English, (vi) in Urdu is not open to sale to the public

(b) if so, why ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, is an All-India Act and copies both in English and Urdu may be obtained from the Central Book Depot, Calcutta.

LOW PAID CLERKS' FAMILY BUDGET.

***2107. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

(a) if he is aware of the publication of a book by Mrs. Caleb on the "low-paid clerks' family budgets" in the Punjab ;

(b) whether the book is published by the Punjab Economic Inquiry Committee appointed by the Government ;

(c) whether Government have under consideration any proposals to revise the scales of the salaries of the low-paid clerks in the light of the findings in the book ?

Ma. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) The book was published under the auspices of the Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab, which is a non-official body.

(c) No. The honourable member's attention is invited to the debate on the resolution moved by Lala Bodh Raj on the 22nd July 1927. Mrs. Caleb's investigation was conducted in the early months of 1920. In the same year an officer was placed on special duty to examine the whole case of the clerical services, and as a result of his recommendations a general revision of pay was made.

MOTOR ACCIDENTS.

***2108. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of motor accidents that occurred in the Punjab in 1928 ;

(b) the number of passengers (i) killed, (ii) wounded in them ;

(c) what steps have been taken to prevent the accidents ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) (b) and (c). The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to unstarred Council question No. 490¹ asked in 1927. A committee was appointed by Government to consider the question of controlling motor traffic more closely and efficiently, especially vehicles which ply for hire. The report of that committee is now under the consideration of Government.

LORRIES AND CARS FOR HIRE.

*2109. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing—

- (a) the different places in the Punjab between which motor lorries and cars ply for hire ;
- (b) the approximate number of the lorries and cars that run from and to those places every day ;
- (c) whether motor stands are provided at each of those places or not ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : The honourable member apparently wants to suggest that motor stands be provided where this is practicable. This is being borne in mind.

PUNJAB REVENUE PATWARIS' CONFERENCE.

*2110. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether he has received the resolutions passed by the Punjab Revenue Patwaris' Conference held at Amritsar on the 26th and 27th of January 1929 ;
- (b) if so, what action he has taken on them ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : Attention of the honourable member is drawn to the reply given to Council question No. 2068¹ on the subject.

PUNJAB CANAL PATWARIS' ASSOCIATION.

*2111. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Canal Patwaris' Association has been ordered not to apply for registration under the Indian Trade Unions Act ;
- (b) if so, will he kindly give reasons for the order ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : Attention of the honourable member may be drawn to the reply to Council question No. 2007².

DAILY ALLOWANCE TO SUBORDINATES IN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

*2112. **Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the enhanced rate of daily allowance has not been sanctioned for the subordinates in the Engineering Department ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that it has been sanctioned for the officers of 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades ;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons for depriving the subordinates in question of the allowance ?

¹ Page 935 ante.

² Page 843 ante.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) Yes. But the subordinates in the Engineering Department have not been treated differently from subordinates in other departments.

(c) The enhanced rates were designed to enable superior officers to revert to the old fashioned type of touring under which marches were ordinarily short and the officers spent two or three days in one place, saw the people and the country and then proceeded to the next stage. For officers of grades below grade IV, of whom this type of touring is not generally required, the existing daily allowances are considered sufficient.

DEPARTMENTAL PUNISHMENT IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

***2113. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no explanation is taken from (i) the Engineering, and (ii) Revenue, subordinates of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department, when they are departmentally punished ;

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking the explanation ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

FREE QUARTERS FOR MEMBERS OF THE SUBORDINATE ENGINEERING SERVICE.

***2114. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that free quarters are not provided by the Government for the members of the Subordinate Engineering Service ;

(b) whether he has received any complaints that the absence of free quarters is causing great hardship to and discontentment among them ;

(c) if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The Engineering Subordinates' Association have made representations on the subject and Government is considering the matter.

ENGINEERING SUBORDINATES' ASSOCIATION.

***2115. Mr. M. A. Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Engineering Subordinates' Association forwarded to Government a number of representations in 1927 and 1928 regarding the discounting of their 9 years' service ;

(b) if so, what action has been taken on those representations ?

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

(b) Conclusions reached are under further consideration.

SUBORDINATE AND PROVINCIAL ENGINEERING SERVICE.

*2116. **Mr. M. A. Ghani** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the lower and upper subordinates of the Public Works Department have lately been taken into the Subordinate Engineering Service and the Provincial Engineering Service, respectively ;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that while fixing the initial salaries of the lower subordinates taken into the Subordinate Engineering Service, their 9 years' service was not counted while the whole of the period of service of the upper subordinates taken into the Provincial Engineering Service has been counted ;
- (c) the reasons for the differential treatment in the two cases ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Over 50 per cent. of the Lower Subordinates were transferred to the Subordinate Engineering Service whilst under 25 per cent. of the Upper Subordinates were promoted to the Punjab Service of Engineers.

(b) Yes.

(c) In the case of Lower Subordinates transferred to the Subordinate Engineering Service there was no change of status whilst in that of Upper Subordinates promoted to the Punjab Service of Engineers the officers concerned were elevated from subordinate to gazetted rank and hence the difference in treatment.

PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE.

*2117. **Mr. M. A. Ghani** : With reference to Council question no. 218¹ (starred), dated the 22nd of March 1927, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the officer selected for the Provincial Civil Service was allowed to appear in the departmental examination of the service ;
- (b) if so, whether he appeared in the examination and if so, how did he fare in it ;
- (c) whether he has been appointed in the Civil Service or not ;
- (d) if not, why has he not been so appointed ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the reply given to Council question no. 1075².

ACREAGE RATE IN LOWER BARI DOAB CANAL.

*2118. **Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that acreage rate at Re. 0-8-0 per acre is being charged on cultivated land in the Lower Bari Doab Canal annually since 1914 ;

¹ Vol. X-A, page 638.

² Page 1013 ante.

[Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daultana.]

- (b) whether it is a fact that most of the zamindars have already paid a total of Rs. 7 per acre ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is a general complaint that the cost for the services, for which the acreage rate is levied, is higher on this canal as compared to the charges on the Sutlej Valley Project ;
- (d) will Government please state what interest they are calculating for the acreage rate accounts, on expenditure undertaken prior to collection of funds ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The rate per acre irrigated is correct, but the recoveries were not effected generally until 1918.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) The rates of interest applicable to the *pro forma* acreage rate accounts are as follows :—

	Per cent.
1912-13 to 1916-17	8.3252
1917-18 to 1922-23	6.16
1923-24 to 1925-26	6.25
1926-27 to 1929-30	6.5

MEDICAL APPARATUS CALLED "ACTINA."

***2119. Mr. Din Muhammad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (1) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Bhawani Singh, Bhandar of Batala, District Gurdaspur, is advertising for sale, a medical apparatus called "Actina" for the cure of eye, ear and throat diseases ;
- (2) whether it is a fact that the "Actina" was originally manufactured by the Actina Appliance Co., Kansas City, Missouri, United States of America ;
- (3) whether the Government of United States of America considering "Actina" to be fraud, prohibited its transmission by post by the order of the Postmaster-General, Washington, no. 8889, dated 29th May 1915 ;
- (4) whether since then this apparatus is being manufactured at Batala and its sale continued here ;
- (5) if so, whether Government intends to take any action in this matter in the general interests of the public at large ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (1) Yes.

(2) and (3) Government have no information on the subject and are making enquiries.

(4) Yes.

(5) The matter will be considered when the enquiries are complete.

JUMAT-UL-WIDA.

***2120. Mr. Din Muhammad :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that *Jumat-ul-Wida* is considered as a very sacred day by the Mussalmans in general ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this sacred day is observed as a holiday by the High Court of Judicature at Lahore ;
- (c) if so, whether Government intends to declare the same as a public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act ?

Mr. J. C. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration, but I may state that the day is observed as a holiday not only by the High Court but by all civil Courts and in most Government offices in Lahore, Muslims are granted leave of absence for the day.

CIVIL PRISONERS IN ROHTAK JAIL.

***2121. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the highest number of civil prisoners confined in Rohtak Jail at one time in 1926, 1927 and 1928 ;
- (b) the average monthly number of civil prisoners in 1926, 1927 and 1928, in Rohtak Jail ;
- (c) if there has been an increase in the monthly average of civil prisoners in 1927, or 1928 as compared with the average in 1926, the reasons for this increase ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow :

(a) 1926	16
1927	34
1928	26
(b) 1926	9
1927	19
1928	18

(c) Enquiries have been instituted, and the result will be communicated to the honourable member.

ATTACHMENT OF PROPERTY AND ARREST OF JUDGMENT-DEBTORS.

***2122. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the number of cases in which courts directed attachment of property and arrest of judgment-debtors simultaneously in 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928, in Rohtak district ;
- (b) if there has been an increase in the cases of simultaneous attachment of property and arrest of judgment-debtors in recent years in Rohtak and the reasons for this increase ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The information is not immediately available, but enquiry is being made and the result will be communicated to the Honourable member in due course.

SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

***2123. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the number and names of statutory Hindu agriculturists in the Subordinate Educational Service who are superior or equal to the junior-most non-agricultural Hindu district inspectors of schools in point of length of service or pay ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The answer to this question will vary according to the number of junior Hindu district inspectors the honourable member has in view. If the honourable member will be so good as to specify the number of these junior district inspectors, the information will be compiled.

SIKH AGRICULTURISTS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

***2124. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the names of six senior-most statutory Sikh agriculturists in the Education Department ;
- (b) those of the persons referred to in (a) who are in the inspecting line ;
- (c) the total number of Sikhs on a par with or junior to those referred to in (a) who are in the inspecting line, seniority being counted with reference to the years of service put in ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Rai Sahib Chaudhri Gyan Singh, Sardar Jodh Singh, Sardar Shiv Charan Singh, Sardar Jagendar Singh, Sardar Bhag Singh Gill and Sardar Hazara Singh.

- (b) Rai Sahib Chaudhri Gyan Singh and Sardar Jaginder Singh.
- (c) The question is not understood.

CHAUDHRI BADAN SINGH AND CHAUDHRI MAHENDRA SINGH.

***2125. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether Chaudhri Badan Singh, B.A., B.T., a Jat, is serving in the Rewari High School in Rs. 55—3—70 grade ;
- (b) whether Chaudhri Mahendra Singh, B.A., B.T., a Jat, is serving in the lowest rung of Rs. 80—4—100 grade, in the Bhiwani High School ;
- (c) what is the length of the teaching experience of Chaudhri Badan Singh and Chaudhri Mahendra Singh ;
- (d) whether he can name any non-agriculturist Hindu of equal experience and qualifications who is serving on the same pay as Chaudhri Badan Singh and Chaudhri Mahendra Singh ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) Yes, he is officiating on Rs. 80 per mensem from the 17th December 1928, afternoon.

(c) No information is available on this point except that given in answer to (b) above.

(d) Does not arise.

RABI CROPS IN THE GARHI SAMPLA VILLAGE.

***2126. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) the total area of irrigated *rabi* crops sown in the Garhi Sampla village in the Rohtak district on the tail of the Bhalaut Distributary ;

(b) the proportions of the area referred to in (a) which had not received even the first watering after having been sown up to the 20th February ;

(c) whether any part of the area referred to in (b) has received the first watering since 20th February, and if so, when ;

(d) what steps the Irrigation Department proposes to take to supply water to the area referred to in (a) before crops suffer damage beyond repair, and if the Department is unable to supply water in time the relief which Government proposes to give to occupiers to compensate them ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) 158 acres.

(b) and (c) Dates and number of waterings are not recorded.

(d) This area like all other areas, gets its share of the supply available in its turn in accordance with the programme of rotational turns. Water rates are remitted in accordance with rules that are well known to the irrigating agriculturists.

CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF ZILLADAR.

***2127. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) the names and tribe of each of the candidates sent up by the Superintending Engineer of Delhi for acceptance as Zilladars ;

(b) the name and tribe of each of the candidates who applied for the post of Zilladar to the Executive Engineers serving under the Superintending Engineer of Delhi or to himself whom he was unable to recommend for consideration ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Nine names in all were recommended by Superintending Engineer of whom 5 were Hindus, 3 Muhammadans and 1 Sikh.

(b) In all 88 applications were dealt with by Superintending Engineer of whom 48 were Hindus, 34 Muhammadans and 9 Sikhs.

COMPENSATION FOR LAND ACQUIRED FOR EXTENSION OF CITY
KOTWALI OF LAHORE.

*2128. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in 1928 a notification was issued to the effect that the land situated adjacent to the City Kotwali of Lahore had been acquired for extending the Kotwali premises ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no compensation has still been awarded to the owners of the said land ; and
- (c) if any compensation has been given what is the amount given to each of the owners ?

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

- (c) It is expected that the award will be pronounced before the close of this month, after which payment will be made.

MOHANRAM PROCESSION, KAITHAL.

*2129. **Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mohanram procession was not taken out last year at Kaithal in the Karnal district ;
- (b) if so, what were the reasons which led to this ;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ascertain the grievances of the *tazimawals* ?

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

- (b) The processionists with one *tazia* claimed that their route should pass the Hanuman Temple. To this the Hindus objected. The claim to use the route was not admitted ; and all *tazia* processions in Kaithal were given up as a protest.

- (c) The Muslims of Kaithal have appealed to the Commissioner whose orders are awaited.

S. AMAR SINGH OF CHAK No. 254.

*2130. **Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether S. Amar Singh, resident of Chak No. 254, Bakh Branch, in the Dijkote police station, Lyallpur district, has ever been convicted of, or even tried for, any offence ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in 1927 his name was registered in Police register No. 10 of bad characters by the local police simply on account of his political activities ;
- (c) if not, what were other reasons ;
- (d) whether any representations were made to the Inspector-General of Police in this connection ;

- (e) whether Government has taken any action in this matter; if so, what; if not, whether Government is prepared to make enquiries?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) So far as Government is aware, the reply is in the negative.

(b), (c), (d) and (e) The register referred to being a confidential and privileged document no information derived from it can be furnished.

APPOINTMENT OF AN EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER AS ASSISTANT TO THE REGISTRAR OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

***2131. Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that an Extra Assistant Commissioner has been appointed as Personal Assistant to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this post has been held hitherto by an Assistant Registrar of the Co-operative Department;
- (c) if so, whether this change has caused any reduction in the present strength of the Assistant Registrars;
- (d) what are the reasons which have led to the appointment of an Extra Assistant Commissioner as Personal Assistant to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies;
- (e) whether there is any division of duties between the Personal Assistant and the Superintendent of the Co-operative Department, and if so, what principles are kept in view in assigning those duties?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Owing to recent grave irregularities in the office, it was considered advisable in the public interest to appoint as Personal Assistant to the Registrar a gazetted officer expert in office work.

(e) There is a division of duties. Generally speaking, the Superintendent deals with matters of routine office administration, and the Personal Assistant deals with matters of a more responsible and personal nature, including the inspection of gazetted officers' decentralized offices.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PUNJAB RURAL SANITARY BOARD.

1081. Makhdumzada Sayad Muhammad Raza Shah, Gilani : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the names of non-official members of the Punjab Rural Sanitary Board and the districts they represent;
- (b) why no member from the Multan division is taken as a member?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a)—

- (1) Pandit Nanak Chand.
- (2) Rai Bahadur Rao Balbir Singh.
- (3) Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.
- (4) Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan.
- (5) Sardar Mohindar Singh.
- (6) Chaudhri Duli Chand.
- (7) Sir Muhammad Iqbal.

The appointments were not made with reference to districts.

(b) There is no particular reason but as members were selected without reference to districts and divisions it so happens that there was no member from Multan division.

GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING SCHOOL, RASUL.

1082. Makhdumzada Sayed Muhammad Reza Shah, Gilani :
Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

1. (a) the number of Muhammadan students who appeared in the competitive examination of the overseer class of the Government Engineering School, Rasul;
- (b) how many have passed during the year;
- (c) how many Muhammadan students appeared in the final class of the school last year, and what is the percentage of the Muhammadans passed;
2. Whether the Government is aware of so many articles published in the "*Muslim Outlook*" complaining about the total absence of the Muslim element in the teaching and examining staff of the Engineering School, Rasul?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : 1. (a) Out of 485 candidates from the British Punjab who competed for admission to the overseer class at the last examination held in November 1928, seventy-nine were Muslims, that is 16.3 per cent.

(b) Out of 52 successful candidates ten were Muslims, that is 19.2 per cent.

(c) Out of fifty overseer students from the British Punjab who appeared in the last final examination held in January 1929 at the end of the second year course for overseer twelve were Muslims. Of them eleven qualified, that is 22 per cent.

2. The teaching and examining staff consists of nine members. Of these three are Muslims, three are Hindus, two are Sikhs and one is a European. These numbers exclude the Principal, who actively participates in the examinations and control of the teaching, also the instructor in Physical training who is a Muslim.

LALA GIRDHARI LAL, LATELY AN ACCOUNTANT IN CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1083. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the case of L. Girdhari Lal, lately an Accountant in the Civil Secretariat, who was suspended for keeping irregular accounts has been settled;
- (b) If so, what punishment has been awarded to him.
- (c) whether it has been decided in this case that the immediate officers of Lala Girdhari Lal were free from all responsibility in the matter;
- (d) if not, will he kindly state what punishment has been awarded to them;
- (e) whether it is a fact that there are two officers involved in this case;
- (f) if so, which of the two has been considered more guilty than the other?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) He has been reduced from Rs. 210 in the grade of Rs. 120—10—300 to the grade of Rs. 75—5—150 and his pay fixed at Rs. 125 from the 4th January 1929.

(c) No.

(d) The displeasure of Government at their failure to exercise adequate supervision has been communicated to them and noted on their personal files.

(e) Yes.

(f) Neither.

REDUCTION OF CHAKI RATES.

1084. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the question of reduction of *chaki* rates is under consideration?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The question has been raised in the Legislative Council several times and has been discussed.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN SERVICES.

1085. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Chief Secretary kindly state—

- (a) the total number of all the classes of appointments in all the departments for which census figures in respect of communal and class representation have been prepared;
- (b) the number of classes of appointments in which the representation of statutory Hindu agriculturists is (i) nil, (ii) below 5 per cent., (iii) below 10 per cent., (iv) below 15 per cent., (v) below 20 per cent. as compared with Hindu non-agriculturists;
- (c) the highest percentage of statutory Hindu agriculturists in any department except Co-operation?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a), (b) and (c). A careful study of the consolidated statement showing the communal composition of the various departments of Government of which copies have been issued to honourable members and some simple calculations will provide the honourable member with the information which he requires.

LITERACY IN THE PUNJAB.

1086. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Chief Secretary kindly state—

- (a) the percentage of literacy among Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs according to the Census Report of 1921 ;
- (b) the percentage of literacy among Hindu, Muslim and Sikh Jats respectively ;
- (c) the percentage of literacy among Hindu and Muslim Rajputs respectively ;
- (d) the percentage of literacy among Ahirs ;
- (e) the number of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh Jats respectively, the number of Hindu and Muslim Rajputs respectively and the number of Hindu and Muslim Gujars respectively who are holding or have held at any time during the last ten years :—
 - (i) the post of Deputy Commissioner,
 - (ii) the post of Sessions Judge,
 - (iii) the post of Superintendent of Police,
 - (iv) the post of Extra Assistant Commissioner,
 - (v) the post of Deputy Superintendent of Police,
 - (vi) the post of Tahsildar,—
- (f) whether in the case of most non-competitive and non-technical posts a reservation of posts has been made in favour of Muslims and Sikhs on the ground of their educational backwardness ;
- (g) whether any reservation in favour of Hindu statutory agricultural tribes has been made out of the share of posts falling to the Hindus generally.

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) to (d). The information desired by the honourable member can be obtained by him from the provincial census report of which there is a copy in the Council library.

(e) Government is not prepared to undertake the labour involved in obtaining the information required by the honourable member in this part of the question.

(f) and (g) No.

NON-AGRICULTURIST HINDU AND SIKH DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

1087. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the names and length of service of each of the non-agriculturist Hindu and Sikh district inspectors of schools ;

(b) the dates of promotion from grade to grade of the persons referred to in (a);

(c) the names of four statutory Hindu and four statutory Sikh agriculturists who have been longer in service than the persons referred to in (a)?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table giving the names of Hindu and Sikh permanent district inspectors of schools who are not members of notified agricultural tribes. Information is not available in regard to non-agriculturist Hindus and Sikhs.

(c) There are only two such officers:—

- (1) Lala Sant Ram, Head Master, Government High School, Kalata, who entered Government service in December 1899.
- (2) Rai Saini Chandhi Gyan-Singh who is officiating as Inspector of Schools, Lahore Division, and entered Government service in April 1897.

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES, LENGTH OF SERVICE AND DATES OF PROMOTIONS, &c., OF THE HINDU AND SIKH PERMANENT DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF NOTIFIED AGENCIES AND TRIBES.

Serial No.	Name.	Designation.	Religion.	Service.		Dates of promotion from grade to grade.
				Date of entering Government service.	Length of service on 15th March 1928.	
HINDUS.						
1.	Lala Sita Ram	District Inspector of Schools, Rohank.	Hindu.	18th July 1903.	Y. M. D. 25 8 3	Rs. 75 grade from 18th July 1903. Rs. 100—8—140 grade from 18th February 1907, Rs. 150—10—300 grade from 1st February 1917, Rs. 300—10—240 grade from 1st October 1920. Ordinary time scale of Rs. 250—25—300/25—800 of Provincial Educational Service from 1st May 1922.
2.	Lala Hardayal Chohan.	District Inspector of Schools, Hissar.	Hindu.	7th July 1903.	25 8 9	Rs. 45 grade from 7th July 1903. Rs. 60 grade from 24th February 1903. Rs. 70 grade from 23rd January 1907. Rs. 80 grade from 29th August 1917. Rs. 75—8—80 grade from 15th January 1914. Rs. 100—4—140 grade from 17th February 1917. Rs. 140—10—160 grade from 1st October 1920. Rs. 200—10—250 grade from 31st January 1923. Rs. 250—25—300/25—800 grade of Provincial Educational Service from 4th February 1927.

3. Lal Bahadur Dyal	District Inspector of Schools, Ambala	Hindu	18th November 1912.	16	3	26	Officiating as Rs. 60 from 18th November 1912. Rs. 65-70 from 2nd June 1913. Rs. 75-80 from 2nd June 1914. Rs. 110-125 from 1st October 1920. Rs. 140-180 from 1st January 1925 and Rs. 200-250 from 18th October 1924.
4. Chaudhri Ahnand Lal	District Inspector of Schools, Simla.	Hindu	10th November 1915.	19	4	6	Rs. 65-70 from 10th November 1913. Rs. 80-100 from 1st October 1916. Rs. 110-135 from 1st July 1923. Rs. 140-180 from 1st July 1924.
5. Lal Anand Chaudh	District Inspector of Schools, Hoshiarpur.	Hindu	24 July 1913	26	8	13	Rs. 70 grade from 2nd July 1909. Rs. 80 grade from 12th August 1909. Rs. 100-8-140 from 22nd October 1910. Rs. 140-10-190 grade from 1st October 1920. Rs. 200-10-250 grade from 1st May 1922. Rs. 250-25-400/25-300 grade of Provincial Educational Services from 10th October 1924.
6. Lal Ram Chand, Sahi-wala.	District Inspector of Schools, Mullan.	Hindu	8th May 1913	25	10	8	Rs. 40 grade from 8th May 1913. Rs. 50 grade from 4th August 1914. Rs. 100-6-140 from 15th December 1913. Rs. 140-10-190 grade from 1st October 1920. Rs. 200-10-250 grade from 2nd May 1922. Rs. 250-25-500/25-600 grade of Provincial Educational Services from 1st September 1923.
7. Lal Rang Bahad Lal	District Inspector of Schools, Delhi.	Hindu	6th October 1913	25	5	11	Rs. 60 grade from 31st October 1903. Rs. 100 grade from 4th December 1906. Rs. 120 grade from 28th July 1908. Rs. 100-8-140 grade from 1st January 1913. Rs. 140-10-190 grade from 8th September 1914. Rs. 160-10-200 grade from 14th April 1919. Rs. 200 grade of Provincial Educational Services from 1st September 1919. Rs. 250-25-500/25-800 grade of Provincial Educational Services from 1st April 1920.

Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES, LENGTH OF SERVICE AND DATES OF PROMOTION, &c., OF THE HINDU AND SIKH PERMANENT DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS, WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF NOTIFIED AGRICULTURAL TRIBES COMBINED.

Serial No.	Name.	Designation.	Religion.	SERVICE.		Dates of promotion from grade to grade.
				Date of entering Government service.	Length of service on 16th March 1929.	
1.	Lala Eddar Bhat	District Inspector of Schools, Ferozepur.	Sikh	16th July 1903	25 S. 5	Rs. 45 grade from 10th July 1903. Rs. 80 grade from 17th November 1906. Rs. 100 grade from 1st February 1907. Rs. 100-8-140 grade from 1st January 1913. Rs. 130-10-200 grade from 1st August 1920. Rs. 200-10-250 grade from 1st October 1924. Rs. 250-25-300/25-600 grade of Provincial Educational Service from 1st February 1924.
2.	B. Anar Singh	District Inspector of Schools, Kangra.	Sikh	4th July 1903	25 S. 12	Rs. 60 grade from 4th October 1903. Rs. 70 grade from 6th May 1905. Rs. 80 grade from 1st June 1908. Rs. 80-4-100 grade from 1st January 1911. Rs. 100-4-140 grade from 1st March 1918. Rs. 140-10-160 grade from 1st October 1921. Rs. 200-10-250 grade from 1st May 1923. Rs. 250-25-300/25-350 grade of Provincial Educational Service from 1st May 1928.

3	B. Barbas Singh	District Inspector of Schools, Lahore.	1st July 1913	15	9 15	Ra. 35 grade from 1st July 1913. Ra. 75-3-50 grade from 1st April 1913. Ra. 110-5-133 grade from 1st October 1921. Ra. 140-10-180 grade from 1st July 1923. Ra. 300-10-250 grade from 1st September 1925. Ra. 50-25-300/35-400 grade of Provincial Educational Service from 1st August 1926.
4	Sardar Jagat Singh	District Inspector of Schools, Amritsar.	9th May 1913	16	10 7	Ra. 75-90 from 9th May 1913. Ra. 110-133 from 1st October 1920. Ra. 140-190 from 1st May 1922, and Ra. 300-250 from 1st August 1927.
5	P. Bakram Singh	District Inspector of Schools, Rawalpindi.	3rd May 1913	17	10 13	Ra. 100 grade affording from 1st June 1914. Ra. 75-9-50 from 1st May 1915. Ra. 200-10-350 grade from 24th January 1923. Ra. 250-25-300-25-400 grade of Provincial Educational Service from 1st September 1926.

SERVICE IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

1088. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of Hindu non-agriculturists serving in (i) Government and (ii) local bodies' schools in Rs. 80—4—100 or higher grades in the Ambala Division who hail from outside the Division;
- (b) the number and names of trained statutory Hindu agriculturists belonging to the Delhi Province or the Ambala Division, who are unemployed or are serving in private or local bodies schools in the Delhi Province or the Ambala Division;
- (c) whether the Education Department intends to employ any of the persons referred to in (b) ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) and (b). The information asked for under (b) is not available, and therefore, there would not be much advantage in collecting information required under (a) particularly as it is likely to involve very considerable amount of labour and elaborate inquiries.

(c) Applications of all properly qualified persons of the class referred to in (b) for employment under the Department of Education will be duly considered by the Director of Public Instruction as they have been in the past. At the same time it may be pointed out, and the honourable member himself could not be unaware of the fact, that the number of such persons in private or local body schools in the Ambala Division does not appear to be large, even in schools established under Jat auspices and professedly intended for agriculturists, and it is matter for serious consideration whether these schools should be further deprived of the small modicum of statutory agriculturists on their staff who are presumably no less a desirable element in these schools than in Government schools.

BAD CONDITION OF CROPS IN LUDHIANA AND JULLUNDUR DISTRICTS.

1089. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn towards very bad condition of crops in Ludhiana and Jullundur districts;
- (b) if so, whether Government intend to allow any relief ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Enquiries from the two districts show that some damage has been done in places to unirrigated crops. The irrigated crops are on the whole average.

(b) The matter will be dealt with under the ordinary procedure applicable in such cases.

IRON FENCE ON THE CANAL BRIDGE, AKHARA.

1090. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdur Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no iron fence on the canal bridge at Akhara near Jagraon;

(b) whether the Government is aware that there is very heavy traffic and that many a time animals (oxen particularly) fell into the canal?

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

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The bridge on Abobar Branch at Akhara on the road from Raikot to Jagraon has a masonry parapet about three feet high; it is practically impossible for an animal to fall off the bridge into the canal. The local officers have never heard of any such accident and the Deputy Commissioner has never received any complaint about this bridge.

CANAL BRIDGE OPPOSITE BALWAL VILLAGE.

1091. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a canal bridge opposite Balwal village, Ludhiana District is too narrow for cart traffic;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the fact that zamindars of the village in order to go to their fields across the canal, have to travel two miles to reach their fields by another bridge;

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

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Cart bridges exist at a distance of one mile above and below the foot bridge referred to. Government consider that sufficient crossings exist for the reasonable convenience of the inhabitants of this village.

KHAN BAHADUR RAI WALI MUHAMMAD AND IQBAL MUHAMMAD, HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

1092. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) if Khan Bahadur Rai Wali Muhammad and his son Iqbal Muhammad are both of them honorary magistrates in the same ilaqa Raikot, Ludhiana district;

(b) whether it is a fact that Rai Wali Muhammad was not appointed for some time;

(c) what necessitated his re-appointment?

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

(b) and (c) The latest renewal of the magisterial powers of Khan Bahadur Rai Wali Muhammad was postponed in consequence of complaints received against him. These complaints were, after enquiry, found to be baseless and his powers were accordingly renewed on the recommendation of the local officers and with the approval of the Honourable Judges of the High Court.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

1093. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state reasons why the same qualifications are not necessary for the appointment of honorary magistrates as are necessary in the case of the stipendiary magistrates?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Educational standards and legal qualifications are not the only criteria of suitability for the post of magistrate. No appointment is made to the post of honorary magistrate until a nominee has satisfied the Deputy Commissioner that his knowledge of the penal law and procedure has reached the standard laid down by Government.

STAFF IN THE PUNJAB CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1094. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Chief Secretary kindly state—

- (a) the total strength of officers, assistants, clerks, etc., (excluding chaprasis) in the Punjab Civil Secretariat;
- (b) how many of these posts are open to Indians and non-Indians respectively;
- (c) how many of these are open to Indian Civil Service, and Provincial Civil Service and others, respectively;
- (d) how many of these posts are filled by members of notified agriculturist tribes; how many of them are Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs;
- (e) how many Sikh Jats are there in the Civil Secretariat?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Gazetted staff 13.

Subordinate staff 187.

- (b) All these appointments are open to Indians.
- (c) Five posts of Secretary and 3 of Under-Secretary are reserved for members of the Indian Civil Service, but may, in the exigencies of the service, be filled by officers of the Punjab Civil Service. The remaining posts are open to others.
- (d) Thirty-eight posts are held by members of agriculturist tribes of whom 28 are Muslims, 6 Hindus, and 4 Sikhs.
- (e) Four.

VACANCIES IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

1095. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Chief Secretary please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that rural candidates do not in time get necessary information as regards vacancies in Government's offices, time and method of submitting applications and other particulars necessary for securing posts;
- (b) if so, what steps Government intends to take to remedy this defect?

Mr. J. C. Beazley : (a) Government has received no complaints on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE PUNJAB ZAMINDAR LEAGUE.

1096. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : (a) Will the Honourable the Revenue Member kindly state what action, if any, has been taken, or is intended to be taken, on resolutions passed by Punjab Zamindar League at its 4th annual session held at Lyallpur in October last?

(b) If so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The resolutions have been brought to the notice of the departments concerned for any action considered necessary.

MR. J. C. GHOSE, SECRETARY, LUDHIANA DISTRICT BOARD.

1097. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the elected members of Ludhiana district board did not favour further stay of Mr. J. C. Ghose, present Secretary of the Board, who is a lent Extra Assistant Commissioner of the Government;

(b) the names of elected members who supported the extension of term for Mr. Ghose?

(c) whether the Government is aware of the agitation in Ludhiana district against Mr. Ghose?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No.

(b) It is not usual for a district board to record the names of members voting for and against any motion. Even if in the present instance the individual names were ascertainable, no useful purpose would be served by their publication.

(c) It is understood that a minority of the district board is opposed to the retention of Mr. Ghose as Secretary, but the majority wished to retain him.

MEMORIAL OF ZAMINDARS OF LUDHIANA.

1098. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a memorial has been submitted by about 15,000 (fifteen thousands) zamindars of Ludhiana district, through Sardar Mohindar Singh, Vind, President, Ludhiana District Zamindar League;

(b) whether it is a fact that the memorial or petition was signed by Sikhs, Muslims, and Hindus;

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

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

(c) Such points as needed consideration are being dealt with.

CONSTITUENCIES FOR THE LUDHIANA DISTRICT BOARD.

1099. Chandhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please say—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Ludhiana district board votes vary between 860 and 2,120 in different constituencies chalked out for purpose of elections of Ludhiana district board ;

(b) whether the Government intend to take any action so as to bring about constituencies of equal voting strength ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Government have no information as to the exact number of voters in each electoral circle but it is possible that owing to the lowering of the franchise the inequality in the number of voters in the various circles may be more marked than before.

(b) The matter is already under consideration.

JAGRAON MUNICIPALITY.

1100. Chandhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

(a) whether Jagraon municipality has a separate system of electorate ;

(b) if so, why have not the Sikh community been given a separate seat ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Sikh population within the area of this municipality is mainly agricultural ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Hindu population is wholly commercial in that area ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Sikhs of that place have submitted several representations about this during the last several years ; if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

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

(b) When the constitution of the Jagraon Municipal Committee was last revised in 1928, Sikhs were according to the accepted formula entitled to only .6 of a seat out of a total of eight elected members.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Two representations were made to local officers in August last and their proposals have now been received by Government and are under consideration.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : On a point of order, Sir. We have been under the impression that members whose names appear in the list of questions will be called by the Honourable the President to put their questions. That was not done in one or two cases to-day. May I know whether that practice has been altered now ?

Mr. President : If a member is called to put his question, and he does not rise to put it, the Chair is not bound to call him again. But this

time, I will show some indulgence to the honourable members concerned and call them a second time.

Accordingly Mr. Din Muhammad put his questions Nos. 2119 and 2120, and Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram his questions Nos. 2121 to 2127.

ALLEGATIONS IN THE PRESS AGAINST MR. PRESIDENT.

Sardar Habib Ullah [Lahore (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, I beg permission to invite your attention to the criticisms recently made by some of the local newspapers against the impartiality of the Chair, that you are occupying as the elected representative of this honourable House, and also to the statements which are, to put it mildly, inaccurate. One of them has not spared even the House itself. The turn the matters have now taken is that a controversy has been started between two English dailies. As there is a reasonable apprehension of further attacks being made on the Chair and the House, it is for your consideration whether suitable action is not called for with a view to protect the dignity of the Council and its President.

Mr. President: My attention has already been drawn to this matter and it is receiving my consideration.

The Council will now resume the discussion on Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan's motion.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH GRANT—contd.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, when the House adjourned yesterday afternoon, I was about to draw the attention of the House to another matter which to a large degree would affect the efficiency of the Public Health Department and would also affect the success of their efforts towards the putting down of diseases. That matter is that for a department like the Department of Public Health it is absolutely necessary that in order to achieve success in their efforts they should win the sympathy and the support of the people. Unfortunately even with regard to a department like this which is not only most beneficial, but absolutely necessary for the welfare of the people of the province, we are still in a stage where a great deal of propaganda is necessary to convince the people that the activities of the department are directed towards their benefit and that it is not one of, if I may so describe it, the governing departments of administration. For that purpose it is necessary to have officers who would be able to go and preach in the mufassil and bring home to the people the benefits of the department and thus win, as I have said, the sympathy and support of the people in order that their efforts might be crowned with success. For that purpose it is again necessary that at least in the initial stages the officers employed to achieve this object should be such who can be trusted by the people and upon whom the people can look with complete confidence and trust and during the present conditions it is highly necessary that this department should not follow the example of the governing departments of the administration and adopt a policy of

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sending Muslims into predominantly non-Muslim districts and non-Muslims into predominantly Muslim districts, whether that policy is or is not justified on the executive or the judicial side or whether it is followed with respect to those departments, I do not know and I do not want to discuss, but there is no question that this is a policy which must not be followed in a department like the Department of Public Health. That brings me to another aspect of the question which is purely a question of administration of the department, as to the posting of the officers of this department in the various districts of this province. Take for instance the case of the Dera Ghazi Khan district which nobody will deny is a predominantly, I might say an almost exclusively, Muslim district, and certainly a backward district. The efforts to popularise the activities of the Public Health Department are here made by appointing Dr. Jiwan Singh as the District Medical Officer of Health and Bhai Jaswant Singh as Sanitary Inspector and Bhai Uttam Singh as dispenser. These figures I am taking from the quarterly graduation list of the Public Health Department corrected upto 1st January 1929; and then you expect that in such a backward district as the district of Dera Ghazi Khan the people should co-operate with the fullest sympathy and with the fullest trust with the activities of this department. Take the Multan district. There the district medical officer of health is Dr. Jhangi Ram. Take the Lyallpur district where the district medical officer of health is Dr. Mukand Lal Talwar, the Sanitary Inspector is Lala Des Raj, the dispenser is B. Jawala Singh.....

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Is that a predominantly Muslim district ?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : No, but with a very large Muslim population. I do not think that I have described it as a predominantly Muslim district nor can I see how the interpellation arises ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : You were mentioning of predominantly Muslim districts.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Then I proceeded to other districts. I presume honourable members are aware of the general character of the population of these districts and as to the percentage of population of these districts. In the Montgomery district, the only two officers of this department are Dr. N. S. Sethi and B. Sohail Singh. In the Jhelum district there are as many as 5 officers, 4 of whom are Dr. J. N. Mehra, Dr. Sardar Singh, Lala Moti Lal, Nayar and Lala Tara Chand. In the Sheikhupura district there are Dr. Amur Nath as district medical officer of health and Pandit Ram Chand, Gossain as sanitary inspector. In Gujranwala there are Dr. Harbans Singh, Lala Guru Das and Lala Behari Lal. In the Gurdaspur district, and I admit that it is not a predominantly Muslim district, all the four officers of this department are non-Muslims, namely, Dr. Manohar Lal, Dr. Mala Singh, Dr. Ramjas and Lala Jagdish Ram. In the Lahore district which is not a predominantly Muslim district all four officers are Dr. Armolak Ram, Mehta, Lala Bagga Mal, Kapur, Lala Haveli Ram and Pandit Sant Ram. In the Ferozepur district, which is not a predominantly Muslim district, the only three officers are Dr. Ram Chandar, Lala Khushi Ram and Lala Nawrata Ram. In the district of Ludhiana where the largest single community is on doubt the Sikh community, but where there is

a very large proportion of Muslims also, the four officers are Dr. Wazir Singh, Lala Barkat Ram, Lala Bashohar Nath and B. Wadhawa Singh. In the Jullundur district there are Dr. Gokul Chand, Lala Gujjar Ram, Aggarwal and Lala Beli Ram. I will not quote those districts in which Muslims are in a minority. Again, I have no objection to any of the gentlemen whose names I have read out. I have no doubt that they are fully competent to perform their duties and to discharge them with credit but the distribution of these officers throughout the province shows that when distributing these officers no regard is paid to the character of the population in which they have to work and as I have said, very probably what is thought is that every department of Government has got to govern and when these people have got to govern it is best to send a non-Muslim officer to a Muslim district lest he should get into sympathy with people and might make mistakes. He is not expected to win the sympathies of the people. I will anticipate that one of the answers that may be given is that there are not enough Muslim officers to enable the department to make the distribution as I have suggested. But that in itself not only will not be an answer but it will be a ground for my next criticism, namely, the question of recruitment of the number of officers of various communities in the department. I am told that in regard to Assistant Directors of Public Health you cannot go by communities, that you require qualifications of a very high standard and therefore you must confine your choice to those who possess very high qualifications and in any case there is not a very great discrepancy and the distribution is not very easy in itself. Now with regard to 87 district medical officers of health, one finds that 8 out of these 87 are Muslims and the remaining are.....

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : 11. Your figures are wrong.

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan : I am taking my figures from this list. I do not know whether your list is wrong or right. If you think the figures are wrong then I am not responsible.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : It may not be the latest list.

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan : I said it was corrected up to 1st January 1929. I shall be obliged if the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government supplies me with the latest figures. But I am willing to correct myself so far that it may be that the proportion is slightly better than I have originally quoted. The sanctioned strength is 97 and actually 96 posts are filled up, the 97th is being held up. Then out of Municipal medical officers of health so far as I have been able to see it is 1 out of 11. Out of special provincial appointments there is no Muslim. It might be explained that three out of these posts are held by ladies and qualified Muslim ladies are not at present forthcoming. Then out of the two chief sanitary inspectors there is no Muslim. Out of 26 sanitary inspectors in the normal staff 7 only are Mohanimadans. Then 6 out of 29 dispensers are Muslims but as two posts are shown vacant I will say 6 out of 27. Out of ten sub-assistant health officers special epidemiological staff only one is a Muslim. Out of 13 sanitary inspectors, special epidemiological staff, 2 are Muslims. This is the proportion of Muslims throughout this department. And, as I have said, I might anticipate the objection that with regard to higher

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posts the number of qualified Muslims who are forthcoming is not very large and therefore the proportion is so discrepant. But I cannot understand and, if it is alleged, I am not willing to believe, that with regard to sanitary inspectors and dispensers even, the department is not able to find qualified Muslims to fill these posts. As I have said out of 36 sanitary inspectors only 7 are Muslims and out of 28 dispensers in the normal staff only 6 are Muslims and this is the state of affairs in the department which during more than two years has been under the administration of a Minister, who by his name and by his profession is supposed to be Muslim.

Dr. Sheikh Muhammad Alam : And belongs to your party.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : And belongs to our party. This is the complaint which I am making. It may be urged as an answer on behalf of gentlemen who might oppose this motion that when you have got a Muslim Minister, what have you got to complain of. The figures that I find are so glaring that whether it is a Muslim Minister who fails to do his duty or whether it is a non-Muslim Minister who has no sympathy with this particular community the facts are such that whoever is there, a Muslim or a non-Muslim, it shows a lack of proper appreciation of the situation as it exists. Apart altogether from the question of the pay which so many Muslims or non-Muslims might get, I have submitted that if you want to make this department popular, if you want to take away the impression that it is a governing department, if you want the sympathy of the people, you must appoint Muslims in Muslim districts and non-Muslims in non-Muslim districts so that these officers knowing the habits of the people, the prejudices of the people and the customs of the people should be able to win their sympathy. That I submit is one of the principal causes of the failure of this department to achieve or to win the co-operation of the people and if in answer to any part of the criticism which I submitted to this House yesterday with regard to the working of this department the point is sought to be made that people would not co-operate, as that argument is very often trotted out in answer to the criticism of non-officials with regard to the working of a particular department, my answer is that you have not done anything towards winning the people's sympathy at the very initial stage. With these remarks I move my cut—

“ That the Public Health Grant be reduced by Re. 1.”

Mr. President : Grant under consideration, motion moved—

“ That the grant be reduced by Re. 1.”

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government) : Sir I am much obliged to the honourable member for having brought forward this discussion about the Public Health Department because it gives me an opportunity to be able to show to the House as to what kind of work has been done or achieved by this department. I admit that there will be shortcomings in all departments of Government (*Hear, hear*) but I must concede that every department must be exposed to healthy criticism and it is with that object in view that I welcome criticism of this nature. To begin with, I will take the last point which the honourable member has been discussing, that is, the representation of the community to which I am supposed to belong.....

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Supposed to belong ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : That is what he said.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : But what do you say ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : What do I say ? I was only referring to the uncalled for remark that one honourable member had made. I leave it to sensible people to understand.

First of all, with regard to the appointment of district medical officers of health and assistant directors of public health. Out of 5 assistant directors of public health 3 are Muslims and 2 Hindus. Out of a total of 41 district medical officers of health and assistant directors of health mixed together 22 are Hindus, 11 Muslims and 8 Sikhs. The fact that there are only 11 Muslims out of 41 is due to the fact that there is not a single Muslim with the minimum qualification who has not been provided for. If there are any Muslims available at the time of filling posts who possess the minimum qualifications who have not been provided for, then you can blame the Ministry, but if there are none available what can the Ministry do ?

Then with regard to municipal health officers, the honourable member has been asking how many of them are Hindus and how many Muslims.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I did not use the word Hindu at all.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : You said non-Muslims. As far as the municipal health officers are concerned the appointments are in the first instance entirely in the hands of the municipal bodies themselves. They choose their health officers and send them up to the Director of Public Health with a view to seeing that they are properly qualified, and you will agree with me that if the man is qualified then as far as possible the Ministry should always respect and regard the wishes of the local body. As far as the appointment of these officers is concerned, the Ministry has practically never interfered with the municipality's own choice and has never refused the appointment of the man that the municipality has itself selected. The appointments are made by local bodies, so the Ministry cannot be blamed if there are more Muslim officers or more non-Muslim officers. Besides the honourable member has himself shown the weakness of his argument by anticipating my answer that as there are no Muslims available to be appointed to posts in the Medical Department, you cannot blame Government for not appointing more of them.

With regard to the staff in the district—sanitary inspectors and dispensers—I agree with the honourable member that it is necessary that the staff which works in the districts should be of a trend of mind that has sympathies with the people amongst whom it works and it ought to be able to work well and discharge its duties properly. I can give my honourable friend the assurance that Government will keep this point well in view when any appointments are made.

As far as the sub-assistant surgeons are concerned, they are taken over from the Medical Department and very few direct appointments are made by the Health Department.

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

Now I will take the House to the other criticism which the honourable member has made, that is to say, the subject of the ability of the Department to cope with epidemics. First of all with regard to plague in Multan. With regard to that I can give him these facts. Plague broke out in Multan city in November 1926 and it continued till May 1927. There were 942 deaths that were reported. During that period all that was possible for the Public Health Department to do was done. Government gave the Municipality a grant of Rs. 3,000 which is as much as they wanted to spend on the disinfection of houses and so on. The Assistant Director of Public Health was constantly visiting Multan during the month of April when plague was supposed to be at its highest. I am glad to say that the outbreak was brought under control in the month of April. Then again the disease commenced in December 1927 when 6 cases were reported up to the 31st of December, that is to say, during the whole month of December. This was probably due to some importation from the cantonments. It had originally broken out in the Multan cantonment and had gradually worked into the city. The cantonment is under the military authorities, so we are not responsible for its outbreak there. During the outbreak altogether 19 cases and 16 deaths occurred and the disease was again brought under control, and since then I am glad to say that there has been no plague in Multan altogether and the disease is well under control. I might say that I personally visited Multan to see that adequate measures had been taken to cope with the disease.

Now with regard to Kasur, the honourable member drew the attention of the House to the occurrence of cholera in Kasur. In Kasur the first case of cholera occurred on the 8th of May. There was another case on the 13th and another on the 14th and there were two more cases on the 15th. Such scattered cases continued right up to the 27th. Then on the 27th May a dust storm blew at Kasur and that was the cause of the great flaring up of the cholera epidemic in that place. Then again it came off on the 11th of June and the people entered into festivities.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: Can no arrangements be made on these festivals?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: The District Medical Officer of Health of the Lahore district was paying continual visits to Kasur in order to advise the Municipal Committee to take the necessary steps to put down this disease. But I am sorry to say that the Municipal Committee of Kasur invariably turned down the advice of the District Medical Officer of Health. For instance, the District Medical Officer of Health advised them to burn a certain huge manure heap which according to his idea was the cause of cholera in the Kasur municipal town. He called upon them on the 1st June to consider and order the burning of this manure. They sat in a meeting on the 2nd of June and considered this case and they went on considering till the 10th of June and on the 10th of June they refused to burn the dung heap, and decided to sell the manure at cheap rates in order to get rid of cholera. When the Municipal Committee refused to carry out the instructions of our health officer to remove the actual root cause of the disease, how can you blame the Public Health Department for not being able to put down the disease in Kasur? Government was not

satisfied with what had happened in Kasur and actually after the cholera in Kasur had been checked, we appointed a committee of enquiry to enquire into the causes of cholera in Kasur. That committee consisted of the Commissioner of Lahore as President and two honourable members of this House as members, Sir Muhammad Iqbal and Lala Mohan Lal of Simla. These three gentlemen sent in their report and it clearly showed that the Municipal Committee were to blame mainly for the spread of cholera in Kasur municipal limits and for not burning the manure heap. According to the report of these three gentlemen Government took action against the members of the Municipal Committee who had adopted the attitude which was against the public interest. We refused to notify their names after their next election. The names of three or four members who had stood up for the public and who wanted to have the heap burnt and to follow the other directions of the Medical Officer of Health were of course notified. This is as far as the blame can be placed on the local body for the spread of cholera within the Kasur municipal limits.

As far as the question of the conduct or activities of the Public Health Officer are concerned we were about to look into his conduct as to whether he had performed his duties properly or not, when that gentleman owing to ill health and other reasons resigned his appointment, with the result that it was not necessary to make any further enquiries in the matter.

I hope that the House will understand that in this case as far as the Public Health Department is concerned, they did all that was possible. I must also draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Public Health Department is a new department. It has only recently come into existence. It was only last year that we completed our full strength of district medical officers of health and at the commencement of a department like that there is bound to be certain time required to bring it on sound lines of organisation. For instance, the co-ordination between the civil authorities and the public health officers has had to be brought in because the department had not existed before. The experience of last year has shown that in future there ought to be the closest co-operation between the civil authorities and the public health officers if epidemics are to be dealt with effectively in future, and that point is now being given the closest attention by Government. I may add that from Kasur cholera spread to some six or seven other districts of the province, but I am glad to say that its progress was checked at the outset in each outbreak. As far as Kasur is concerned, I hope the Council will understand that all that was possible for Government to do was done.

Now I turn to the question of cholera in Kulu. It was in the month of March 1928 that some cases were reported from the Kangra Valley. We must remember that the year 1927 was the year of the Kumbh fair and it was feared that pilgrims from Kangra and other places would carry the disease to that place.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: As you were forewarned you should have been forearmed.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: Please do not be impatient. If you wait you will be told all about it. Well, it was expected

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that cholera would break out in the Kangra Valley, and consequently Government took all the necessary precautions to meet that eventuality. There is at present and was at that time a Health Officer with English qualifications posted at Jogendra Nagar, the head works of the Hydro-Electric Works.

There was another Public Health Officer with English qualifications in charge of the railway line that was being constructed where it was apprehended that cholera might break out. In addition to these two English qualified officers there was a third officer also with English qualifications, Dr. Vohra who was in charge of the Kangra district, as District Medical Officer of Health and posted at Dharamsala to look after the district as a whole. Cases that occurred in that area in the month of March 1928 were successfully coped with by the Public Health Department and the disease was for the time subdued. We must however remember that on our border lines are two Indian States, Mandi and Sukot. All that we can do is to prevent cholera spreading into our own country. We cannot proceed to take preventive steps within those States. Whenever cholera spreads in these States we are always in danger of being attacked from one corner or another. This was in March when the Public Health Department was able to cope with the epidemic and it was not allowed to spread. In the month of April in order to take the necessary precautions against the outbreak of cholera, the Director of Public Health himself went to the Kangra Valley in order to supervise the work done and to chalk out the line of advance for the future months. The head of the department having gone there himself—that was all that could be expected from the supervising staff of the Government—you can rest assured that Government were not sleeping over the matter and were prepared to take all the measures necessary to cope with the danger. The Director of Public Health toured over the Kangra Valley in order to satisfy himself that all the necessary precautions had been taken. I am glad to say that since then cholera has not broken out in the Kangra Valley and it has been brought well under control.

I pass on to the outbreak of the epidemic in the Kulu Valley. Let me at the outset tell the House that in the past history of the Kulu Valley right from the beginning of the British Administration there has been no case of cholera outbreak in the Valley itself. It has always been immune from cholera. Whenever cholera has broken out in the Kangra Valley it has always drifted down to Pathankot and into Gurdaspur district. Naturally, judging from the experience of the past all that the Public Health Department could do was to protect their gates and prevent the spread of the disease into the Punjab plains. I am glad, I am proud to say that the precautions taken by the Public Health Department to stop and prevent the spread of cholera into the Punjab as was expected and as it has been in the past, were successful and cholera was not allowed to spread into the Punjab. Whenever the Public Health Department is being criticised, I wish that the House also gives them the credit for what they have done to protect the lives of our countrymen. I am glad to say that the Public Health Department deserves the congratulation of this House for having combated the spread of the epidemic in the Kangra Valley so successfully as not to allow it to spread into the Punjab at all. If the Public

Health Department thought that there were no particular measures necessary to prevent the spread of cholera into Kulu, it was due to the fact that cholera had never broken out there. Even if that is a mistake of judgment, I say that there is hardly a single human being who is not liable to an error of judgment. There are lawyers committing mistakes and there are a good many others. With regard to Kulu, up to the 28th May there were only one or two cases a day and very stray deaths with the result that there was no need to take an alarming view of the situation. But about that date some workmen at Jogendra Nagar cut across the hill along the footpath and dropped into Sultanpur. These people carried germs with them and it was they who spread the epidemic at Kulu. But once it broke out it would be plain to any one who has seen the place himself to realise how difficult it is to cope with the disease in such an area. I am sorry that the honourable member Shaikh Muhammad Sadig is not here to-day because I took him with me into the Kulu Valley and he saw with his own eyes the kind of work that was being done by the Public Health staff. The reason for the spread of the disease in Kulu was that instead of going into the hospital or staying in their places the inhabitants who were attacked with cholera moved with their cattle and families up towards the mountains and on the way they polluted the streams that brought drinking water to the villages down the valley. It was impossible to get hold of them. We must also remember that the District Health Officer for Kangra was posted at Dharamsala which is a long way off from Kulu itself. From Sultanpur, I do not know the exact distance, but it ought to be well above a hundred miles by road on which you cannot travel more than 12 miles per hour. This was the state of the place in which the epidemic had broken out. So far as the Public Health Department was concerned they did not get news of the outbreak till the 1st of June. It was on that date that they received a telegram that cholera had broken out in an epidemic form in the Kulu Valley. From that date they took all the necessary precautions. As much staff as was asked for by the District Health Officer was sent. All the vaccine that was necessary was also ordered to be sent. An Assistant Director of Public Health and District Medical Officer of Health with the necessary subordinate staff were posted in Kulu forthwith. And I am glad to say that as soon as the staff arrived there, within three or four weeks, the epidemic was brought under control. As far as the Government are concerned, they appointed Mr. Miles Irving as a Commissioner to enquire into the causes of the spread of the disease into Kulu and asked him to suggest measures for the prevention of its recurrence in the future. I myself visited Kulu during the epidemic to see for myself how the work was being done by the Public Health Department. The suggestions made in the report of Mr. Miles Irving are under the consideration of Government and I do not wish to anticipate what may be done in regard to them. But there we have the proposal to appoint a sub-assistant health officer who will always be residing at Kulu in order to cope with emergencies that may arise in future. Government have also decided to open a second dispensary in Saraj which will help public health matters in regard to the Kulu Valley. There is no doubt that nobody is more sorry than the Government and myself for the lives that have been lost in the Kulu Valley. But as I was saying the

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spread of the disease there was quite unexpected. It never spread in that way before. Now we have measures under consideration which I hope will not allow this danger to crop up again.

The honourable member referred to the question of vaccine not being supplied to the Health Officers in the Kulu Valley according to their needs. Let me assure the House that whenever the Health Officer called upon the Department of Public Health to supply him with any quantity, it was supplied to him with the least amount of delay. Vaccine is stocked at Kasauli and it takes a little time to send it from there to Kulu, but that could not have been helped. And it is difficult to stock vaccine elsewhere. But for the future we will see to it that some doses of vaccine are stocked in Kulu itself and let us hope that such an eventuality will never arise and the need for using the vaccine will not come into existence. Originally vaccine could only be ordered by the Director of Public Health. That, no doubt, was due to the fact that originally we had only two Health Officers for the Punjab, one the Sanitary Commissioner and the other the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner for the whole of the Province. And in those days orders for vaccine could only be given by the senior officer, but now that the Public Health Department has come into existence we have Health Officers working in all districts from last year all of whom are qualified to deal with vaccine. We have issued instructions that in order to avoid delay they can send for vaccine from Kasauli direct and inform the Director of Public Health that they have ordered the vaccine.

I do not wish to take up the time of the House with the other activities of the Public Health Department, the manner in which they have coped with plague, for instance, in the Ambala division. I am glad to say that the honourable the mover of this motion has himself conceded in the beginning that he did not question the amount of useful service that the Public Health Department were doing. I may give you this assurance that all that could be done will be done in order to bring about co-ordination between the public, the civil authorities and the medical officers of health. And as a first step to this end what we are doing is this, that we have nominated district medical officers of health as members of the district boards in order to bring them into direct touch with the public themselves. Further in order to give the district boards a certain amount of influence with the medical officers of health we have laid down that their clerical and other staff should be supplied by the district board, with the result that there will always be a constant, direct and real touch between the people, their representatives and the medical officers.

As far as the appointment of health officers to the various districts is concerned, the honourable mover drew attention to the places where Muslim medical officers of health did not exist. I may inform him that the only Muslim officers available have been posted to the following places. Muhammad Farid at Mirawali. Muhammad Musa Khan in Jhang, Muhammad Husain Khan in Campbellpur, Raiz Ali Shih in Muzaffargarh and Abdul Hamid in Sialkot. Those that are available have been posted in districts like Mirawali, Campbellpur, Jhang and Muzaffargarh which are predominantly Muslim districts and according to the argument

of the honourable members Muslims should have been posted there, I think the House will agree with me that it is a correct kind of posting and that if there are no more Muslim officers to be had we are not to blame for not posting them everywhere.

Mr. E. Maya Das [Non-Official: Nominated]: I wish to ask a question of the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government. He has told us that cholera broke out in certain towns where the members of the municipal committee refused to listen to the advice given by the Health Department. Consequently the disease began to spread and many families lost their bread-winner. Thus it may be said that people died because of the neglect of the members of the Municipal Committee. I wish to ask if it is possible for the Government to hold the members of the Municipal Committee responsible for this loss of life and to compel them to compensate the families which have lost their bread-winners.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: [Minister for Local Self-Government]: Sir, I am afraid it is not possible for me to decide the civil liabilities of the people. That is a matter which has to be decided by courts of justice.

Mr. President (called Pandit Nanak Chand, who had not risen himself, and observed). I have called the honourable member as his motion (No. 4) is very closely connected with the motion under discussion. If he does not care to speak, he will not be allowed to move or speak on his motion.

Pandit Nanak Chand [Hoshiarpur (Non-Muhammadian) Rural]: Very well, Sir, I will speak now. I wanted to speak at the end of the debate. If you order me I will commence speaking.

Mr. President: I give no order. If the honourable member does not wish to speak he need not.

Pandit Nanak Chand: Sir, I wanted to speak afterwards, but as you order me to speak now I will speak.

Sir, it was not surprising that the motion of the kind which has been brought forward by my friend Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan should have been tabled even against the Minister of Public Health, because in the beginning of the debate we had an indication from the honourable members on those benches as to what was coming in the debate that was to follow the general discussion regarding the budget. One or two speakers on that side characterised the Minister for Public Health as a very weak, as a very mild Minister and that they are not satisfied with the kind of work that he was doing in the Province. We therefore came to the conclusion, at least I did, that there would be something very spicy even with regard to the discussion regarding the Public Health affairs, and this matter has been made more spicy by the speech that has been delivered by my friend Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan. It is most surprising how time after time various kinds of principles are enunciated in this House as to the filling up of the appointments in the various departments under the Government. One new principle to-day enunciated by my honourable friend is that where there is a predominantly Muhammadan population, there must be Muhammadan doctors.

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Muhammadan dispensers, Muhammadan sanitary inspectors and so on. Well, Sir, unfortunately my friend was not here when I read certain quotations from the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member which he delivered in this very hall in 1928 when he warned the members of this House that if principles of this kind were to be accepted the persons employed in Government service would regard themselves as servants, not of the public, but of the particular community to which they belong. Suppose now for example this principle were to be accepted by the Honourable Minister for Public Health and he has partly given an assurance that he is prepared to accept that principle.....

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Which principle ?

Pandit Nanak Chand : The principle that where there is a Muhammadan population, you will appoint Muhammadan sanitary inspectors, Muhammadan dispensers and so on.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I gave no such assurance.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Well, I am glad to hear that such an assurance was not given.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : It is not a question of your being glad or not glad. It was not a correct statement.

Pandit Nanak Chand : I am very glad that I am mistaken. Very well, Sir. The point to which I was referring was that if you make appointments on the basis of that principle, servants of the Government will consider themselves not as servants of the public at large, but servants of the particular community from which the recruitment is made. The principle which my honourable friend Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan has placed before the House is unworkable. How are you going to appoint the Europeans ? In all the districts of the Punjab there is not a single district where European population predominates. Does my friend mean to say, because Europeans do not form a predominant portion of the population of any district, we must not have the advantage of the expert advice of a qualified European. Then take the case of Anglo-Indians. The Anglo-Indians are fifty thousand in the Punjab. (Interruptions).

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : They are not fifty thousand in the Punjab, Sir.

Mr. President : Whatever their number, no interruption please.

Pandit Nanak Chand : The honourable member will have a right of speech.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Are we right in giving wrong figures ?

Mr. President : This is not the time to correct wrong figures.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Should we accept them to be correct, if we believe them to be wrong.

Mr. President : The honourable member will please reserve his knowledge for the present. He may use it when his turn comes.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : On a point of order, Sir. Is it against Parliamentary procedure to question the figures, or the correctness of figures.

Mr. President : Yes, it is permissible provided interruptions are not made for the sake of interruptions.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Thank you, Sir, I was submitting that so far as Anglo-Indians are concerned, they may be 50 thousands, 20 thousands or even 18 thousands, I do not know exactly what is their number, but the fact is that there is no single district of the Punjab which has got a predominating population of the Anglo-Indians. That is a statement which I submit is not open to any discussion, doubt or denial, and if they will correct me on that point, in any speech that they may make later on, I shall be obliged. The point is this that there is no district in the Punjab where Anglo-Indians form the predominant population. Do you mean to say that because there is no district in the Punjab where Anglo-Indians are large in numbers so they should not be employed in the Medical Department? So far as Anglo-Indians are concerned most of them are in the Medical Service and they have been rendering useful, honest and very faithful service to the people. Introduce this principle and they will have to go out.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : May I just say that there is no Anglo-Indian officer in the Medical Department of the Punjab or in any district.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Now, Sir, take another example. There is no district which may be called predominantly Christian. If the principle advocated by my honourable friend Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan is adopted, what will be the fate of the poor Christians? They will have no place whatsoever on the medical staff. These are the principles which my honourable friend Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan wishes the House to adopt and he further says that intelligent, able, well-informed and experienced men from other communities must be ruled out and they must not be admitted into service, because unfortunately and precisely because they belong to communities which do not form the predominant portion of the population. Christians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans therefore must go out of the Medical Department. Go a step further and see what the then Honourable the Finance Member means. He warned the House and said that people thus recruited will consider themselves servants, not of the public at large, but of the particular community which helped them to get those jobs. Now, Sir, this idea, as I have many times said here, is prevailing already, that people mainly consider themselves the servants of that community from which they are recruited. Now suppose there is a district predominantly populated by Muhammadans, the doctor is a Muhammadan, the dispensers are Muhammadans and sanitary inspectors are Muhammadans and all other medical staff is Muhammadan and so on. If this principle is accepted, they will consider themselves primarily the servants of the community which helped them to get those posts. Now suppose plague breaks out. What would they do. Will they not allow the Hindus, the Sikhs, the Christians, the Anglo-Indians and the Europeans to die, because their paramount duty is to treat the men of their

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own community? That will be the natural and logical result of the principle formulated by my honourable friend for our acceptance. Unfortunately the germs of the disease do not make any distinction between a Hindu or a Muhammadan or a Christian. They will attack Chaudhri Afzal Haq, Pandit Nanak Chand, Lala Sewak Ram, Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan. Here is a Muhammadan gentleman who is appointed by the Government on a communal basis mainly on the basis that the population of that district is Muhammadan, will he first look to Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan or Nanak Chand?

Mr. President: Order, order. The honourable member who is now in possession of the House, will do well not to refer to other members by their names. No unpleasantness would take place if members would refer to each other by the names of their constituencies, or by saying, e.g., the honourable member who has just sat down, or who has spoken before, or by such other polite references.

Pandit Nanak Chand: Very well, Sir, I bow to your ruling. I intended to observe this principle but here I was referring to certain gentlemen not as members of the Council, but as a Muhammadan or a Hindu. With due deference to your ruling, I will hereafter refer to them as A, a Muhammadan, B, a Hindu and so on. The principle I was submitting was this, that supposing there is a predominantly Muhammadan district which is doctored by Muhammadans, where the medical staff is predominantly Muhammadan, then in that case what would happen? What will be the general state of affairs? There will be discontent, dissatisfaction, inefficiency, corruption and bribery. Apply these principles a little further. What about the Jail Department? If the population of a jail is predominantly Muhammadan, a Muhammadan should be in charge of that jail, and all the warders and policemen, and peons who generally are watchmen should be Muhammadans. What will be the result? Prisoners will be going out. Convicts will be released. The Muhammadan officers will say, here are Muhammadans, who are their servants, the servants of their community. They are thieves, they are freebooters, why not help them to rejoin their place in the society and allow them to make money by dacoities, looting and robbing?

Take the Police Department. Similar thing will happen there. Does my honourable friend ask this House to adopt principles of this kind? Does he mean to say that they will lead to the improvement and the efficiency of the services? Will they not lead to deplorable results? I submit that these are matters which the House should not tolerate. These are not tolerated in other countries. How could we who are claiming further political advance accept principles of this kind?

Is the Punjab the only province where these principles should be applied or are they to be applied to India as a whole? If we study the figures in other provinces what do we find? In the United Provinces there are 18 per cent. Muhammadans only, while there are 47 per cent. Muhammadans in the gazetted ranks. Does my honourable friend want that these posts should be handed over to the Hindus and that the Muhammadans in those districts should be sent out either to Lahore in the Punjab or to Eastern Bengal where there is a predominantly Muslim population. To ask this House

to accept such things is an insult to the intelligence and common sense of the House. I for one cannot accept this.

Then there was one other matter in the speech of the Honourable Minister for Public Health which I have to criticize. He said that in certain departments all the Muhammadans with minimum qualifications had been taken and that there were no more Muhammadans with minimum qualifications.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: What I said was this. The only qualification that entitles a man to be taken in the Public Health Department is the Diploma of Public Health from London. That is the minimum qualification and there is no qualification higher than that.

Pandit Nanak Chand: If a person possesses higher qualifications why should the Honourable Minister not accept him in preference to one with lower qualifications?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: That is the only requisite qualification.

Pandit Nanak Chand: I would submit one point in this connection. Suppose two candidates go to the Honourable Minister for Public Health. One has the M. B. B. S. qualification and besides that possesses the Diploma of Public Health from London referred to by the Honourable Minister. He has also got a British Medical Degree. The other is a Muhammadan with the minimum qualifications. Now the two men come forward, one a Muhammadan with the minimum qualifications and the other a non-Muhammadan, let me say a European, or an Anglo-Indian or a Sikh or a Christian—for, if I say, "Hindu" my honourable friend on the other side might be offended—the other with these three qualifications, and the post carries Rs. 250 per mensem to whom would he give it? Ordinarily he must choose the man who has the highest medical qualifications. In a case of this kind the Honourable Minister will not be doing full justice to the tax-payer if he chooses the man with the minimum qualifications. The tax-payer is paying his taxes not because you employ Mr. A, a Muhammadan, or Mr. B, a Sikh, or Mr. C a Hindu, or Mr. D something else. He wants only the best man and the best possible value for his money. The money may be one rupee or six rupees. He wants the best possible value for his money. Who are you to give him the least possible value for his money? That is the point of view of the tax-payer, the person with whom these medical gentlemen will come into contact. I submit that a thing of this kind should not be accepted by the Minister of Public Health. There are certain departments that deal with the lives of men, not merely of one or two but of a large number of people. Such are the Engineering Department and the Medical Department. Supposing as a result of recruitment on the basis mentioned by honourable members you happen to recruit an engineer who is not well-qualified in his work and he is placed in charge of the construction of a bridge over which a railway is to run. Supposing he constructs the bridge in a wrong manner, what would be the result? There would be a great catastrophe. For departments which require special skill and expert knowledge the sole basis for recruitment should be merit and merit alone. Sometimes speeches are made by honourable members on the other side of the House that literary merit alone should

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not be the consideration and that examinations alone should not be the sole test. I do not say that examinations should be the sole test. Have any kind of test you please, have the test of physical fitness, have the test of riding, have the test of weight, height and so on. I do not mind. But what I want this House to understand is this. The question of caste, race or religion should not be made the basis of appointments to the posts under Government which are of this special nature. It is bound to lead to degeneration of the service, to inefficiency and to corruption. I submit it will tend to ruin the public life of this province. If we accept this motion we will be made the subject of ridicule by other provinces and we will not be doing anything which will do credit to ourselves.

Sardar Ujjal Singh [Sikh, Urban]: Sir, the atmosphere was very tense the other day when we were discussing the motion of my honourable friend from Rohtak with regard to the grant for the Agricultural Department. We were all fed up with such discussion and I thought that no further discussion of that nature would again be raised. But unfortunately my honourable friend from Sialkot has raised the same question again. Sir, the honourable member from Rohtak gave us to understand as he was the accredited leader of the Unionist Party, that the creed of that party was based on economic grounds and that he and his party were all pressing for appointments to various departments only on economic grounds. But another member of the party has shown us to-day that that was only a cloak to conceal the communal spirit of a notorious type. Sir, I am at a loss to know whether we will be advancing the cause of the province by indulging in debates of this kind and by discussing on the floor of the House questions of individual appointments in the various departments of the Government. As a matter of fact, I feel that we have overdone ourselves in this direction. We have made ourselves the laughing stock of the whole country. It is high time that we put a stop to this sort of debate. It is quite fair and proper on the part of the members of the various communities, if they feel that any injustice is done to them or any inequality exists in any department of Government, to approach the Minister or the head of the department and see that justice is done and that the inequality is removed. But I fail to see what useful purpose it will serve to bring forward questions of individual grievances in the various departments of the Government every time a demand for grant is made for that department.

Coming to the particular question regarding the medical officers of the Public Health Department, the honourable member from Sialkot sought to lay down a novel principle. That has been discussed at length by my honourable friend Pardit Nanak Chand and I do not want to go at length into the matter. It is certainly a very novel principle. He said that in predominantly Muhammadan districts or in districts which are mainly populated by Muhammadans, only Muhammadans ought to be appointed. The reason he put forward was this. He asked: "Can a non-Muslim officer of Public Health be popular among the Muhammadans?" Sir, it comes to this. Either he has a poor estimate of the mentality of the masses or he thinks that no one except a member of the same community can be popular with the members of that community. Sir, I submit that it is not the creed of the man that makes him popular with the masses. It is really the hard

honest and solid work done for the people of the district in which the officer is working that goes to make him popular. He may be a Muhammadan, a Sikh or a Hindu. But if he is not doing his duty for the benefit of the people there he will not be popular among them. Coming to the actual figures the honourable member pointed out that only 11 medical officers of health were Muhammadans.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Only eight officers.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : The Honourable Minister said that there were eleven officers.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Three Assistant Directors and eight Medical Officers of Health.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : May I ask the honourable member from Sialkot to state whether there is a single Muhammadan qualified public health officer who is not employed ?

Mr. President : Order, order, the honourable member is repeating the arguments already advanced by another honourable member.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : On the other hand there are members of the other communities, Hindu and Sikhs, who are quite qualified, but who have not had any appointment. I know of two Sikhs who are very highly qualified and who have been wandering about for the last two years, whereas Muhammadans who have come back after them from England have been given appointments. Will the Honourable Minister point out whether any Sikh or Hindu has been appointed during the past two years ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The very first man that I appointed was a Sikh. It was Mr. Amrit Singh posted to Jogendra Nagar.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : For the last two years ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I have appointed the following persons : Amrit Singh and Jiwan Singh.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : When were they appointed ? I did not say that the Honourable Minister did not appoint any but nobody was appointed during the last two years.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : They were appointed in July 1927 and that is within two years.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : What I know definitely is this, that there are two Sikhs wandering about, may be, not exactly for two years and they have not been appointed but some Muhammadans who returned from England after them, have since been appointed. Is it a fact or not and I know it as a fact too, that there is a vacancy still in this department but that vacancy is being withheld because of want of a Muhammadan. There is no Muhammadan available but Sikhs are available and they are not being appointed. Take the case of Assistant Directors of Public Health. There are 3 Assistant Directors of Public Health, who are Muslims but there is not a single Sikh.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I think the statement that the honourable member has made that there is a vacancy is not quite correct. There is one vacancy but it is a leave vacancy. And as there is no gentleman on leave, that has not been filled.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Send somebody on compulsory leave.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : There are three Muslim Assistant Directors of Public Health but not a single Sikh has been appointed.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : May I point out, Sir, that Assistant Directors of Public Health are not appointed direct by the Government but they are promoted according to the seniority list which existed long before I came.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : May I point out to the Honourable Minister that one of the Assistant Directors of Public Health is a much junior man in the service of the Public Health Department to many others who are still serving as Medical Officers of Health. He may have been senior in his total service but not according to his service in the Public Health Department.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : As a matter of fact as far as seniority in the Public Health Department is concerned we count not only the service in the Department but also the service in the Municipal Committees and local boards. If it had not been so, then Dr. Arora could never have been appointed as Assistant Director of Public Health.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : What I say is this, that one of the gentlemen who is holding the post of the Assistant Director of Public Health was junior to many in the service of the Public Health Department.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Which one?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Dr. Abdul Hamid.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Dr. Abdul Hamid of Rawalpindi? Yes, he was in the Public Health Department of the Punjab and he was selected by the Director of Public Health.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : What I want to point out is not this that he was not in the Public Health Department, but that his service in the Public Health Department did not justify his appointment as Assistant Director of Public Health.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : He was the best qualified man with the best claims from the Government point of view to be selected for the appointment.

Mr. President : I am afraid I cannot allow a dialogue; the honourable member would please proceed with his speech.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : What I want to point out is this, that the grievance is not on the side of Muhammadans. As a matter of fact, it is the Sikhs and possibly the Hindus who have any grievance because there are qualified Hindus and Sikhs who are wandering about and the Ministry of Local Self-Government is not giving them employment. The honourable members from that party only want to press the Minister to give more posts to Muhammadans.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam West Punjab Towns, (Muhammadan Urban) : Well, Sir, as long as I was outside this House my thoughts were that only the people, who are not so very intelligent and literate could talk illogically, but since I have come to this House, with all due deference to the

members of this House, I find that best lessons against logic are given in this very House. It is most unfortunate for us, most painful for us and it is really glorifying and very pleasant to Government benches that all of us here begin talking against communalism but we end with communalism; with pure communalism. Some can conceal their communalism and others cannot conceal their communalism. I know, Sir, so far as this motion is concerned, the honourable mover discussed a principle, and his principle was that officials should be posted in different places where they are most likely to attract public sympathy. This was the principle that he advocated and I can very well see, Sir, that behind his principle there was communalism but so far as that is concerned he could not conceal it and he was frank enough to plead it. Then another friend from Hoshiarpur got up to oppose him. He talked of non-communalism but with him non-communalism itself is communalism. He knows that as long as a particular community has got a greater number of posts to stick to than its share would justify, he will keep quiet. But this is really communalism. Therefore, I submit he comes in category of those who talk on the basis of communalism but who want to conceal communalism in the shadow of non-communalism. Then, Sir, a third member rose representing the Sikh Urban constituency of the Punjab and he started condemning communalism. He says that he does not want communalism but he wants efficiency, but his last dispute with the Honourable Minister was whether a Sikh was ever appointed as Assistant Director of Public Health or not.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : On a point of order, Sir. I never said.....

Mr. President : That is not a point of order. If the honourable member wishes to make a personal explanation he may do so at the end of the speech of the honourable member who is now in possession of the House.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I am not making any personal attack in that way so as to warrant or invite any personal explanation. What I am submitting is that there were questions and answers between the honourable member and the Honourable Minister which some of us could listen and others could not listen.

Pandit Nanak Chand : May I put a question, Sir, what sort of communalism is this which he is advocating?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I will answer that question before I end. So far as I have seen and heard what is evident is that honourable members start talking against communalism but they really dispute over communalism. The true position is that one community wants the other community which has got the lion's share to part with a part of what it has got but that other community does not want to do so. It is, therefore, communalism on one side as well as it is communalism on the other. It is naked-communalism on one side, whilst it is concealed communalism on the other. My honourable friend the honourable member from Sikh Urban constituency who has always advocated his views in this Council against communalism as if he were the greatest supporter of non-communalism has often fallen in the same fallacy and in fact advanced most illogical arguments in support of naked communalism. What really happens is when we are talking of these things we forget the real issue. We forget those poor people, we forget those individuals who really suffer from these epidemics and to whom

[Dr. Muhammad Alam.]

the Public Health Department can do real good. We absolutely forget that point. Now, Sir, so far as I am concerned, let me tell you what sort of communalism is mine. I do not mind if in any place there are one hundred Hindu officials where the whole population is Muhammadan, nor do I mind if one hundred Muslims are posted to any place where the whole of the population is Hindu. Communalism is in reality being created by the Government. What I do want to see is that Hindus posted in Muslim *ilagas* should not aggrieve Mussalmans and Muslims posted in Hindu *ilagas* should abstain from the same. You cannot deny that each and every Government official with very few exceptions have now got that disease, that is, the disease of communalism. The plain truth is that a Hindu Government official is always working in his own way against the interests of the Muslims and every Muslim Government official, as far as it lies in his power, is working against the interests of the Hindus of that *ilaga*. So far as Europeans are concerned, they are working against the interests of the Hindus, the Muslims and in fact, against the whole of India. This is their interest, and nothing less or more than that. My submission is that Government officials, both Hindus and Muslims, are suffering from this disease, whether my honourable friend from non-Muslim area of Hoshiarpur has got that disease as yet or not or whether the honourable mover of this motion whom he alleged to have been affected with this disease, has got this disease or not. He was talking of germs of epidemics. I consider that this communalism is a very dangerous epidemic even greater than cholera or plague and I submit that germs of communalism are penetrating into every Hindu Government official and so also in every Muslim Government official.

Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan : Is it not a wholesale condemnation of the Government officials?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Decidedly, I am making the statement without any reservation. I make the statement that there may be a few, very few, very very few exceptions. Indeed it may be one or two and those one or two again are not absolutely free from this infection. I can see that this disease has infected most of the Government officials and that is why we are fighting here. We want more posts for Muslims in a particular *ilaga* because the Hindus there do not treat the Muslims well or at least as they should treat them. We want more Hindus in a particular department, because the Muslims do not treat the Hindus in a nice manner. Who is responsible for this? I ask the honourable members of this House to consider for a moment. I say the Government is responsible! The Government is conniving at this and the Government, if it has not openly encouraged it, has not discouraged communalism amongst Hindus and Muslims in its service. It cannot be said that it is impossible for the Government to eradicate communalism. I submit that it is the duty of the Government, it is the foremost duty of the Government, to eradicate communalism from Government officials. It is not at all difficult for them to accomplish. I say, Sir, that it is not only connived at, but it is often encouraged. And if it is not encouraged then I can say that it is not discouraged.....

Mr. C. A. H. Townsend : May I ask one question? How are the remarks of the honourable gentleman relevant to the demand for the Public Health Department?

Mr. President : Will the honourable member please confine his remarks to the department of Public Health ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I am submitting with reference to the Public Health Department and it is not within the knowledge of any of my friends here, that in any instance this sort of communalism was discouraged amongst Government officials of the Public Health Department. I want to know, Sir, how many officials belonging to Government have so far been punished, in how many cases have their promotions been stopped, in how many cases have they been dismissed from service, in how many cases has any action of the slightest importance or significance been taken by Government on this account that the official concerned if a Hindu is not liked by Muhammadans of the district or if a Mussalman he is not liked by Hindus of that district ? We know that rewards are given to officers for good work, but what is the punishment given to those officers who are awayed by communal motives ? If no punishment is ever given on this account nor an explanation asked, then I submit, it clearly means that Government does not want to eradicate communalism from the Public Health Department or from any other department, because it suits the Government that that state of affairs should continue. My friends think that if they have more Musalmans in a particular department, they will be better looked after. They are mistaken. Then there are those who think that if they have a greater number of Hindus in a particular department they will be better able to hold their own. I submit, Sir, that they are also mistaken. As long as the Government does not change its policy with a view to eradicate communalism.....

Mr. President : The general policy of Government with regard to the eradication of the evil is not under discussion now.

Dr. Shaik Muhammad Alam : I was just to say, Sir, that Government should eradicate communalism from the Public Health Department. My argument was that the Public Health Department is a species of a genus of the whole Government, and therefore, it has also its own share in the policy of communalism. My submission is that really the Public Health Department can do no good to the country, it can do no good to real sufferers, it can do no good to those poor individuals for whom we require this department, unless the policy which I have suggested is established by Government in that department that wherever there is any complaint of communalism against a Government servant, be he a Hindu or a Mussalman, the Government should take immediate action and punish that official in the Public Health Department. But Government is not going to do it, and therefore, I submit, so far as that discussion is concerned, it is futile. What the Government Ministers think they have really to do is to dance attendance on the Government. The other day the Leader of the House, the Revenue Member, said with reference to a speech of mine—that I did not know *رقص کر دی* (how to dance). Well, I do not possess any experience that the Honourable Revenue Member has so far as the terms of *rags garden* are concerned.....

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Is dancing part of the debate to-day ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Sir, *rags kardan* may be part of the functions of the Ministers, which includes the Ministers in charge of the Public Health Department, who might have learnt good lessons from their teacher the Revenue Member in this matter, and it may be, Sir, that I am justified in saying that they are simply paid for this very reason because they know well to dance attendance on the Government. They have, in fact, no other function.....

Mr. President : The honourable member is aware, I presume, of the consequences of persistent irrelevancy.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My submission is that this sentence was actually used by the Honourable the Revenue Member in this Council, and I am referring to that very sentence which was used by him. I am attempting to show, Sir, that I do not profess to know those things like *rags kardan*.....

Mr. President : I think the honourable member is wandering away from the motion before the House.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : What I discuss is whether the Ministry in charge of Public Health Department has done those things which it ought to have done to check the spread of the outbreak of epidemics in the Punjab. Sir, we have been told by the Honourable Minister the causes of the spread of different epidemics in different *ilagas*. We have come to know that. We could very well read those causes in any book on medicine. We have also heard from him the dates on which every epidemic broke out in a particular *ilaga*, but we have not learnt from him at all as to those real precautions being taken by the Public Health Department to save the country and the people of that *ilaga* from that particular epidemic. We have heard nothing about it. We have heard that the Director of Public Health himself paid a visit to Kulu Valley, and he emphasised the word "himself" much more than it was necessary. He repeated the word "himself" six or seven times. If we are asked to believe that the very visit of the Director of Public Health to Kulu was to cure the people of the *ilaga* who were suffering from the epidemic, if we are told that his very presence in Kulu would check the spread of the disease, if from "himself" some smell or magic is produced and on account of that magic or on account of that smell people are cured and in future they are immune from the disease then we should be satisfied by this explanation. Then I would even request the Honourable Minister to introduce me to such a Director so that I can protect myself from disease for the whole of my life (*Laughter*). We only want to know what this Department has done since it has come under the charge of an Honourable Minister. What particular things have been done by this Department since it has come under the control of this Honourable Minister? We are not concerned with communalism, nor are we concerned with the fact whether the Honourable Minister is a supposed Mussalman or a real Mussalman. I am not discussing that at all, nor am I discussing whether he is liked by his party or not, or whether he belongs to his party or whether he does not belong to that party as it was put in a very straightforward way by the honourable member from Sialkot. We are not concerned with that at all. Nor are we concerned with the fact whether he dances well upon Government or whether he does

not dance well upon Government. We are not concerned even with these, in what way he dances, how he dances, at what time he dances and with whom he dances. We are not concerned with all these things at all. What we are really concerned with is this. Tell us what particular precautions you have taken in any particular area to check any epidemic. It is no use telling us that such and such a disease started on such and such a day, that there were so many cases and so many deaths, that the epidemic was at its highest on such and such a day and that on such and such a day the epidemic disappeared. An epidemic would disappear even by a change of weather and we know that epidemics do break out and disappear by changes in the weather. It is no use telling us that the epidemic started because there was the festival of Id, or because there was a festival of the *Kumbh* fair. What we want to know is, are the officials doing justice to the salaries which they are receiving from Government? To justify their salaries they should show what work they have done to check a particular disease, and what precautions they have taken to see that the epidemic will not spread any more. My submission is that so far as that work is concerned, we have heard nothing, and what we have heard is not much at all, we are fighting on the wrong issue whether more posts should be given to Mussalmans in any particular *Waga* or whether more posts should be given to Hindus. I hope, Sir, that the Honourable Minister will speak, or if he is not going to speak some other Government member will speak on his behalf on this point. This motion is brought against the Minister in charge by a member of his own party and it is stated that the Honourable Minister is too weak to cope with his other colleagues. I do not know whether it is admiration of him or condemnation of the others. I think it is a condemnation of all three. For my part I am content with the remarks which honourable members in this House have been making that the only Muslim Minister we have got is too weak to cope with his colleagues. I submit, Sir, that if he is too weak he is not too weak in his intentions to cope with his colleagues in promoting communalism. The intention of all the Ministers who, in fact do not represent any party, is the same. Their game is quite soft for they want to please the Government and do not really voice our feelings. My submission was that so far as the Public Health Department is concerned, what we really want to see is that this Department is doing some good to the country, some good to the people on whose behalf this department is being paid. We do not want to learn that any local municipality was disobedient to the Minister's orders. Why have a Minister who cannot control Municipal Committees? If he cannot manage a Municipal Committee of a town like Kasur, it would be the height of a would not use strong words—it would be the height of an unwise action to put him in charge of Local Self-Government. Now it is often said if we go against the orders of Government that we are rebellious, or at least we are seditious. Well, Sir, so far as we are concerned, Government is trying to put one thousand and one.....

Mr. President: The honourable member will please speak to the question before the House.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: I am saying that the Honourable Minister who is in charge of the Public Health Department, said that when there was epidemic in Kasur the Municipal Committee of that place did not

[Dr. Muhammad Alam.]

obey the orders of the Public Health Department which is controlled by the same Minister. If we find that a Municipal Committee of the significance of Kasur could rebel or could be seditious against this Minister, then I think we should have a better man who is able to control municipalities. This is what I was submitting and again my submission would be to appeal to the honourable members in this House not to fall into the false discussion that they should have so many Mussalmans posted in such and such *ilaga* or they should have so many Hindus posted in such and such *ilaga*.....

Mr. President : How many times will the honourable member repeat in the same words what he has said again and again ?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I was just going to sum up, Sir. At first it was an argument, now I am making an appeal that they should not fight for these things, but that they should see that no Government official who has anti-Hindu feelings being a Mussalman or anti-Mussalman feelings being a Hindu should be kept in Government service. They should compel Government to check that policy in order to eradicate communalism.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : On a point of personal explanation, Sir. In his speech, my honourable friend Dr. Muhammad Alam has been very unkind to me in attributing to me remarks which I did not make. I never ended my speech by espousing the cause of the Sikhs in the Public Health Department. What I pointed out in my speech was this that the Muslim was not the aggrieved community in this matter. I did not want to raise a discussion on it. I have always been against the spirit of communalism and the honourable member has been unkind to me in the course of his speech.

Chaudhri Ram Singh [Kangra, Non-Muhammadian, Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, mention has been made of the outbreak of cholera in Kulu in the Kangra district. It is a fact that cholera broke out in Kulu and it is also a fact that many people died of this epidemic. But I may point out, at the same time, that Public Health Department, is not to blame for that. As perhaps the honourable members are aware and as the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government has explained, Kulu is situated at a considerable distance from Dharamsala, the headquarters of the district and therefore, the information regarding the outbreak of cholera in Kulu reached the headquarters very late. It is to the credit of the Public Health Department that it made every effort to cope with this fell disease and tried hard to bring it under control. The officers of this department posted in that district are very noble, good hearted and they take sufficient pain and interest in the discharge of their duties. I, therefore, and in fact the people of that district, have no complaint against the department or its officers. I said the same thing to Mr. Irving on his visit to the Kangra district. He sent for me while he was in camp at Pathankot and enquired whether the public in the Kangra district had any grievance against the conduct of the officers of the Public Health Department. I replied that I had received no complaints from these people so far and that they had nothing to say against any of the officers. I repeat it once more that the Public Health Department is not to blame in any way so far as the outbreak of cholera at Kulu is concerned.

Now I want to say a few words with regard to the remark made by the honourable member for Sialkot. In his speech he asked the Government for the appointment of more Muhammadan doctors as, as he said, the number of Hindu and Sikh doctors already appointed is very large. Sir, it has become a habit with some of the members of this Council to make such demands in season and out of season. They miss no opportunity to remind the Government of the paucity of this community on a certain department of the Government and the monopoly of that community in another department. They are never tired of making such demands and they do not take into account the question of the efficiency of the working of Government departments. But they are not very much to blame. It is the fault of the Government, if I may say so, that encourages them to come forward with such requests. It is due to the attitude of the Government that this trouble has arisen. I am here reminded of a very appropriate Persian proverb—

اے یاد مہا این ہمہ آوردن تسک

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan : On a point of order, Sir, the honourable member has used an expression the meaning of which I cannot understand. I do not know what he means by *awarda*.

Chaudhri Ram Singh : Sir, I never fear speaking a plain truth and I wish to point out that the public at large think and feel that of late the Punjab Government has grown pro-Muslim and it unduly shows favour to the Muhammadans in general. It is why I said, in the beginning of my speech, that Government itself is responsible for engendering the spirit of communalism throughout the Province. Since the beginning of this session of the Council no day has passed when the Hindu-Muslim question has not been raised in the Council. It is no surprise if the visitors go back disappointed because they find every-day communal warfare going on in this House.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The honourable member has made use of terms which are not Parliamentary.

Chaudhri Ram Singh : As the Government yields every time to the demands of the Muhammadan members, the appetite of the latter for more posts is increasing every day. Neither do they take rest nor do they allow the Government to take rest. As Akbar, the famous poet, said—

دو مزادین جو ملیں چار تمناؤں کیں۔ ہم نے محو غلابہ عین تزام کو رہنے نہ دیا

My Muhammadan friends never cease crying for securing more posts in various Government departments. This cry has now become a regular nuisance and I, as a zamindar, request the Government to take steps to put a stop to it. If I were to give my opinion, I would say that after due consideration different standards of qualifications should be fixed for different Government employments and whosoever comes up to that standard should be appointed to those posts. The consideration of caste, creed or colour should not prevail with the Government in making the various appointments in its gift. That is the only remedy by which this trouble can be put

[Chaudhri Ram Singh]

an end to. But Government appears to be very indifferent to this question. It rather appears to be encouraging communalism. It has begun to prepare a detailed statement giving communitywise the number of all Government servants employed in various departments. That statement is supplied to all the members every year. It is a sort of pistol in the hands of the members and armed with it, they fight with each other. I should think that Government should stop preparing this statement in future. With these words, I oppose the motion before the House.

Mr. President : After hearing the remarks made by several honourable members on communalism, I wish to request the honourable members of the House that none of them should try to fathom and discuss the supposed or real motives which any other honourable member may have had in his mind in making a speech or moving a motion. They should discuss the speeches, refute the arguments, correct any mis-statements, or meet any points raised by their opponents, but they should not try to probe into the mind of any other honourable member to find out the reasons or motives which he may have had in his mind. I hope all honourable members will accept this as a wholesome principle and follow it in their future speeches.

Mr. Din Muhammad [East and West Central Towns, (Non-Muhammadan), Urban] : Sir I am constrained to remark that we have digressed very far from the right course in our discussion to-day. Every honourable member, from the honourable member for Hindu Hoshiarpur, as he is pleased to call himself, right up to the honourable member from Kangra somehow or other managed to introduce his pet theme into the discussion and inflict a harangue upon us. We were discussing the Public Health Department and we meant to criticise its activities or to admire them. We meant to point out the flaws in the department which we have come across or suggest improvements where we could. But instead of that, following the mentality of the student who knew the Binomial theorem only and who in his question paper on Mathematics, finding that his favourite question was not there, stated : 'Let me first prove the Binomial theorem', they have dwelt upon their pet themes and ignored the subject altogether. So far honourable members have discussed only one activity of the Public Health Department, i.e., the control of epidemics and the carrying out of preventive measures to check the spread of diseases. But we find there are other functions also of this department. To mention a few, the Urban Sanitary Board, the Rural Sanitary Board, the Pasteur Institute, the Education Bureau and several others are included in the said Department. For any department to be blamed for the spread of an epidemic or for any department to take credit for the checking of an epidemic is equally wrong. For we know that an epidemic is a God inflicted disease. It runs its own course ; it takes its own toll and it dies its own natural death. If the plague at Multan subsided after five months, naturally we could not have expected it to live longer there. Similarly if cholera at Kulu spread for three months and no more, it could not have gone on longer, and when the months of July, August and September had passed away, cholera had to go away too. So far, therefore, as the activities of the Public Health Department are concerned, we have to look to its other spheres of work and find out whether the department is justifying its existence.

I come to the question of the Urban Sanitary Board. It is there to undertake sanitary schemes which might give relief or grant redress to a large section of the population needing it. I know of many instances on the point which would show that the department had been absolutely remiss in the discharge of its functions. I will, however, quote two concrete instances only which would bear me out. The town of Gujranwala has three big depressions and two dry ponds. In every rainy season they serve as repositories of storm water. All the three ponds are surrounded by at least 500 residential houses and whenever there are rains, all the inhabitants are surrounded by water on all sides. And for full four months they have absolutely not an inch of dry land. They use wooden rafts and planks for transporting themselves and their cattle to the road which connects the town with their houses. During the last 18 years the municipality and the residents of Gujranwala have been clamouring for relief. During every rainy season one representative of the Health Department or another, one representative of the executive department or another, is pleased to visit the place, sheds some crocodile tears and returns. When the Urban Sanitary Board is approached they send a proposal in the shape of a scheme which does not go beyond the stage of a scheme at all and heaven knows when it is to be executed. Of course the department can claim credit for one thing at least that every time they send a scheme they add at least 1½ lakhs to the original estimates thus manifesting that it would be beyond the scope of either the Municipality to undertake or the Health Department to finance it.

Similarly, with regard to the Pind Dadan Khan water supply scheme; For the last two years at least I have been seeing that the scheme has been very seriously discussed by the Urban Sanitary Board. That old historic town of Pind Dadan Khan is being depopulated for want of good water supply and the Urban Sanitary Board have not been able to make up their minds as to whether one scheme is to be adopted or the other. This is the way in which the Public Health Department treats lightly the grievances of the people.

Now take another function of this Department, and, that is, the improvement of sanitation and promotion of public health. Whereas on paper it is shown that the Education Bureau will prepare magic lantern slides, health charts, diagrams and photos for the education of the masses in sanitary affairs, no practical results have been achieved so far. Those charts, diagrams and photos are perhaps being deposited in the Lahore Museum for the future generations to come and see and admire the activity of the Public Health Department in 1928-29. What we actually demand is that after the close of every session of the Council we might be able to see a substantial improvement in the condition of the masses. Now take a village and a villager from that village and if you find that he lives in the same old insanitary style in which his predecessors used to live and that his house is not cleaner than what it used to be and that he uses the same old method of keeping his cattle and running his every day life and that his every day life is not improved in the least, I would submit that that would be a sad commentary on the activities of the Public Health Department.

Sir, a glance at the budget shows that the department has asked for a grant of 27 lakhs of rupees or thereabouts and we see that out of this grant

[Mr. Din Muhammad.]

Rs. 18,61,000 are meant for the establishment alone, and it is only 9 or 10 lakhs that are meant for giving relief to the needy. Now? Sir, if we distribute this sum of 10 or 11 lakhs of rupees over the whole population of the Punjab, it comes to this, that the framers of the budget and the custodians of our health are satisfied to spend one anna per year per head on the population of the Punjab. Is this enough, Sir, one anna per head per year, to improve sanitation, to check disease and to promote public health? I would appeal to the honourable members of this House to see how this money can be sufficient for improving the public health, and for this, Sir, primarily the honourable members of the Government who frame the budget and secondarily the members of this House who pass the budget are to blame. With that money in the hands of the Honourable Minister or the Public Health Department it is really idle to expect any greater results than are at present achieved. But in spite of this I cannot refrain from blaming that department. Last year they took credit for saving about 6 lakhs of rupees, two lakhs under the item of epidemics and about 4 lakhs in the matter of sanitary grant. Now, Sir, if there is any department which should always be active, which should always be up and doing and which should never take any credit for any saving, it is the Public Health Department. This is the department which cannot effect any saving unless it is at the cost of our health, at the cost of our comfort and at the cost of our convenience; and this would be a discreditable saving.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: On a point of order. The honourable gentleman is labouring under a misapprehension. Sanitary grants were spent in that year.

Mr. President: Is that a point of order?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: He is not stating the fact.

Mr. Din Muhammad: I am reading from page 81 of the Memorandum.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: The money granted that year lapsed and it was spent in the next year. It was brought forward as I say from that amount saved last year.

Mr. Din Muhammad: Why was it allowed to lapse? Why did you not spend that money? That was my point. On the one hand, you say that the Gujranwala drainage scheme for instance cannot be financed and on the other hand you allow this 4 or 5 lakhs to lapse.

Mr. President: Will the honourable member please address the Chair?

Mr. Din Muhammad: Sir, I am addressing the Chair, but I was only explaining that I was not labouring under any misapprehension. I was perfectly right in my figures. Now, we have further to see Sir, whether in the matter of propaganda the department is coming up to the mark. The officers and servants of the Public Health Department keep themselves at rest so long as there is no epidemic or disease raging. They do not take a personal interest in their job. They do not keep themselves in close contact with the people. They do not impart lessons on sanitary matters to those with whom they come into contact and unless all that is done, my submission is that the Public Health Department would not be doing its duty.

Mr. E. Maya Das [Non-official, Nominated]: Sir, I think what the honourable member of the sut meant to say was that if without impairing the efficiency of the department and without doing any injustice to any other community, you can increase the number of Muhammadans, you may do so. I think, Sir, it is difficult to find any fault with his request. I think the request is reasonable, and I personally feel that a great deal has been said against this which should not have been spoken.

As regards the activity of this department in the matter of putting down serious epidemics, we know that serious epidemics did break out and the department has been very active. I do not wish to repeat names or make mention of districts, lest it should be thought that I was trying to praise any one in particular, but Sir, from all the information that I have been able to receive, I find that the department has done highly useful work and has succeeded in putting down the serious epidemics in a very much shorter time, than has been previously done. I think the Department deserves congratulations.

Colonel C. A. Gill (Director of Public Health): Sir, this long debate indicates the interest taken by members in the Public Health Department and as such it is welcome. I take this opportunity of acknowledging the invariable sympathy and encouragement afforded by members of this House, both to myself and other members of the department, whether in Lahore or whether on tour. The motion of my honourable and learned friend is framed in somewhat wide, and one might almost say, ambiguous terms. I did not know before he spoke on what particular point he was going to attack the department, it might be that he was not going to attack it at all. It might be that he intended by the words "to discuss the working of the department" to enlarge on the success of the Minister of Local Self Government and the Department of Public Health in coping with the epidemics. It is the duty of honourable members to criticize and healthy criticism is to be welcomed and I expected criticism, and knowing the honourable and learned member as an able debator, I awaited his expected attack with some trepidation. I always listen to his speeches with particular interest as his reasoning and logic are so pleasing and so close. On this occasion, however, I do not think he was so effective as usual. I thought that he did not seem to be quite happy with his brief and he did not seem to me to be quite so logical as usual. For instance, he first disclaimed any knowledge of the internal working of the department and then he went on to suggest that there was lack of co-ordination between me and the Assistant Directors. His main criticism was the failure of the Public Health Department to deal with the epidemics which he illustrated by reference to epidemics of plague and cholera at Kasur, Multan and Kulu. The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government—he is not at present called the Minister for Public Health—has already dealt with these epidemics, so I need say little about them. But I should like to explain to members of this House what the public health position is.

Now as regards the death rate, I will just take the figures for the last 3 years and I will leave out decimal places. The death rate in 1926 for the Punjab was 86 per mille; in 1927, 27; and in 1928, the year just closed, 24 per mille. There is thus a continual and steady decline. Take the birth rate; again leaving out decimal places, in 1926, the birth

[Colonel Gill.]

rate was 41 per mille; in 1927, 42 and in 1928, 46, per mille. There has thus been a steady increase of the birth rate, and continual decrease of the death rate. The year 1928, was in fact, an absolute record in the history of the province, there has never been any year in which the birth rate was higher and the death rate lower than in the year just ended. I am not suggesting of course that this is solely or even mainly due to the work of the Public Health Department, but I do suggest that a year showing such phenomenal figures as this, one would not expect to be attacked on the ground of the failure of the department to deal with epidemics. The actual figures for these great epidemic diseases during the past 3 years are rather interesting. In the case of plague, in 1926, the deaths amounted to 108,287, in 1927 to 8,462, in 1928, to 8,282. In the case of cholera the figures in 1926, were 87; and in 1927, the year, you will recollect of the great Kumbh Fair at Hardwar as a result of which a widespread epidemic of cholera occurred in the Punjab, the deaths were 11,286, whilst in 1928, the cholera deaths amounted to 8,764, of which 1,164 occurred in Kulu. I have just mentioned these figures in order to correct certain wrong impressions which exist in regard to the intensity of the outbreak in Kulu. One does not wish to minimise the severity of this unfortunate epidemic but the figures were not so very great, if we recollect that the epidemic in Lahore district in 1927, caused over 4,000 deaths and in Ferozepore district over 3,000. We heard no public outcry about these epidemics, but, owing to a vigorous campaign in the press, the figures relating to Kulu have been magnified in the popular imagination. Well, Sir, I will leave these statistics to speak for themselves, but to my mind the record of the past few years does not suggest that the work of the Public Health Department is not efficient.

To take another instance, I might refer, Sir, to the fair at Thanesar which was attended by over seven lakhs of pilgrims in November 1928. The honourable and learned member did not probably go there; but he has no doubt read of it in the papers and heard about the sanitary arrangements made for the comfort and convenience of the pilgrims. These arrangements were on a scale that had never before been attempted in the Punjab and they met with a success which was repeatedly referred to in the press and was a common topic of conversation among the people who were there. I think, Sir, it is but fair that when our shortcomings are referred to, the achievements that stand to our credit should also be mentioned.

I must now deal with one or two points mentioned by the honourable and learned mover of this motion. The honourable member from Sialkot suggested that there was something radically wrong with the working of the Public Health Department, because we never held any conferences. So far as I know we have not in the past held any Public Health conferences. The Department is young at present and it may well be that conferences will be held in the future. In fact the Honourable Minister for Local Self Government suggested to me about this time last year, that a conference of Public Health Officers might be held in May. Owing to the outbreak of plague at that time I did not think it desirable to withdraw all the District Medical Officers of Health from their districts and I proposed to hold the conference in November. But when November came we were all

fully occupied with the preparations for the fair at Thanesar. I was myself away at Thanesar and I thought that whilst it would not be possible to hold a formal conference, it might prove useful to hold an informal conference at Thanesar itself. With this object in view all Assistant Directors of Public Health and District Medical Officers were sent to Thanesar to inspect the sanitary arrangements made at the fair. This took the place of a formal conference and I think it proved very instructive to those concerned, although we had no discussions. It is thus clear that the question of holding conferences has not been overlooked. One was actually held last November at Thanesar and others will no doubt be held in the future as circumstances dictate and opportunity offers.

Another criticism of the honourable and learned member was the lack of co-ordination between the Director of Public Health and the assistant directors. I do not quite know where he got this information from and I am unaware of the alleged fact. There are three assistant directors in charge of circles outside Lahore. These are fairly recent appointments. Two of these officers have less than two years' service and the third has less than six months' service. Naturally they are new to their work and inexperienced and I found it necessary to issue to them detailed instructions in regard to their duties.

A copy of these instructions are in my hand, their duties cover an extremely wide field and offer immense scope. The honourable and learned member also said that these officers were not given a chance to display their initiative. This criticism I confess I do not understand. It is true that they are extremely young officers from the departmental point of view, but my letter on the subject states that assistant directors are desired and even expected to put before the Director proposals for promoting the efficiency of the department, but they were at the same time warned that in making proposals their feasibility from the financial and practical standpoints should be carefully weighed. That seems to me to be as far as it is possible to go at present.

The honourable member from Sialkot referred towards the end of his speech to the question of appointments in the Public Health Department. I do not know whether he realises that there are very few appointments in the gift of the Director of Public Health. I need not refer to the district medical officers of health who are appointed by Government, nor to the assistant directors. The Municipal medical officers of Public Health are the nominees of the local bodies. As regards the medical personnel employed in this department assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons are borrowed from the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals. In the case of Kulu, it is true that I specially asked that I might be given 60 or 70 Hindu Sub-Assistant Surgeons. I made this request because I felt it would be a great hardship on Muhammadan Sub-Assistant Surgeons to put them to work in Kulu, where they would experience great hardships and difficulties in respect of food and accommodation. On this occasion I especially asked for Hindus and I think this is the only occasion on which I have asked for staff belonging to any particular religion.

As regards sanitary inspectors there are 28. These 28 were appointed by my predecessor. I have made only two appointments since I took over

[Col. Gill.]

the department. I find, on looking up the figures to reply to the criticism that one of them is a Hindu and the other is a Sikh. I have not many or enough Muhammadan sanitary inspectors, but this, as I will explain shortly, is not the fault of the Department. (7) I may say here and at once that in my opinion there is only one possible way of running the Public Health Department efficiently, and that is by having all races and castes properly represented in the department. I fully agree also with my honourable and learned friend that, so far as possible, they should be posted to areas where there is a majority of their co-religionists. It is not always possible to do so, but we endeavour to carry out as far as possible. As regards sanitary inspectors, I regret to say that representations have been received from several quarters which appear to suggest some unfair action on my part in connection with these appointments. I should like, therefore, to take this opportunity of making it perfectly clear. My desire is to see every community fully represented, indeed I think it would be disastrous for either one, community or the other to predominate. I want both; and I want both to work in co-operation and friendliness, otherwise progress is difficult or impossible. The difficulty about sanitary inspectors is this. A sanitary inspector must be qualified. We have not got enough qualified Muhammadans. I am not empowered to appoint unqualified men. Nor, if I were empowered, would I be willing to take an unqualified man if qualified men were available. Muhammadans in the past have not come forward in sufficient numbers for this examination. The result is that there are relatively few Muhammadan sanitary inspectors on the waiting list. This is not the fault of the Department. I shall give you a few figures. Last October there were 40 vacancies for the sanitary inspectors' class and there were 120 applications for admission. The final selection was made partly with a view to my requirements for Muhammadans and partly on the result of the entrance examination. The selection made by me is rather interesting. Out of the 120 candidates only 22 were Muhammadans, 88 were Hindus and 15 were Sikhs, thus showing how small was the number of Muhammadans who came forward to qualify as sanitary inspectors. As I have said, there are a good many districts which are mainly Muhammadan and in which I would prefer to employ Muhammadans. So the candidates selected to attend the class of 40 were as follows. 19 were Muhammadans out of 22 applicants; 21 were Hindus out of 88 applicants; and 6 were Sikhs out of 15 applicants. I do not think, Sir, that these facts and figures bear out the implications and suggestions contained in my honourable friend's speech, that all sorts of stupidity, if not worse was enacted in posting non-Muhammadans to essentially Muhammadan districts or that in making appointments the interests of Muhammadans were neglected or ignored. He also referred to the distribution list and he pointed out that a large portion of sanitary inspectors and dispensers in the service were Hindus. Well Sir, as I have already stated, these sanitary inspectors were appointed some time ago. There were very few qualified Muhammadan sanitary inspectors at that time and the men appointed were selected from those already in temporary service. As regards dispensers, these appointments are made by the district medical officers in consultation with the local bodies. They are not done by me at all.

As regards Sub-Assistant Surgeons I have already mentioned that we borrow them from the Medical Department, but we have recently started engaging our own men and we have thus engaged 4 sub-assistant health officers. Of these 4 sub-assistant health officers two are Sikhs, one is a Mahammadan and one is a Hindu. As regards the 13 sanitary inspectors belonging to the special epidemiological staff these men were already employed in the Ambala division on plague duty and when the plague subsided their services were continued under the name of the special epidemiological staff. With regard to the posting of muslims to non-muslim districts the appointments to which he referred were made at a time when no muslim health officer were available; consequently a Sikh had to be sent to Dera Ghazi Khan. As regards dispensers and vaccinators they are appointed by the local body concerned.

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad : Local bodies have nothing to do with the appointment of the staff. It is the district medical officer of health who does so without the consent of the local body concerned.

Colonel C. A. Gill : This is contrary to orders. A circular has been issued on the subject enjoining on district medical officers of health to consult local bodies before making appointments and urging them to keep in close touch with the members of the district boards. District medical officers of health have also been asked to send their tour programme to the district board so that the members may have an opportunity of meeting them during their tours. As regards the measures adopted to combat epidemics it would be out of place to go into details here, but, in connection with the remarks of my friend opposite, it is not in the power of the Public Health Department to prevent epidemics completely. All that it is possible to do is to check their occurrence and limit their spread. An epidemic naturally tends to die out itself and consequently it is always difficult to say what success we have achieved and what is due to Nature. I have quoted some figures which show that our efforts have not been entirely without effect. The honourable member from Gujranwala mentioned the Gujranwala drainage scheme. He is not in his seat.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : They seldom are.

Colonel C. A. Gill : The Sanitary Board is waiting to receive that scheme, but unless the local body forwards it to the Board, with the request for a grant, the Urban Sanitary Board is not in a position to take any action. As regards the Pind Didan Khan water-supply scheme I do not understand the criticism of the honourable member for Gujranwala. He is a member of the Urban Sanitary Board and he was present at the meeting at which the board decided that this scheme must be taken up as soon as possible, and the case has in consequence been sent back to the Superintending Engineer, Public Health Circle for certain alterations after which the local municipal committee has been asked to re-submit it to the Board. In connection with the lapse of the grants made to the Public Health department in the budget for last year, he stated that the 2 lakhs earmarked for epidemics had not been spent. This sum represents the provision made, for the purpose of buying large supplies of plague vaccine which are required when a great epidemic of plague occurs. Fortunately, we have only had 8,000 deaths from plague last year and this sum of 2 lakhs provided to meet an emergency was consequently not spent. He also remarked that a sum of Rs. 3,45,000 placed

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at the disposal of the Urban Sanitary Board last year was not spent. This is correct, and the reason was that no schemes on which the money could be spent were placed before the Board by local bodies. I must however point out that when money is not spent in this way it is merely carried over to the next year and counts as an additional sum at the disposal of the Board. I think I have dealt with all the points raised by honourable members and I hope that I have satisfactorily answered the criticisms levelled against my department and more particularly those connected with the recruitment of the staff which have no bottom in them.

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang : If you kindly permit me one sentence I will not say anything more. In view of an informal conversation that I had with the Honourable Minister and the information gained during that conversation I do not want to move my amendment.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I would be lacking in the discharge of my duty if I did not enter a very strong protest against some of the speakers who made undignified remarks not only about Ministers which they may perhaps claim to have a right to do, but also about the Government on the reserved side, which right I question. It was stated *(At this stage Dr. Muhammad Alam entered the chamber)*—I am very glad the honourable member has danced into this room, when I am making this reply—.....

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I receive your compliments.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It was stated definitely that Government is interested in seeing that Ministers dance attendance on Government, and, therefore, the chief qualification for being in office was that. Well, Sir, it is open to any one to support a Minister's policy or to oppose it; whether he aspires to fill the ministerial office himself, or wants someone else to fill it is beside the point. The point is this, that it is unfair to attribute to the Government the policy of appointing Ministers because they dance attendance on Government. I can assure you, Sir, that if dancing attendance on Government were the sole qualification which weighed with Government, the task of appointing the Ministers would become extremely difficult. It would become extremely difficult because the competition will be so great (laughter) and I am not sure whether it would be a stout member who will win or it will be the long-winded member who will win.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : It would be the long-winded member who will win.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Quite so, I am glad the honourable member recognises it. Sir, we all play to some sort of gallery or other at one time of our life or other. Dancing attendance, if thereby is meant trying to persuade the authorities as to your qualifications, well we at times dance attendance on public platforms, at times in Council hall at times in public dinners and at times in public life. (Dr. Alam : and some people everywhere.) Yes for a day in the Council and for the remaining 6 days of the week at some other place. (Laughter). (Dr. Alam : They try the other game first and then the Council). Still it would never do to follow up an argument of this sort. (A voice : But do you admit that it pays to

dance? To some people it pays but as a matter of fact if you ask my opinion formed after a fair amount of dancing done on public platforms, in court rooms, in college rooms and in Council chamber one thing that a man who wants to remain in office for any length of time and with any success whatever, is bound to have is some real good in him and a great deal of industry, before he can do so. I can assure the honourable member that it is easy to reply to such flippant remarks. The less, the members whether they are Government members or non-official members, the less they enter into such transactions, the better for the Council as a whole, and I think I owe perhaps an explanation for the remark I made about the honourable member which he does not seem to have taken nicely. You remember, Sir, that I was very hard pressed that day for time. I was limited to speak for 15 minutes. Time was running fast.....

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Every body was limited to that time.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No, everybody was not. I was the last speaker and you had already taken 25 minutes. I could not do the same. I had to meet the very serious attack made on the Council to the effect that the Council does not follow the lead of the honourable member the Leader of the Opposition and follows either the Government benches or other members. Well that was a very serious reflection made on the capacity or perhaps the integrity of some honourable members of the Council. I had to vindicate that. I had to vindicate that because being at one time a leader of a party myself, and for the present being Leader of the House, I ventured to place the whole argument in this one little phrase or sentence (A voice : Yes you used the Persian equivalent). I do not know whether I used its Persian equivalent. (A voice : Yes you used the Persian equivalent). That is just the same thing. I did not thereby imply any reflection whatsoever that the honourable member was really fond of dancing or made a special avocation of it.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I thought it a qualification that I did not know how to dance.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I see the honourable member says that he does not know how to dance. Well I can assure him that if he really has any aspiration whatsoever in the way of assuming leadership either in this Council or outside, dancing attendance on his audience is essential. It is absolutely necessary that he should not malign the people whom he hopes to convert into steady and honest and abiding followers. You cannot very well quarrel with your followers and still hope to retain your army to fight your enemies.

And it is essential, therefore, not to make a practice of reproaching your colleagues or your followers because thereby you run the risk of undoubtedly alienating their sympathies. I wish to assure the Council that Government has no desire whatsoever to secure any undue flattery from any Minister or any member of this Council, and that there is nothing farther removed from the Punjab Government, than the desire to see a course of conduct adopted by any member other than that of independence and self-respect, for unless members are independent and unless members are self-respecting, Government can never hope to secure their co-operation, a co-operation which can help

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

Government in order to remove the many evils from which all administrations in all countries more or less suffer.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan, [Siakot (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, in winding up the discussion on this motion I will draw the attention of the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government and the Director of Public Health to certain remarks with which I opened it. Both of them have in a sense made it a point of complaint that whereas their shortcomings are being discussed, no reference has been made to, and no eulogy has been pronounced upon their achievements.

Now I conceive that it is no part of the duty of a member who stands up to discuss the activities of an important department in order to bring its shortcomings to the notice of its own officers to pay compliments with regard to their achievements, but even then I opened the discussion by saying that this was a very useful department, that its activities were very beneficial and that for whatever good it had done the compliments of this House may be taken for granted. So the complaint that the achievements of this department were not applauded was not justified.

With regard to the matters under discussion, I shall not follow the order which the Honourable Minister himself adopted in reply to my speech, but shall follow the same order which I myself adopted in putting the motion before the House and that was that I shall first submit any remarks that I have to make at this stage with regard to the general criticism which I had put forward yesterday before I came to the question of appointments.

With regard to the outbreak at Kasur the Honourable Minister pointed out that the reason really was that the municipality persistently refused to carry out the suggestions of the District Medical Officer of Health, namely, suggestions with regard to the removal or destruction of dung heap, and that that was how cholera broke out at Kasur. That may be so. It is very interesting to learn that it is within the powers of a municipality to persistently ignore the orders of both the District Medical Officer of Health and of the Director of Public Health, both the Medical Officer and the municipality being under the same Honourable Minister. But that does not end the matter. The question is, as soon as the epidemic broke out, what immediate steps were taken by the department to put it down? That eventually it was checked and put down is undoubtedly correct. But if the disease had run its natural course and nothing had been done by the Department to check it, then the Department would have deserved its abolition altogether. Undoubtedly eventually it was brought under control and checked. But what we want to know is that when in the first instance the Medical Officers' suggestions were not being followed by the municipality, what action was taken by the Honourable Minister to make the municipality follow these suggestions. If it did not come to his notice that the orders were not being followed, did he haul up the Medical Officer for not having put the matter before the Ministry in order to take steps to obviate the outbreak of any epidemic disease? With regard to that point, the House has been given no information. When actually the outbreak did start, what steps were taken to check the disease? Did the Honourable Minister himself visit the place, or did the a Director of

Public Health do so? Did they take immediate steps to prevent further progress of the epidemic, or was the matter simply settled by correspondence and the disease allowed to make further progress before any active measures were taken?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Their lives were too valuable to be lost.

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan : With regard to Kulu the Honourable Minister tried to show that the Department had done all that it could. But if one were to analyse the explanation one would find that the line of argument adopted by the Honourable Minister was that owing to the Kumbh fair they had apprehensions that pilgrims who had gone to the fair in large numbers from the Kangra district and the Kulu district might bring back cholera to those places. But when I suggested that as they were forewarned they ought to have been fore-armed, he said that I was impatient in making the suggestion. They knew that the epidemic was going to break out or at any rate they apprehended it was going to break out and they took all the necessary steps that could be taken to prevent the outbreak of cholera. This is what he said. But having made those remarks he said that the House must excuse the shortcomings of the Department to a certain extent, because after all the Department is a new department and there never has been any cholera before in the Kulu Valley and therefore the necessary steps were not taken. I myself cannot reconcile these two most inconsistent defences—that you had taken all precautions because you expected an outbreak of cholera and that your shortcomings, if any, should be excused because you had not expected that cholera would break out in the Kulu Valley. So far as the Kumbh fair is concerned, the credit that was really taken was this: that we expected this outbreak and we took certain precautions, and ordinarily what happens is that cholera travels down from these hills into the districts of the plains of the Punjab, and in as much as we were able to prevent that, we have done something which is extraordinary and we are to be given credit for that. But from the mere arguments as to whether the explanation is correct or not, I shall draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to a communication by Mr. David M. Rose in the *Civil and Military Gazette* of the 24th June of last year. He says:

"A despatch from Simla to the *C. & M.* of a week ago reported the outbreak of cholera in epidemic form in the Kulu Valley and stated that thereby a severe strain had been placed upon the Punjab Health Department. The first part of the statement is correct. Cholera broke out here some five weeks ago and is daily increasing in virulence. To date over 500 cases and more than 275 deaths have been reported in 17 out of 23 Kotlis into which Kulu is divided. The second half of the statement imposes a "severe strain" upon the credulity of a resident of the Valley, unless the Punjab Health Department is no stronger than an infant in swaddling clothes. In the first place it would have been comparatively easy to have prevented the entrance of the disease had a couple of quarantine stations been established as was urged by the local Assistant Surgeon when news arrived that cholera was occurring in Mandi State. One such station was opened, but the most travelled road was left entirely unprotected."

Mr. Bose winds up his letter thus:

"A more complete example of official indifference and slackness would be difficult to find than that exhibited by the Punjab Health Department in its method of dealing with this epidemic."

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

That is the view of one of the residents in the tract in which the cholera raged for so many weeks, and although cholera had started as early as March, as has been stated also by the Director of Public Health, it was not put down.....

Colonel C. A. Gill : I never said that.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Then the Minister must have done so.

Colonel C. A. Gill : The first case of cholera occurred on the 31st of March and it was in the Mandi State.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : As I have said it was towards the end of March or in the beginning of April.

Colonel C. A. Gill : Sir, the first case that occurred in Kulu was on the 4th of May.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Then I understand that it did not travel into the British ilaga, as it were, till the beginning of May. Any way, as is stated here in the communication, after the disease had been raging in Kulu for five weeks and a staff had actually arrived after the outbreak, the allegation is that—

"The local Assistant Surgeon was then left for weeks without any outside assistance whatever, and when eventually three Assistant Surgeons and three Sanitary Inspectors were sent to the valley they came entirely unprovided with disinfectants or other supplies."

The first neglect was that no steps were immediately taken so far as the staff was concerned, and when the staff arrived they had not sufficient equipment with them, with regard to stores and other supplies to be able to effectively check the progress of the disease; and, as I have said, the disease continued its course during several weeks. Undoubtedly the honourable member from Kangra has given a certificate to the Department which the Department itself did not claim, that in no respect was the Department to blame with regard to the outbreak of cholera, and he has been anxious to remind the Honourable Minister and the Director of Public Health that not only does he say so now, but he also said so to Mr. Miles Irving whom they appointed to make an enquiry into this case. As it happened, the defence of the Department itself did not go to the length of stating and could not have stated that the Department was not in any respect to blame, but the honourable member has defended them not only in this House but, as he was careful to remind them, outside also on a previous occasion.

As I said towards the closing part of my speech yesterday afternoon my object in drawing attention to these outbreaks by way of illustration was not to show that the existence of the Department was not justified or that that Department should not extend its activities. As a matter of fact on all occasions inside this House as well as outside it, whenever speaking on the subject, I have always said that there is a great deal more to be done in this direction.

On all occasions inside this House and outside it whenever the question of Public Health has been raised I have always said that there is a good deal to be done and a great deal more to be done in the direction of expanding the activities of the department. And all the suggestions that I have made

were made in the spirit that outside criticism may to a very large extent help those who are in charge of the administration to adopt methods which are more effective than the ones adopted in the past.

With regard to the second part of my submission I am afraid honourable members in the first instance either did not understand the point of view that I was putting forward or did not wish to do so. I am very glad that with regard to that part of my speech the position taken up by the Honourable Minister and the Director of Public Health is exactly the position which I desired them to take up. So that the case of those honourable members who in their zeal to defend the department tried to show that what I had said was something entirely unacceptable and a novel principle which would upset all canons of good administration was really that of a *gavah chust*. My honourable friend from Hoshiarpur representing the non-Muslim Hoshiarpur rural constituency—I believe I have correctly described him—drew the attention of the House to certain remarks in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member made on the 9th March 1928 in this House, and of course referred only to that portion which suited his purpose. (Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: You read the whole). I shall not read the whole. It is not necessary for me to read the whole. But I shall certainly read out two or three sentences which would show the gist of the point which the Honourable the Finance Member was then making. At page 580 of Volume XI of the Punjab Debates, the Honourable the Finance Member says:

"Now, Sir, the honourable member under the over-weighting principle which I have quoted, is perfectly within his rights in calling attention to a particular class being edged out of the service and not having enough representation."

Later on, the Honourable the Finance Member proceeds:

"We must have a system which, while it deals with obvious unfairness, is all the same elastic. Honourable members of this House often mention the depressed classes; they are rather hard perhaps to define but there are classes—whenever you may include in them—that are at present backward."

And the argument then proceeded, if we altogether excluded them, the time might come when they might have no share at all in the administration of the country. The Honourable the Finance Member again says:

"Also, Sir, I venture to remind the House that Government is a Government for all, not for a class."

Again, later on:

"It is a mirror of how Government is trying to run these two principles, the principle of seeing the zamindars getting representation

(for, the question then related to zamindars)

and the principle of seeing—always paying attention to efficiency—that no service is over-weighted or monopolised by a particular caste, creed or community."

It is just a little further on that the Honourable the Finance Member—to this portion my learned friend drew attention of course as it suited him—stated that if the questions of percentages were strictly applied, then we would get a hard and fast rule and hard and fast system which would not be elastic and which would not allow you to give a share to other deserving members and which might also lead to an apprehension in the minds of the members of the service that appointments were made purely on communal grounds and on no other consideration whatsoever. In my speech I did not urge

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

at all any question of percentages but what I drew attention to was that the personnel of this department was overweighted, heavily overweighted by the preponderance of members of certain communities and that there was a very slight representation of other communities. And even in doing this I did not raise the objection solely on the ground of percentages. What I said was that whatever may be the considerations which applied to other departments, with regard to this department in which propaganda and the winning of the sympathy of the people was absolutely necessary in order that that department might discharge its function, it is necessary that postings in the various districts should be on a certain principle, which principle I then stated and need not repeat. For the adoption of that principle you have to recruit on a larger scale members of a particular community, which is not well represented in the department. To that principle stated in that way I am very glad to find that the department itself has taken no objection. As a matter of fact it has been admitted that that principle is perfectly correct and that so far as is possible and so far as the exigencies of the department would allow, it would be followed. But as soon as I put forward that principle honourable members stood up and began to object: This is one of the usual instances where people who have got a great deal already are pressing for more and they will never be satisfied unless they get the whole. All these considerations are on these occasions usually trotted out in order to defeat the demands of a community which is not well represented in the services. One honourable member said that he was very sorry that a discussion which we had been fed up with had again been raised in the House. That is all very well. Honourable members may be fed up with regard to certain things which are unpleasant to them but it is not open to them to say on that account that a discussion shall not be raised in this House. I was surprised to observe that that honourable member himself has given notice of a motion which stands as No. 9 in the list of motions on the Demand for Education which seeks to raise a discussion on the representation of various interests in the University by which I understand he wants to point out that certain interests are over-represented and certain others are under-represented. And clearly this remark that he was fed up with this kind of discussion and that he did not want it to be raised came with very ill-grace from his lips. Another honourable member who had vehemently contributed to the discussion on this motion had tabled a motion which was not reached in regard to the Department of Agriculture, that the proportion of Hindu agriculturists employed in the department should be raised to 50 per cent. I shall not for a moment suggest that the honourable member had any ulterior motive or any improper object in tabling that motion. I will assume that he had put it up in good faith. But it shows that according to him in a particular department there were reasons for urging that the percentage of a particular community should be raised. From those two honourable members to hear that this discussion should not be allowed and that they were fed up with it and that it would be a menace to the good administration of the province came as a surprise to me. One of the honourable members again said: Well, if you have any grievance of this kind you should approach the Honourable Minister, why bring the matter here? I wish to assure him that on several occasions I have

approached one or other of the Honourable Ministers in order to bring to his notice matters of this kind. Of course on such occasions the Honourable Ministers have assumed that having regard to the requirements of their department and having regard to the policy which they had settled upon they were right. And when we find that matters have reached such a stage when a certain policy has been carried too far and that a certain other policy should be adopted, that is surely a matter which should be discussed in the House and I do not see any impropriety in it. Then the honourable member said: "I never go near communal questions at all." But nevertheless he did try to persuade the House to believe that two well qualified members of his community had not been given appointments in the department although, in his own words, "they had been wandering about."....

Mr. President: The honourable member is repeating the arguments advanced by another honourable member of the House in the course of the discussion. Dr. Muhammad Alam, if I remember aright, has replied to Sardar Ujjal Singh.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: On a point of personal explanation, Sir. With regard to that particular criticism of Dr. Alam, the honourable member Sardar Ujjal Singh stated that he had never started things on a communal basis. What I am trying to illustrate is this. My honourable friend is in one breath saying that he does not take a communal view of things and is at the same time doing things which actually illustrate the communal point of view. A mere denial from him that he does not wish to raise communal questions will not help at all. What he did say was that the two gentlemen did not get appointments and that during the present ministry everybody who was appointed as a District Medical Officer of Health was a Muhammadan. That is an entirely incorrect statement. The insinuation was thus made that Muhammadans are being employed in large numbers in this department and that for some years past the policy had been to employ Muhammadans and none else. I wish to draw attention to the statement contained in the Quarterly Graduation List of officers of the Public Health Department, corrected up to 1st January 1929. Among the district officers of health, No. 22 is a gentleman, Amrit Singh, Sachdev, employed in the department on 21st April 1927; No. 23 is Dr. Bal Mokand, employed on 21st April 1927; No. 25 is Dr. Jiwan Singh employed on 30th August 1927; No. 27 is Dr. Des Raj, Nayar, employed on 8th July 1927; No. 28 is Dr. Ram Chandar Kaushash, employed on 9th July 1927; No. 29 is Dr. Amar Nath, Bajaj, employed on 21st August 1927; No. 30 is Dr. Manohar Lal, Ball, employed on 12th December 1928; No. 31 is Dr. Saudagar Chand, Chopra, employed on 24th October 1927; No. 32 is Dr. J. N. Mehta, employed on 26th November 1927. In spite of this list the honourable member had the hardihood to say that during the last two years all the district health officers who were employed were Muhammadans.

Then the honourable member from Kangra stood up, and as I have said, gave a certificate to the department and proceeded to say that he should never be deterred from stating the truth, and the truth was that all this trouble which arose on this side of the House was brought upon their own heads by the Government inasmuch as their policy was *Moslem-Nawas*. On these figures if this policy could be called *Moslem-Nawas* the only course

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to take for honourable members is to force the Government to issue a circular that no Muhammadan should be employed. If the present policy is *Moslem Nawaz*, I do not know really where the policy of *Hindu Nawaz* or *Sikh Nawaz* or even a fair policy of non-discrimination between the different communities might lead to in the end. Sir, having heard the Director of Public Health with regard to recruitment, I cannot say that I am satisfied as to what has occurred in the past. No doubt with regard to district officers of health it has been stated that it was not possible to get Muhammadans of the necessary qualifications. Although the challenge which was given by the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government and which was sought to be repeated by the honourable member representing the Urban Sikhs of the Province, that I should cite the name of a single Muhammadan who is well qualified but has not been employed in the department, was not fair, if my naming a single Muhammadan would show that the department has failed altogether in this direction, at least in regard to one Muhammadan, I could give the name of Dr. Abdul Wahid. He is an M.B., B.S., and holds a diploma for Public Health from London and possesses the maximum qualification which we understand is insisted on by the department for appointment.

With regard to sanitary inspectors all that was stated by the Honourable Minister was that in future care would be taken that postings and also recruitment should be made more in accordance with the suggestions made by me. And for that remark I thank him. Does not that, however, by implication show that in the past attention has not been paid to the matter? And even the Director of Public Health when he came to this point said that the majority of the appointments were made before he came in as Director and therefore, that so far as he was concerned, he should not be blamed. Perfectly correct. I am not blaming him in his personal capacity at all, whether he did the particular thing or his predecessor had done it, the matter stands that in the past it cannot be said that any Muslims, at any rate more Muslims than are employed in the Department who were fully qualified for this post, were not forthcoming. As I have said I am not satisfied with the explanation. I am glad that the assurance has been given that both with regard to posting and with regard to recruitment the suggestions which I have made will be kept in view.

I need not proceed to try to controvert the pictures of horror which one of my honourable friends drew if the principle which I have suggested were followed. He said if the recruitment were made on a communal basis, in the Public Health Department to start with for instance, picture to yourself the results. If a man is appointed to Dera Ghazi Khan (and by the way he was confusing himself with regard to a man being appointed in the sense of a first appointment and a man being posted to Dera Ghazi Khan in which case he might be already in service), Dera Ghazi Khan being a Muhammadan district and a Muhammadan officer is posted there, when an epidemic breaks out, the germs of which attack all communities alike, you cannot expect that he would pay attention to communities other than the Muhammadan; similarly he went on to illustrate the matter with regard to other departments as well. It is a piece of criticism which is entirely unjustifiable. In the first instance the principle is that the

conditions in this country and in this province in particular are such that you must not allow any particular community to preponderate in the public services to an extent which might lead to the exclusion of the members of other communities from their due share in the services.

That principle having been accepted and so often repeated it cannot be said that occasionally appointments are not to be made on communal considerations and that when certain candidates are equally well-qualified to fill a particular post and it is felt that in the particular department a certain community has already got too much overweight then out of those 3 or 4 candidates who are equally qualified to fill the post a member of a particular community may not be selected in order to make up the deficiency of the numbers of that community in that department. Now I need not go into the matter further but shall try to controvert the picture of horror that one of my honourable friends has tried to draw if the principle were to be followed. Does he not know that appointments were made in the judiciary sometime ago and 2 members of the Bar were appointed as District Judges, one was a non-Muslim and the other was a Muslim. I have not the slightest doubt that the appointment of one Muslim and one non-Muslim was done on a communal basis. Does my honourable friend wish to suggest that as the result of such appointments the Muslim district judge will always be partial to Muslims and that the non-Muslim district judge will always be partial to the members of his own community? Is it his suggestion again that when appointments are being made to posts of sub-judges, there is no doubt that some of these were certainly made on a communal basis, the sub-judges are partial to the members of their own community and prejudiced against the members of other communities. As a matter of fact putting forward that principle shows that not only criticisms could be levelled against certain departments, but it would amount to, if it were true, a reflection even upon the Ministers. There is no doubt that Ministers are appointed with due regard to communal considerations and does my honourable friend suggest that because they are so appointed they always have the interest of the particular community to which they belong at heart, and always betray the interests of the other communities?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Well, Sir, they are influenced if you ask my opinion by the view that they are representatives of the various communities. (*A Voice : Not our Minister.*)

Mr. President : The honourable member will not please interrupt.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, I am glad to hear members occupying the benches to my left declaring that Ministers are so influenced, at any rate it is an admission against themselves. But looking at it from this side the very motion under discussion shows that the Honourable Minister in charge of the Public Health Department whatever else he may or may not be guilty of certainly he is not guilty of communalism and not only that, he has been guilty of neglecting the interests of his own community as against the interests of other communities. (*Voices : No, no.*)

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Only, we have been more generous.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, I do not wish to pursue this topic longer, because the further I pursue it the more unpleasant things I may have to reveal to this House, and it is far from my intention to indulge in

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that sort of discussion. I shall, therefore, submit that every body who has anything to do with the administration of this country or of this province is fully aware of the dangers of what has been described as over-weighting the services with one particular community and excluding the other communities from their due share in any department of Government. And that principle being well accepted the suggestion made by my friend that all those speeches which are aimed at drawing attention to the deficient representation of any particular community in a department are really actuated by this motive or the other motive or the result only of a feeling that as my honourable friends on my left are at present occupying what may be termed the seats of the mighty they do not wish to be dislodged from them whether as a result of competition or as a result of a fairer distribution of Government posts among all the communities of the province. Throughout this discussion honourable members impugned my remarks that Muslim officers should ordinarily, in such departments of Government as the Public Health Department, be posted to districts which are predominantly inhabited by Muslims, but what they refrained from referring to was my suggestion that predominantly non-Muslim districts should have non-Muslim officers and this spirit was well illustrated by the Director of Public Health himself when he said that on the only occasion when he insisted that officers who were sent on deputation to this Department from the Medical Department should be Hindus, was the occasion when cholera was prevailing in the Kulu Valley. Why was he compelled to specify that those officers should be Hindus? As a matter of fact I think he was perfectly right in insisting that the officers deputed on that occasion should be Hindus because, as he himself explained, they had to work in a tract which is populated mainly by Hindus and therefore his apprehension was that officers belonging to other communities would be put to great difficulties with regard to accommodation and food if they were required to work in an area peopled mainly by Hindus. And one further reason why I would suggest that this step was quite justified is that a Muslim officer, if appointed, would certainly not possess that degree of confidence in that area as a Hindu officer would, and would certainly be at a disadvantage in carrying out the preventive measures which were then necessary to be taken. That is the best answer which could be given to the criticism of my honourable friends in regard to the principle, which I have put forward. You must keep this principle in view, not as a hard and fast rule, but as a principle only which could be followed as far as convenient that in the allotment of officers, Muslim officers should be posted to areas where the Muslim population predominates and non-Muslims where there is a predominantly non-Muslim population. As I have said I need not pursue this matter into details, but having regard to the assurance given both by the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government and by the Director of Public Health that so far as possible the suggestions made by me will in future be kept in view, and also having regard to the plea that the department is a new department and has not had time fully to co-ordinate all its activities, I think that perhaps the best course for me is to beg your permission to withdraw this motion.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: It is the permission of the House that has to be sought.

Mr. President : Is it your pleasure that the motion be withdrawn.
(Voices—No, no).

Then I will put the motion. The question is—

“That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.”

The motion was lost.

Mr. President : The question is that—

“A sum not exceeding Rs. 71,69,500 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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 Medical (Reserved and Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).”

The motion was carried.

EDUCATION GRANT.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education) : Sir, I beg to move—

“A sum not exceeding Rs. 1,63,00,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Education (Transferred).”

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

“A sum not exceeding Rs. 1,63,00,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Education (Transferred).”

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad [Dera Ghazi Khan (Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, I rise to move the motion which stands in my name. It is to the effect—

“That the demand be reduced by rupees one with respect to the item of Rs. 1,12,500.”

My object in proposing this motion to censure the policy of the Honourable the Minister for Education regarding the grants-in-aid to schools. Sir, in spite of the fact that we have been discussing nothing but communalism on the floor of this House for some time past I do not feel fed up with it and that is why I have risen to bring to the notice of the House certain facts which in my opinion reflect communalism generally on the part of the Honourable Minister for Education. This cannot be said of the Muslim Minister who was just now being criticized by some honourable members as too generous to communities other than his own.

In the matter of maintenance grants to private aided schools the honourable minister has been following a policy which I may characterise as one of utmost stringency towards the Muslim community. In 1928 it was found that the Muslim community was receiving only 20 per cent. of the total maintenance grant intended for the distribution among various educational institutions. It was then realised that the distribution was unequal and inadequate so far as Muslims were concerned and in that year in a very important circular it was announced that Government in future intended gradually to restore the balance in the distribution of grants among the various communities. This, Sir, if anything meant that the Mussalman community would be given a greater share of the grants. We have to see how far this policy of the Government announced in an important circular has been carried out by the Honourable Minister for Education. In the year 1927, the total number of schools brought on the grant-in-aid list was 12. Out of these 12 not one was Muslim.

Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath : How many were refused? That is the question.

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad : Again out of a total additional grant of Rs. 60,000, Muslims got only 2,500, i.e., 4.8 per cent. Out of that sum, the Hindus, i.e., the community to which the Honourable Minister for Education himself belongs, received 45,000, or 75 per cent. Again, in the year 1928, the total number of schools brought on the grant-in-aid list was 20. And out of these 20, only 2 were Muslim. Thus, Sir, it would be clear that in the course of two years, out of 82 institutions brought on the grant-in-aid list, only two are Muslim. It works out to six per cent. These figures speak for themselves and do not require any comment from me.

Honourable members sitting on those benches ask me whether any Muslim school or schools applied for grant-in-aid and was refused. Of course, if I cite instances where such schools have applied for grants-in-aid and have been refused, I hope those Honourable members, consistent with their declarations, will vote with me and not with the Honourable Minister.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Convince us.

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad : I shall convince you if I can. I know it is very difficult.

Let us take concrete cases of schools which applied for grants-in-aid and were refused. Take the Sialkot district which has 70 per cent. Muslim population. There are 16 private aided schools and out of these 16 schools only two are Muslim and the rest are non-Muslim. Sometime back the Mussalmans of the district opened a school at Sambarial. That school was recognised during the time when Sir Fazl-i-Husain was Minister. Since that recognition the school has been crying for grant-in-aid. Sometime back Rs. 80 was granted to that school and later on even that pittance was withdrawn. During the present Ministry that school has been repeatedly asking for grant-in-aid without success. This is one instance. Of course it is open to the Honourable Minister to give his reasons. I am not concerned with that. If his reasons are convincing I shall have no hesitation in withdrawing the motion.

I shall take another instance. Take Gujrat district, which is a predominantly Muslim district. There are 10 aided private institutions and out of these only two are Muslim. The Muslims of that district considered it necessary to open another institution at Lala Musa. This Islamia school at Lala Musa has been crying for grant-in-aid for some time past. No grant-in-aid has been sanctioned to that school on the ground that that school has been only provisionally recognised. Now, this may be a good ground for refusing grant-in-aid to a private institution provided it is applied to all communities. I shall then have no objection. I shall now cite instances where the grant-in-aid has been given to Hindu Schools although they have been only provisionally recognised. Take the Ambala District first of all. There are 16 private aided schools and out of these nine are managed by Hindus. Recently the Hindus of that district started another Hindu school at Bupar. This Bupar School, like the Lala Musa Islamia School, has been only provisionally recognised. Yet it has been brought on the grant-in-aid list without any objection at all, during the present Ministry of course. I shall give another instance from the Shahpur District. There

are six private schools and out of those four are Hindu schools. A new Hindu school has been recently started there and has been provisionally recognised. This year this school has been brought on the grant-in-aid list against the expressed dissent of the Inspector of Schools of that division. These are the facts upon which I base my motion. I have not drawn them upon my imagination, although it may not be pleasing to some honourable members of the House and also to the Honourable Minister. On the strength of these facts I move that the grant be reduced by one rupee in respect of that particular item with the object of censuring the Minister for Education for his policy in that respect.

Mr. President : Grant under consideration, motion moved—

“ That the grant be reduced by Re. 1.”

The question is that that motion be adopted.

(After collecting the voices for ‘ Ayes ’.)

Mr. President : If the Honourable Minister still wants to speak, I shall give him an opportunity. It is very unfair to the House that the Honourable Minister was doing something else when the mover of the motion resumed his seat.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The question has already been put, Sir.

Mr. President : The question has not been fully put. The question can be said to be fully put only after both “ Ayes ” and “ Noes ” have been collected. As only “ Ayes ” have been collected yet and not “ Noes,” it is open to the Honourable Minister to have his say with the permission of the Chair.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (Minister for Education) : Sir, in reference to this motion the first thing that I would like to submit is that the position on the question of the grant-in-aid has, so far as the provisions in the code are concerned, exactly the same as they have been for a considerable time past, except in the matter of one particular and that is briefly this. You remember, Sir, that about 18 months ago a series of questions were addressed to me with regard to certain amendments in the Education Code that were in contemplation on the question of grants-in-aid with respect to section 35. Eventually what was done was this. The previous rule as regards grant-in-aid contained in section 35 of that chapter was modified to this extent, that though members of the managing committees of schools may take part in political activity and propaganda that fact in itself should not attract the penalty, as it might have done under the rule as it then stood, of the forfeiture of the grant. A further amendment was made and that was this. Before a grant-in-aid is as a matter of fact withdrawn an opportunity should be given to the managing committee concerned to make its protest and render its explanation. So far as the principles of the grant-in-aid are concerned this is the only change effected. Coming to the position of individual schools themselves I should like to explain the procedure as regards the giving of grants to the various schools. Recommendations are made for these grants by the Inspectors of Schools. These recommendations are in course of time examined in the department, and then final recommendations come up to the Ministry. I should like to say this, before I proceed any further with regard to the

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allegations that have been made in support of this motion, that there has not been a single instance when the Minister has had to cut out a grant actually recommended by the Inspector of Schools or the Director of Public Instruction. Now, the general position, Sir, is this. In the Punjab we have something like three hundred high schools and about 80 of them are maintained by Government and the rest by district boards and municipalities. Roughly about 200 are private aided and unaided institutions. Out of this 200, or to be more precise 192, 167 were on the grant-in-aid list.....

ALLEGATIONS IN THE PRESS AGAINST MR. PRESIDENT.

Mr. President : Order, order. I wish to make an announcement to the House.

My attention has been invited to several press criticisms to which the President of this House and the House itself have been subjected. This campaign commenced with reference to the proceedings of this Council on the 5th of March 1929, the second day of the general discussion of the Budget. Communal partiality was attributed to the Chair on the allegation that Hindu members were not allowed to speak, while Muslims were freely called upon to make speeches. As a matter of fact, on that day 16 members were called upon to speak, of whom 4 were Government officials, and of the 12 non-officials one was a European, one Sikh, 4 Muslims and 6 Hindus. Similar reflections were made with reference to certain allegations made by two members of this House concerning each other on the 8th of this month.

It was hoped that the newspapers which indulged in misapprehending facts and basing their criticisms on incorrect data, would perceive their error and of their own accord proceed to make amends. But instead of their doing so, they have indulged in further mis-statements and in impugning the conduct and impartiality of the Chair, and this attitude has culminated in giving currency to the incorrect and unfounded statement that the President had tendered an apology. I do not wish at this stage to go into the details of mis-statements and accusations. I trust those concerned will be good enough to withdraw all mis-statements and insinuations by the time the Council re-assembles next week.

The Council then adjourned till 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 26th March 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 26th March 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF JHATKA MEAT IN GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, KASUR.

***2132. Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Headmaster, Government High School, Kasur, has prohibited the use of Jhatka meat by the Sikh and Hindu students of the school;
- (b) whether it is a fact that those students who put forward their religious claim for the use of such meat were caned by the Headmaster;
- (c) if the answer be in the affirmative, what steps Government intends to take in the matter?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Enquiries are being made and a reply will be sent to the honourable member when ready.

DISTRICT BOARD, SIALKOT.

***2133. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) how many non-official members are nominated to the District Board, Sialkot;
 - (b) how many of these are Muslims and how many are non-Muslims?
- The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon :** (a) Six.
(b) Two Muslims and four non-Muslims.

HINDU SUB-INSPECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

***2134. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that all the Hindu sub-inspectors of Co-operative Societies who were posted at different places in Tahsil Shahargarh, District Gurdaspur, have recently been transferred to other places;
- (b) whether it is a fact that it is the intention of Government that sub-inspectors of Co-operative Societies should not be posted at places to which they belong;

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(i) whether it is a fact that Mr. Sultan Ali and Mr. Taj Din of Shakargarh Tahsil are working as sub-inspectors of Co-operative Societies in the same tahsil?

(ii) If the answer to the above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Minister kindly state the reasons for which they have not been transferred so far?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready. It will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

HOLDINGS OF THE STATUTORY AGRICULTURISTS.

***2135. Sardar Hira Singh:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the holdings of the statutory agriculturists have become very small by the process of fragmentation;

(b) whether Government has made any rules governing the grant of land to those agriculturists in the Nili Bar, who possess very small holdings;

(c) if so, how many acres of land have already been granted to these agriculturists and how many more are intended to be granted to them?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) Yes, in certain districts.

(b) and (c) 775 rectangles or 19,875 acres of land in the Nili Bar have been set aside for grants to persons with very small holdings on ordinary peasant terms. No additional allotment for this purpose is contemplated at present.

NAIB-TAHILDARS AND TAHILDARS IN THE NILI BAR COLONY.

***2136. Shaikh Faiz Muhammad:** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Naib-Tahildars and Tahildars in charge of or having under their jurisdiction the three important *mandis*, namely, Arifwala, Borewala and Vihari, in the Nili Bar Colony, belong to one community?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: No.

MACHINERY FOR LIME KILN AT BAHAWALNAGAR.

***2137. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that machinery was indented from a European firm for the lime kiln at Bahawalnagar;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said kiln was condemned;

(c) if so, whether the machinery was allowed to remain there and not used for some other kiln;

- (d) what is the amount of expenditure incurred on account of said machinery ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the loss resulting on account of the working of the said kiln was debited to other Divisions which had no concern with the said kiln ;
- (f) if so, what were the reasons for not debiting the whole loss to Bahawalnagar Division itself ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Honourable member presumably refers to the elevators for the lime manufacture at Bahawalnagar ; if so, the plant was obtained through the Indian Stores Department.

- (b) No, the kilns were not condemned.
- (c) The machinery is at Bahawalnagar.
- (d) About Rs. 27,000.

(e) and (f). The cost of the manufacture was, in accordance with rule, shared by all the consumers of the lime.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that other divisions receive their supply of lime from these kilns ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It is not.

MR. J. D. H. BEDFORD, SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, CANALS.

*2138. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that the subordinates as well as the members of the public have got complaints against Mr. J. D. H. Bedford, Superintending Engineer, Canals, for his ill-treatment ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that instructions have been issued by the Government of India or by the Local Government impressing upon its officers the paramount necessity of displaying courtesy, tact, and good temper in their dealings with the people ;
- (c) if so, will the Honourable Member please lay on the table the copy of such instructions ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Canal Patwaris working under Mr. J. D. H. Bedford, while he was Executive Engineer, Phalia Division, Upper Jhelum Canal, went on strike on account of his ill-treatment ;
- (e) if so, what was the action taken by the Government against him on that occasion ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Copy laid on table.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d).

CHARGE SHEET ON MR. JAI RAM, I.S.E.

***2139. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the month of February 1928, or so, a charge sheet was served by Mr. J. D. E. Bedford, Superintending Engineer, 2nd Bahawalpur Circle, on Mr. Jai Ram, I.S.E.;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the said charge sheet was dropped on the explanation being tendered by Mr. Jai Ram;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in his explanation Mr. Jai Ram made allegations against some of his superior officers;
- (d) if so, was any enquiry made into those allegations and what was the result of the enquiry;
- (e) will the Honourable Member please lay on the table the allegations made by Mr. Jai Ram?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member's inference from the allegations contained in his question is not correct. The officer named by the honourable member has opportunities of establishing his efficiency. As to his allegations hinted at in the question, the Council, I feel confident, does not desire them to be laid on the table.

AHMADPUR BRANCH CANAL.

***2140. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that at the time the Ahmadpur Branch Canal in Bahawalpur division was opened the bed level from B. D. 83,000 to 98,000 feet was not dug to the designed bed level;
- (b) if so, what action was taken against the persons at fault for the said defect?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The information has been called for and will be supplied as soon as received.

RATES OF IRON WORKS OF TAIL TRIFURCATION, BAHAWAL CANAL.

***2141. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rates of iron works of tail trifurcation of Bahawal Canal in Bahawalpur Division as given in the original estimates were raised from Rs. 25 to Rs. 65;
- (b) what rate was recommended on account of said iron works by the sub-divisional officer;
- (c) why was not the rate recommended by the sub-divisional officer sanctioned by the executive engineer or the superintending engineer?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :

- (a) No, the non-member appears to have been misinformed.
- (b) None.
- (c) Does not arise.

TAKSILDARS.

***2142. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please state—

- (a) what is the ordinary period prescribed for the stay of tahsildars in a tahsil;
- (b) whether that rule has been observed in the case of the present tahsildar of Batala;
- (c) if the answer to (b) be in the negative, what are the special reasons?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) There are no rules prescribing the period of stay of tahsildars at one station. Generally speaking five years is not too much, while three years is not too short.

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

EMOLUMENTS OF ZAILDARS AND SUFEDPOSHEES.

***2143. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) what action, if any, has the Government so far taken on the resolution passed by this Council recommending that the emoluments of zaildars, sufedposhes and lambardars be increased;
- (b) if no action has been taken, what are the reasons?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member is referred to the answer given to Council question No. 2670, on the 5th March 1926 (copy attached for ready reference).

[Answer to question No. 2670.]

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The Resolution referred to by the honourable member has received the most careful consideration of the Government. Searching enquiries were made and the arguments for and against the proposal were reviewed, and the conclusions arrived at were that the amount of emoluments was not the attraction for these posts, that the increase of emoluments recommended by Council is not likely to bring a different or better type of the zaildar or sufedposh into being, and the public spirit and traditional notions of serving the countryside should not be discouraged by treating these offices as if they were ordinary paid posts.

CONCESSION TO ZAMINDARS FOR SINKING NEW WELLS.

***2144. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some concession is granted to the zamindars for sinking new wells for irrigation purposes;
- (b) the number of wells which failed to supply water after the settlement in Jullundur, Hoshiarpur and Ludhiana districts, and also the number of those which were sunk to replace these wells;

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.]

(c) whether Government has granted any concession to the zamindars who have sunk new wells in these districts; if not, why?

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

(b) Information as to the number of wells which have actually ceased to supply water, and those sunk to replace them, is not available, but the number of wells fallen into disuse and of new wells sunk since the latest settlement is:—

		No. of wells gone out of use.	No. of new wells sunk.
Jullundur	..	1,597	6,096
Hoshiarpur	..	1,571	4,988
Ludhiana	..	7	8,718

(c) Yes.

GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

*2145. **Mr. E. Maya Das:** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Communications Board makes grants to district boards for the maintenance and development of Class II roads;

(b) if so, whether these grants are subject to the condition that the share of the district board should be at least 25 per cent. of the revenue of the district board;

(c) what is the formula for estimating this 25 per cent.;

(d) were any grants made to the district boards during the last financial year;

(e) did these district boards fulfil the conditions required?

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

(b) and (c) (1) Grant to a district board for maintenance of Class II roads is a fixed percentage of its previous year's expenditure on such maintenance and its incidence varies for each district.

(2) Grant for development varies from 25 to 100 per cent. and is governed by—

(i) importance of the proposed work,

(ii) state of communications in the district applying for the grant, and

(iii) capacity of the district board itself to pay towards the work.

(d) Yes.

(e) In view of answer to (b) above, this does not arise.

Mr. E. Maya Das: Are all the district boards, those contributing very little and those contributing big amounts, given equal grants?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : They are granted according to the canons I have just mentioned.

MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

***2146. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (i) the total number of gazetted staff above the rank of overseer, on the organisation of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme in respect of its (a) construction staff, (b) electric project section, (c) hydraulic project section ;
- (ii) the number of Europeans and Indians in each of the branches (a), (b) and (c) referred to above ;
- (iii) how many Europeans and Indians referred to in (ii) above are apprentice engineers ;
- (iv) how many Europeans and how many Indian engineers of and above the rank of assistant engineers are employed in the whole organization ;
- (v) how many Europeans and Indian engineers employed in the whole scheme are permanent and how many temporary ;
- (vi) the academic qualification, length of service, and pay of the officials referred to in (i) above ?

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.

ANNUAL INCREMENT TO AN APPRENTICE ENGINEER AND DRAFTSMAN.

***2147. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) the amount of annual increment that is usually allowed to an apprentice engineer and a draftsman with their grades of pay ;
- (b) what is the usual period of apprenticeship of the apprentice engineer ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that on the creation of a new post or on a vacancy arising in the electrical Branch, engineers have been taken from outside and their recruitment has not been made from the duly qualified apprentice engineers ; if so, why ;
- (d) what is the number of such appointments made, and on what pay these appointments have been made ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Apprentice engineers are men academically qualified who are employed to afford them an opportunity of acquiring practical experience. They are paid on a time-scale of Rs. 150—7—255.

(b) No period has been fixed.

[Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

(c) Yes, because men with larger experience were required and the vacancies were filled by men having better qualifications and experience than the apprentice engineers in the Hydro-Electric Branch at the time.

(d) Form. Two of assistant executive engineers in the scale of Rs. 875—50—975 and two of assistant engineers in the scale of Rs. 250—20—750.

ANJUMAN-I-ISLAMIA KAMALIA:

***2148. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether the Government have received the resolution of Anjuman-i-Islamia, Kamalia, dated 5th November 1927, with respect to certain complaints against the headmaster of the Government High School, Kamalia;

(b) if so, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to lay on the table those resolutions and the action taken on them;

(c) whether it is a fact that the *Azam* controversy is still going on? If so, what steps does the Government propose to take to remedy the state of affairs?

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

(b) The Government does not think it desirable to publish resolutions passed by non-official bodies.

(c) The matter is receiving attention.

COMPENSATORY LANDS IN THE DISTRICT OF GUJRAT.

***2149. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has sanctioned compensatory lands for landowners whose lands have been rendered unfit by water-logging in the district of Gujrat;

(b) whether the attention of the Honourable Member has been drawn to the issue of *Hindu Herald*, dated 15th July 1928, in which grievances of Hindus have been published? If so, what action has been taken to remove the said grievances?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No, 15,000 acres in the Nili Bar Colony have been allotted on peasant grant conditions to land-owners whose lands have suffered from water-logging in the Gujrat district.

(b) Yes. In view of the rural population of the Gujrat district containing nearly 9,000 Muslims as compared with less than 600 Hindus for every 10,000 persons, no action on the articles was called for.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE OF GUJRAT.

***2150. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Municipal Committee, Gujrat, acquired the house of one Lala Mohan Lal in order to widen the street;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the committee now proposes to sell it to the guardians of a Mosque in the same street;
- (c) if so, why has the committee given up the idea of widening the street?

The Honourable Mulla Firoz Khan, Noon : A report has been called for and the information required by the honourable member will be communicated to him in due course.

M. FAZAL ILAHI OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

***2151. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the services of one M. Fazal Ilahi of the Hydro-Electric Branch, a graduate and a trained librarian, were terminated by paying him 3 months' pay in lieu of notice;
- (b) if so, what were the reasons for departing from the ordinary rule of one month's notice and giving three months' pay to the said gentleman?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The services of one M. Fazal Ilahi, Clerk, were so terminated.

(b) The conditions of service agreed upon between Government and Fazal Ilahi provided for this period of notice.

MR. WATSON AND MESSRS. NARAIN SINGH & Co.

***2152. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the security of Rs. 500 was realized by Mr. Watson from an employee of Messrs. Narain Singh and Co., Engineers, Lahore, who applied for the post of a store-keeper in the Hydro-Electric Branch of the Public Works Department;
- (b) if so, whether he was appointed to the job; if not, whether the security money was returned to him?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Government has no information on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, SIMLA.

***2153. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that within the last twelve months or so a petition was submitted by the police constables, Simla, complaining against the Superintendent of Police for his maltreatment ;

(b) if so, what action was taken by the Government on the said petition ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Government considers it would be prejudicial to discipline to supply information regarding particular incidents which may arise in regard to the internal administration of the police force, every member of which has under the Statutory Police Rules full opportunities for presenting legitimate grievances to his superior officers.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it not in public interest to know how an individual officer is working in a department ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : It is much more important in public interest that discipline should be observed in the police force.

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, SIMLA.

***2154. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of Police, Simla district, reinstated certain police officials who had been suspended by his predecessor for corruption ;

(b) if so, why ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b). A head constable and two constables were suspended by the predecessor of the present Superintendent of Police, Simla, on receipt of a complaint that they had taken a bribe. As, however, there was no evidence to establish their guilt, they were subsequently reinstated.

NARAIN DAS, STUDENT, II MIDDLE CLASS.

***2155. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a student named Narain Das of II middle class of Jhok Vains School in Multan tahsil was admitted under the name of Nur Muhammad in Sanawan Middle School in Muzaffargarh district ;

(b) who applied for his leaving certificate and who got him admitted into the new school ;

(c) why were not his parents referred to in the matter by the authorities of either schools ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the boy was a minor ;

(e) what was his date of birth as given in the school registers ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Enquiry is being made and a reply will be sent to the honourable member when ready.

APPLICATION OF ALLAH BUX FOR INSOLVENCY.

*2156. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Allah Bux, son of Murad, caste Gat of Mauza Hala in tahsil Kot Adu, district Muzaffargarh, having applied for insolvency in the court of district judge, Multan, entered into a compromise with the creditors that he would sell his land at Rs. 100 per bigha to one of the creditors who will in turn satisfy all the creditors in full settlement with the sale money;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the District Judge recommended to the Deputy Commissioner, Muzaffargarh, for the sanction of sale in favour of a non-agriculturist as no other member of an agricultural tribe was willing to pay the said rate for the land;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner did not give his sanction for the sale of land? If so, what are the reasons for his refusal?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Government has no information. There is nothing on record in the matter in the Deputy Commissioner's office.

(b) Yes, the District Judge asked the Deputy Commissioner whether he was prepared to grant permission to the sale of land in favour of a non-agriculturist.

(c) Yes; apparently general grounds.

AKALI PRISONERS IN MIANWALI JAIL.

*2157. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in Mianwali Jail the Akali prisoners are not permitted to write letters to their relatives in Gurmukhi character and are compelled to write in Urdu;
- (b) if so, why?

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

(b) Does not arise.

AKALI PRISONERS IN MIANWALI JAIL.

*2158. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Akali prisoners confined in the Mianwali jail in the year 1928 or so, raised a protest that the work of sweeping should not be taken from them;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the prisoners making this protest were confined in solitary cells on that account?

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

(b) Does not arise.

ILLEGAL ENCROACHMENTS ON MUNICIPAL LANDS BY MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS, KASUR.

*2159. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- whether it is a fact that some of the municipal commissioners, Kasur, or their relations have made illegal encroachments on municipal lands;
- if so, what action has the municipality taken in the matter of demolishing the unauthorised encroachments;
- will the honourable member please state the number of such cases (i) pending on 1st April 1928, (ii) pending from 1st April 1928 to the end of the year;
- in how many cases encroachments have been removed?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : A report has been called for and the information required by the honourable member will be communicated to him in due course.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, KASUR.

*2160. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- whether it is a fact that at the time of the last election of the president, municipal committee, Kasur, one member Risaldar Maula Dad Khan was not allowed by the chairman to take part in the meeting and that he was directed to see the Sub-Divisional Officer;
- whether it is a fact that in compliance with the said direction he left the meeting and did not participate in the election of the president;
- what were the reasons for not allowing him to take part in the election of the president?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The required information has been called for from local officers and will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

CHINOT MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

*2161. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- whether it has been brought to his notice that in August 1928, a nominated member of the Municipal Committee, Chinot, wrote a letter to the Secretary to lodge complaint against Hindu shopkeepers and not to appoint any Hindu in the Octroi department;
- what action was taken by the Secretary of the Committee on that letter?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) Yes, though there was nothing about lodging cases against Hindus generally. The reference was to a particular firm.

(b) The member expressed regret and so far as Government are aware no further action was taken.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ACREAGE RATE ON THE LOWER BARI DOAB CANAL.

1101. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that acreage rate to the extent of Rs. 7 per acre has already been collected from some zamindars on the Lower Bari Doab Canal;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the acreage rate on the Lower Bari Doab Canal is higher than that proposed for the Sutlej Valley Project;
- (c) whether they propose to abolish further collections of acreage rate on the Lower Bari Doab Canal, and if so, when; if not, why not?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No collections in excess of Re. 0-8-0 per acre assessed to occupiers rate have been made on the Lower Bari Doab Canal. The assessments have been in force for 10 years and consequently the total amount realized per acre allotted could only amount to Rs. 7 where 140 per cent. of the allotment has been irrigated annually. The permissible irrigation on the canal is 66 per cent.

(b) No.

(c) The acreage rate will be discontinued as soon as recoveries are sufficient to balance the expenditure.

SUHAIL SINGH OF VILLAGE SURSINGH.

1102. Sardar Hira Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Suhail Singh of village Sursingh in the Lahore district did not get up to salute the Sub-Inspector of Police, Thana Bhaki Wind, Tahsil Kasur, in January 1929;
- (b) (i) whether it is a fact that the said Sub-Inspector involved him in a case and challaned him;
- (ii) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, whether Government intend to institute an enquiry into this matter and if so, by whom?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Government has no knowledge of the alleged incident.

(b) (i) One Suhail Singh of village Sursingh has been prosecuted for assaulting the police.

(ii) Does not arise.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS, IRRIGATION BRANCH.

1103. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain Executive Engineers of Irrigation Branch have not been promoted to their next higher ranks? If so, why?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Yes, Appointments to Superintending Engineer grade are made by selection.

DEPUTY COLLECTORS, CANAL DEPARTMENT AND REST-HOUSES.

1104. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Deputy Collectors who are gazetted officers of the Canal Department cannot put up in the rest-houses unless they apply for this each time and get the permission of their Executive Engineers;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Sub-Divisional Officers who are gazetted officers of the same department are entitled for the occupation of the rest-houses;
- (c) if so, what steps the Government intends to take to remove this distinction?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member is referred to the reply given to Council question No. *1992* by S. Buta Singh.

ZILLADARS AS EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

1105. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the practice of taking zilladars as Extra Assistant Commissioners has been stopped;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the names of Naib-Tahsildars and clerks of offices are annually called and accepted as Extra Assistant Commissioners;
- (c) if so, why are the zilladars deprived of this privilege?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to starred Council question No. 1999 in this session.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, PUNJAB.

1106. Chaudhri Ram Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of cases of embezzlement connected with Co-operative Societies in the Punjab, which have been filed so far in courts;
- (b) (1) the amount embezzled in each case;
- (2) the names and full address of the persons guilty of embezzlement in each case;
- (3) the total number of such cases filed in courts;

- (4) the number of cases decided so far and also the number of cases which are still pending ;
- (5) the number of cases in which the accused have been convicted by the courts ;
- (6) the names of the persons convicted with the nature of punishment awarded ;
- (7) the number of cases in which the accused were acquitted with their names and address ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : If the honourable member will kindly indicate the period regarding which he needs this information, I will attempt to collect it for the period in question.

MOTOR TOLL ON THE CHENAB BOAT BRIDGE.

1107. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on the Lahore-Sargodha road the motor toll on the Chenab boat bridge is fixed by the Gujranwala District Board at the rate of Rs. 6 for every motor car crossing the bridge ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no distinction is made between a motor taxi and a private car ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is a general complaint that this heavy tax on private cars is standing greatly in the way of private motor traffic ;
- (d) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to remove this grievance ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : A report has been called for and the information required by the honourable member will be communicated to him in due course.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, BHERA.

1108. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state, if any Sikh has served on the Municipal Committee, Bhera, either by election or by nomination ? If not, what steps has he taken or proposes to take to remove the grievance of the Sikh population of Bhera ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : It has not been possible to examine earlier papers but since 1920, no Sikh has been either appointed or elected as a member of the committee. Of 4,556 voters only 97 are Sikhs and with an average of 378 voters for each elected member there is no chance of a Sikh being elected. Out of the 8 nominated seats one goes to an official and the other two to Muslims and Hindus (one each). The Sikhs being entitled to only 2 of a seat in the whole of Bhera, Government are not able to earmark a seat for them at the cost of either of the other 2 communities. As Government have no control over the distribution of population in the various towns it is not possible to provide for each of the 3 communities to be represented in each and every town of the province.

APPOINTMENT OF CATTLE FAIR ADVISER.

1109. Pir Akbar Ali : (a) Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government please state whether any of the local boards (district boards or municipal committees in the Punjab) have engaged the services of any cattle fair adviser ;

(b) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Minister kindly lay on the table a statement showing—

(i) the name of the local body ;

(ii) the name of the cattle fair adviser ;

(iii) his pay and that of his establishment ;

(iv) the net income of the local body from cattle fairs in the year immediately before the engagement of the cattle fair adviser ;

(v) the 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.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The necessary information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member in due course.

PAY OF TEACHERS OF CLASSICAL LANGUAGES, GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

1110. Sardar Hira Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

(a) whether the Punjabi, Arabic, Persian and Sanskrit teachers in Government High Schools are allowed the same grade of pay ;

(b) if not, will he kindly state the reasons for the same ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) Punjabi teachers are classed as Vernacular teachers.

GURU NANAK AND GURU GOBIND SINGH'S BIRTHDAYS.

1111. Sardar Hira Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Guru Nanak and Guru Gobind Singh's birthdays are not gazetted holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act ;

(ii) whether the Government is aware that both of these days are very important Sikh festivals ;

(iii) whether it is a fact that the Sikh community considers it a great grievance that their festivals are not properly recognised by Government ;

(iv) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative what steps Government intend to take to redress this grievance of the Sikh Community ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) These festivals are not gazetted holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act but have been notified as general holidays to be observed in all offices subordinate to the Punjab Government.

(ii) Yes.

(iii) and (iv) Government shows every consideration to Sikh Government servants in the observance of their religious festivals.

DETENTION OF STUDENTS OF VARIOUS COLLEGES IN THE PROVINCE.

1112. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (1) whether it is a fact that certain students are annually detained by college authorities of various colleges in the province and are not allowed to appear in the next F.A. and B.A. examinations ;
- (2) if so, what is the number of such students, college-wise during the last year ;
- (3) whether it is a fact that students are detained generally for being weak in studies and whether this is one of the grounds provided in the Punjab University Regulations for preventing them from appearing in the examination ;
- (4) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, issued a circular in July 1928, that students should be sent up for examination even though they were poor in studies, and therefore, not likely to succeed, provided that they had attended the requisite percentage of lectures ;
- (5) if so, whether this circular is followed by Government colleges only, or by other recognised and aided institutions as well ; if not, why not ?

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

LALA ATMA RAM, INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.

1113. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the date of appointment of Lala Atma Ram, Inspector of Schools, to the Rawalpindi division ;
- (b) how many appointments of teachers and clerks in that division have been made by him ;
- (c) what is the number of Muslims and non-Muslims appointed by him ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Forenoon of the 19th October, 1928.

(b) and (c) None.

CONFIRMATION OF SECRETARY, SADIWAL MUNICIPALITY.

1114. Sayed Mubarak Ali Shah : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary of the Sadiwal Municipality has been confirmed without the consultation of the members of the said municipality ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the members of the said municipality passed a resolution by a majority for his dismissal from the post of Secretary ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that he still continues to hold the appointment of the Secretary of the said municipality ;
- (d) if answer to the above be in the affirmative what steps does the Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The whole matter is under the consideration of the Deputy Commissioner who has reported that the resolution referred to in (b) above was not passed at a valid meeting.

(d) Government will await the receipt of a formal report in the matter by local officers.

SPECIAL RECRUITERS' ASSOCIATION, LAHORE.

1115. Sardar Partap Singh : Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) if there has only recently been formed any association of the name of Special Recruiters' Association with its head-quarters at Lahore ;
- (b) if he is aware that these special recruiters did useful work during the war and supplied thousands of recruits to the Government ;
- (c) the objects and aims of the Association ;
- (d) the names of the President and the Secretary of the Association ;
- (e) if he is aware of the number of recruits supplied by them ;
- (f) if it is a fact that these special recruiters have not had any recognition or reward for their services so far from the Government ;
- (g) if the answer to above question (f) be in the affirmative, will Government kindly say how they propose to encourage these special recruiters ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) to (f) Government understands that an association known as the Special Recruiters' Association exists at Lahore. That Association, however, is neither a registered nor a recognised body. Government is therefore not in a position to furnish authoritative information on the matters mentioned. It is suggested that the honourable member should apply to the Association.

(g) Does not arise.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1116. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

(a) the number of meetings held by the various Standing Committees during 1927-28 ;

(b) how many were postponed for lack of quorum ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : A statement giving the required information is attached.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MEETINGS OF THE VARIOUS STANDING COMMITTEES HELD DURING THE YEAR 1927-28.

Serial No.	Names of the various standing committees.	Number of meetings held during the year 1927-28.	Number of meetings postponed for lack of quorum.
1	Finance	4	None.
2	Canals	1	1
3	Jails	1	None.
4	Industries	2	None.
5	Co-operative Societies	1	None.
6	Excise	1	None.
7	Local Self-Government	3	None.
8	Public Health	2	None.
9	Agriculture	1	None.
10	Education	1	None.
11	Land Revenue	1	None.
12	Police	1	None.

*None. Only one non-official member attended and the meeting was adjourned at his suggestion.

GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

1117. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Communications Board makes grants to district boards for the maintenance and development of class II roads ;

(b) if so, whether these grants are subject to the condition that the share of the district board should be at least 25 per cent. of the revenue of the district board ;

[Mr. Maya Das.]

- (c) what is the formula for estimating this 25 per cent.;
- (d) whether any grants were made to the district boards during the last financial year;
- (e) whether these district boards fulfilled the conditions required?

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

(b) and (c) (1) Grant to a District Board for maintenance of Class Roads is a fixed percentage of its previous year's expenditure on such maintenance and its incidence varies for each district.

(2) Grant for development varies from 25 to 100 per cent. and is governed by—

- (i) importance of the proposed work.
- (ii) state of communications in the district applying for the grant; and
- (iii) capacity of the District Board itself to pay towards the work.

(d) Yes.

(e) In view of answer to (b) above, this does not arise.

RE-ENGAGEMENT OF JUNIOR SUPERVISOR ON GREY CANALS.

1118. Pir Akbar Ali : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that when the Senior Supervisor was still under suspension, the Junior Supervisor was re-engaged on the Grey Canals, on a grade next to the Superintendent in preference to the Senior one;

(b) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, whether any application was made against it and if so with what results;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Senior Supervisor was exonerated of the suspension charges;

(d) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, whether it is a fact that the said Senior Supervisor has not yet been re-engaged;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Junior Supervisor has since completed his 25 years' service and is entitled to full pension?

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

(b) Yes. It is still pending.

(c) The charges framed against him were considered not fully proved; he was not totally exonerated.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes; he has completed 25 years' service, but it is doubtful whether he can get full pension.

BUND AT SHAHDARA.

1119. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a bund at Shahdara (near Lahore) to protect certain buildings;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this bund was breached in 1926;
- (c) if so, where did the water come from;
- (d) what was the cause that led to the breach of the bund;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the bund at Shahdara also breached in 1928;
- (f) whether it has since been repaired;
- (g) whether it has been repaired with earth only, as before or some special means have been adopted to make it stand against the onslaught of water?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) The river Ravi.

(d) Erosion by water.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes. The question of stone pitching the nose of the bund is under consideration.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN THE JHANG DISTRICT.

1120. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the damage done to the standing "Rabi" crop in the Jhang district, by the cold wave in the last month;
- (b) if answer to (a) be in the affirmative what relief Government intends to allow to the sufferers?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Very little, if any, damage was done to the crops by the cold wave.

(b) It will be dealt with under the ordinary rules.

GOVERNMENTS DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

EDUCATION GRANT—continued.

Mr. President : The Council will resume discussion on the motion of Shaikh Paiz Muhammad.

The Honourable Mr. Manchar Lal : [Minister for Education] : Sir, the motion under discussion is directed to canvass my attitude, the recent attitude of the Ministry and the Department of Public Instruction towards Islamic schools in the matter of grant-in-aid. The honourable member who is responsible for this motion has thought fit to throw his proposition in a form of extreme stricture. But hard words break no bones, and I am glad to have this opportunity of explaining my position and that of the Department with regard to this important question of the grants-in-aid,

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

because I trust the explanation would tend to dispel, make it perfectly clear how utterly without foundation, the vast mass of the accusation that has been launched in a certain section of the press against the Department in this matter is. Now, Sir, if you will refer to the Report on the Progress of Education in the Punjab for the year 1927-28 and turn to the tables given at the end of page 2, you will find that the number of high schools aided and unaided was thus: aided 167, unaided 25.

No reference has been made by the honourable mover of this motion to the high schools. But may I say this, with the permission of the House, that during this period of two years that I have held charge, the question of at least one Muslim high school came before me. While every school that I am aware of is on the grant-in-aid list, one school in the year 1927 came perilously near losing its grant, that is a school which the honourable member from Garshankar will remember, and the part which the Ministry and the Department of Education took in regard to that school was to examine the position as it stood in the Code. In order to protect this particular school, the Islamia School, Dasuya, from the penalty of forfeiture of their grant-in-aid, the provision in the Code that would have attracted the application of that penal measure was actually modified, so that in future any association by the management or the teaching staff in the school in what is called political propaganda should no longer furnish a basis for the forfeiture of grant. That is one matter which came pointedly before the Ministry during these two years. The question of grant-in-aid to an Islamia school was involved, and that is the solution by which that particular school was saved from losing its grant. That is, so far as the high schools are concerned, the position of the Islamia High School on the grant-in-aid list.

Now turning to the middle schools, you will find on the same page in the Progress Report that of the Anglo-Vernacular middle schools, there are as many as 76 on the grant-in-aid list and on the 1st March 1928 there were as many as 41 that were not aided. Of this number 41, reference has been made in the course of this motion to two Muslim schools—the school at Lala Musa and the school at Sambarial. It may be that there are one or two other Anglo-Vernacular Muslim schools that are not aided but the honourable member has drawn attention to two. Now, before I proceed to examine into the circumstances of these two new institutions may I say this, that if out of 40 or more schools that are still waiting to be placed on the grant-in-aid list, it should happen that two schools are Muslim or Islamia schools, can that be regarded as a matter of policy on the part of the Department of Education in excluding certain sections of schools from the advantages of grant-in-aid? Sir, policy is a matter of much broader out-look; it implies a clear and definite line of action of a more comprehensive character, and it could never be said that because a school or two or three schools out of a long list of 40 or more consisting mainly a large number of schools belonging to other communities, the Hindu, Sikh and the Christian, because two or three or four Islamia schools are not aided, thereby you are to infer a definite design, a certain course of action and attitude persisted in and a line of policy which would invoke the language employed by the mover of this motion, a denunciation on

the part of this House. That would be a serious doctrine at any time to formulate or to be accepted by any House. But let us look at the facts. The first school that was mentioned was a school at Lala Musa, and I would like to say a few words as regards that institution.

Sir, some time in February 1928 the Department was approached with a request on behalf of this school at Lala Musa to be given a building grant. As the rules then stood in the Education Code no such grant could be given to it. What happened then. The Director of Public Instruction and the Minister examined the position and the provisions of the Code were amended with a view to place this school outside the bar which upto then operated to exclude it from obtaining a building grant. The Punjab Education Code was modified so as to permit this school being definitely placed in a category where a building grant could be won. There have been thus, during the last two years only two occasions when it became necessary to modify the language of the Code. Each was that immediately arising out of the position in Islamia schools, one, as I said a little while ago in order that a grant-in-aid might be maintained, and the other was the school at Lala Musa in order that a building grant may be won. What further is the position? I find on reference to the list of those schools that have recently been placed on the grant-in-aid list or to which a special grant has been accorded, that Lala Musa is just one of those schools to which a special grant has also been given. That is all that can be done in the case of a school provisionally recognised. This is about the Muslim School. At Lala Musa there is a Sanatan Dharam School, where the management has put up their own building without any Government help, and have not been given any special grant for maintenance. Thus, Sir, looking at facts this is veritably a case where one may say *Parturit montes, nascitur ridiculus mus*—the mountains laboured and a ridiculous little mouse was born.

We are left only with one school, and let me now examine the position of even this one school, the school at Sambarial to which so much reference was made. I think I am not transgressing the secrets of the Department if I were to tell this House that as recently as the year 1927 soon after I took over as Minister, the case of this school was pressed on the Department repeatedly, by methods both of threat and of cajolery. I had urgent messages: "Place this school on the grant-in-aid list, otherwise there might be agitation in the press." I was, on the other hand, approached by more considerate friends of the school asking me whether I would take into consideration myself the position of the school and see if something might not well be done. All these messages, Sir, at my instance were carefully examined in the Department, and we had the repeated opinion of the then Inspector of Schools of the Lahore Division, Khan Bahadur Shaikh Nur Hahi, that this is not a fit and proper school to which a grant-in-aid can be given, and that also was the opinion, Sir, of the then Director of Public Instruction. That is how matters stood, Sir, in the year 1927. In 1928 I myself had an opportunity of seeing something of the school. I was not able to visit the school itself, but the management of the school were kind enough to enable me to see a large number of students of the school. It also happens, Sir, that the then Inspector of Schools in the year 1928 was prepared to recommend a grant-in-aid to that school, and Sir, I also felt that if there are only one or two Muslim schools that are still not on the grant-

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.] In aid list, why not give the grant and be done with the matter. I made that suggestion so far as I am concerned, clearly to the Department, but the experts would not still look at that school as a fit and proper school for the purpose of giving a grant. Probably the Director of Public Instruction who has himself acted as an Inspector of Schools in the Lahore division can enlighten the House as to the various circumstances that particularly weighed with him in refusing a grant-in-aid to that school. But even I with my lay mind can proceed to make a suggestion or two as gathered from such information as had been placed at my disposal because the school has constantly been the subject of consideration by us, and I saw representatives on behalf of the management more than once. The honourable member who moved this motion—I am thankful to him for in spite of the rigour of the motion itself he used the language of restraint in commending the motion to the House—is probably aware, as undoubtedly other honourable members may be aware, that there is another school in that small town of Samburial, that is the district board school and that district board school is none too full for, while it can accommodate 800 to 400 students, it has on its rolls at present something less than 200. The Islamia School to which reference has been made has on its rolls a little over 100. Therefore it may be, that is what is apt to affect the experts, the Islamia school is not particularly wanted in that particular locality, because the district board school is not a communal or denominational school to which Muslim boys could not with advantage go. Sir, this is the total position with regard to the two schools to which reference was made. And, Sir, if I may say so, the ridiculous little mouse that was left with us, the Samburial school, turns out to be an extraordinary battered article and it is not on the basis of this school that a comprehensive motion touching the policy of the Ministry in such a vitally important matter relating to schools, i.e., grants-in-aid, can be canvassed or impeached.

The question of grants-in-aid to schools is, as I have said, a matter of very great importance to schools and where, the question of policy comes in is really this: This House cannot be unaware that during the recent past, I am not referring to the last year or two or even three, four years, for the matter of that, but during the recent past, there has been a feeling growing in a large number of private institutions; and the Punjab is putting up an effort in the way of building up private institutions which any province might be proud of; the feeling has been this. I am not trying to formulate it in very precise language—but it is something like this, that Government has taken upon itself somehow not only not to hold out the hand of encouragement which it ought to by virtue of its settled policy to which reference has been made in more than one solemn document by the Government of India and other Governments, but also, by difficulties in the way of recognition and lack of liberality in the matter of grants, tended to discourage those private institutions. That has been a feeling. There has also been the feeling that these private schools built up on private subscriptions none too easy to obtain cannot regard themselves as on a sufficiently secure basis, because the grants-in-aid tends to vary from year to year and there is no stability, and a school that is getting Rs. 10,000 one

year might certainly discover itself as getting not more than Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 7,000 or Rs. 8,000 the year after. This is a matter in which the hardship, I am sure, is felt no less by the Islamic schools than by the other schools. That is a basic matter of policy on which if an erroneous line were taken by any Minister, he might well have to answer to a House like this. I am not speaking without book when I say that the feeling of nervousness has existed in the Province. You are aware, Sir, and I am sure honourable members of this House are aware, that there is a very big organisation now called Non-Government Schools Headmasters' Association. I have had the privilege of attending a session of its Conference last year. It was presided over by that veteran educationist of this province, Mahatma Hans Raj. Another session, another conference was recently held under the presidency of an honourable member of this House, the honourable member for Sikh Urban constituency. It was held quite recently in Jyallpur. At these conferences the most emphatic resolutions are entered upon as regards what the Government ought to do in order that grants-in-aid may be regular, and the rules be properly framed so that the schools may be able to anticipate what they would get in the next year and frame their budgets accordingly, also regarding kindred matters which vitally affect the life of a school. Because, otherwise, if it does not know what its income is going to be in the next year, how is it going to work, pay its teachers or with any stability draw up its programme if it were to pass from a position of prosperity one year to find itself in difficulties in another year? These are matters which have been pressed on the attention of the Government by those who are competent to speak. At these conferences sometimes we have something like 100 headmasters of schools and they know where the shoe pinches, what the real trouble is and where the Government ought to mend its ways. With your permission, Sir, I should like to point out to the House the exact magnitude of the effort of private enterprise in building up schools in this province. We have at the present moment something like 80 or 81 Government High Schools; in addition to that we have 32 district board and municipal High schools. Roughly speaking, the number is 112 both for Government schools and district board and municipal schools. As against this, as I pointed out a little while ago, there are as many as 192 private schools, aided and unaided. That does not exhaust the description of the importance of these schools because while their number is not quite double that of Government, district board and municipal schools put together, if you see the number of scholars in these schools, the number is so much greater in the private aided and unaided institutions, that the total number of scholars actually receiving education in the private schools is more than double that in Government, district board and municipal schools. That, Sir, is a fact of paramount importance. It shows at once that Government is in no position, however rapid the pace at which it would carry forward the policy of provincialisation, to take and assume to itself the great work that is being done by private schools in the matter of secondary education. And, this House does not require being told that the district boards and the municipalities of this province are certainly not in a position to carry any further their programme of higher secondary education. As a matter of fact, I think it is common knowledge, every one knows it, that most of the district board and municipal schools are started with the idea that within a shorter or longer period Government

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

will come forward and take over those schools. And I know we have had to deal in the Department quite recently with the position of two or three district boards that are not in a position at all even to pay regularly or irregularly the salaries of their teachers. Sir, what has happened to this tremendous effort that was worthily put forward in the Punjab to carry on the work of secondary education?

Mr. President: Order, order. The Honourable Member is now discussing matters beyond the purview of the motion before the House. The motion relates specifically to the Minister's policy regarding the maintenance grants to aided schools, not to the provincialisation of schools, etc.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: I am not referring to provincialisation; what I was pointing out was this, that given this number of private schools, with a much smaller number of Government and local body schools, what was the encouragement due from the public exchequer for this vast mass of private effort to achieve the work of secondary education in this Province. That undoubtedly is a matter of policy whatever else is or is not.

Now, Sir, as regards this, the Government's policy has been laid down on more than one occasion. I will only make short and rapid references to two or three notable dates in the evolution or in the statement of that policy. As far back as the year 1854 in that notable document called the Educational Despatch of 1854 it was laid down that—

"No Government colleges or schools are to be founded, where a sufficient number of institutions exists, capable with the aid of Government of meeting the local demand for education, but new schools and colleges are to be established and temporarily maintained where there is little or no prospect of adequate local effort being made to meet local requirements. The discontinuance of any general system of education entirely provided by Government is anticipated with the gradual advance of the system of grant-in-aid."

Sir, the matter was reviewed again, very solemnly reviewed again in 1882 and it was laid down that—

"It is not, in the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, a healthy system that all the youths of the country should be cast, as it were, in the same Government educational mould. Rather it is desirable that each section of the people should be in a position to secure the description of education which is most consonant to its feelings and suited to its wants. The Government is ready, therefore, to do all that it can to foster such a spirit of independence and self-help."

Government formulated for itself the duty of affording encouragement in these terms:—

"For all kinds of such education private effort should in future be increasingly and mainly relied on, and every form of private effort should be systematically encouraged in such ways as these:—

- (a) By clearly showing that, whilst existing State institutions of the higher order should be maintained in complete efficiency, wherever they are necessary, the improvement and extension of institutions under private managers will be the principal care of the department;
- (b) By leaving private managers free to develop their institutions in any way consistent with efficiency and the protection of neighbouring institution from unfair competition;
- (c) By insisting on all institutions maintained from public funds and under official management refraining from undue competition with corresponding aided schools by such means as charging low fees;
- (d) By liberal rates of aid as long as aid is needed."

These principles were again repeated with greater emphasis and greater clarity, if that were possible, in the years 1904 and 1913 when it was said that the policy of Government is to rely so far as possible on private enterprise in secondary education. If I may refer—I think, I am within my rights in referring to a public utterance of Sir Malcolm Hailey at Mianwali when he was laying the foundation stone of the Ham Mohan Roy School there—he referred in these terms—

“It is of course the fact that much of the interest shown in the promotion of educational institutions is due to the competition among communities to secure the intellectual advance of their own members; and the result has been that we have in the Punjab a larger proportion of denominational schools than exists in other provinces. If this contains many disadvantages, deplored alike by the administrator and the educationalist, yet the fact remains that the Punjab owes much to the denominational school. In primary education the local funds schools far exceed denominational schools, but the latter is responsible for the great bulk of our high school education. We cannot afford to neglect that fact. Certainly we cannot afford to withdraw from such schools either recognition or assistance.”

These are laid down in solemn documents and repeatedly admitted as the leading ideas in the proper consideration of the system of secondary education here as elsewhere. These are matters of policy. I should like honourable members to canvass these and see how far possibly we have departed, how far the Government has possibly departed in the two years in which I have been in charge of this department with the very able assistance and guidance of the two successive Directors of Public Instruction, from adherence to that policy.

Sir, I do not wish to lay before you a catalogue of the large number of schools in this province that may be still on the unaided list. Names will spring readily to the minds of honourable members. Even I, who can visit only a few schools as come in my way, even I can mention from memory a goodly number. But it is not my object to trouble the House with that aspect of the case. All that I wish to say now is that I hope and trust that it will satisfy the honourable member who has moved this out that so far as the particular institutions which he has mentioned are concerned, there is no substance in the proposition which has actually been placed before the House. But, Sir, I do not wish to end on any kind of jarring note. I wish to assure the honourable members on my behalf, and I think I can do so on behalf of the Director of Public Instruction and the Department over which he presides, that if any instances of real or imaginary hardships occur to honourable members in the matter of grants-in-aid, or they can think of other modes in which Government might possibly be able to encourage, help or assist private effort in secondary education, we will be only too happy to examine them. It is the business of the Department to see that secondary education is duly encouraged and put on the right basis. We are anxious that our secondary schools should work on a stable and secure basis. If honourable members of this House can assist the Director of Public Instruction in achieving this aim, undoubtedly an aim that might well be described under the comprehensive rubric of policy, we shall be only too happy. *(Cheers)*.

Mr. President: Does the honourable member wish to withdraw his motion?

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad: I wish to say a few words before I withdraw. I want to reply.

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad : Do I understand, that the debate continues and that other honourable members will be allowed to speak? The other day you allowed the Honourable Minister for Education to speak only after the "ayes" and "noes" had been invited. It was as a special case that the Honourable Minister was given the right of reply to my arguments. If the debate continues I have no objection to the Director of Public Instruction making a speech.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : The question that arises is this. On the afternoon when this cut was moved, after the honourable member who moved the cut had spoken, you were pleased to notice that no other member stood up to speak. You were pleased therefore to put the motion to the House and invite the opinion of the House. Thereupon, so far as I can recollect and I find I am fortified in this by other honourable members, "ayes" and "noes" were collected and you gave your decision in favour of "noes." The question now is whether the debate continues.

Mr. President : In view of what the honourable member has just said I should think the Honourable Minister for Education was wrongly given a chance to have his say after the motion was put. So the debate cannot be allowed to continue.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I am grateful to you for the indulgence which you were pleased to show me. Undoubtedly it is a fact that immediately after the question was proposed I was trying to discover my paper before I rose. At the same time when the identical point of order was taken the other day, I think, by the honourable member from Garhakankar, you were pleased to remark that only the "Ayes" had been gathered and that the "Noes" were still being gathered. Therefore it is not a case in which you had given the decision of the House that the "Noes" had it. If you had given the decision of the House in those express terms then I do not know whether you could have given me the indulgence of addressing the House. This is the exact position, so far as I remember on the question of "Ayes" and "Noes."

Mr. President : If I had given my decision for "ayes" or "noes", then I have no hesitation to say that I acted quite wrongly in allowing the Honourable Minister to speak. I was under the impression that I had collected only "ayes," not "noes"; otherwise I should not have allowed the Honourable Minister for Education to speak. In any case I cannot allow the debate to be re-opened.

Mr. R. Sanderson : I wish to make a personal explanation. I am also concerned in the subject as I have been the object of attack by the honourable member.

Mr. President : There is no charge against the Honourable Member as the criticism is directed against the Honourable Minister for Education. It is obvious that if a subordinate officer of a department is attacked by a motion for reduction, the attack is taken to be against the Minister concerned, but the converse of this is not true.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : May I submit with your permission that on the last occasion the question was actually put and both the "ayes" and the "noes" were collected. The decision was announced in favour of "noes"; and I may even say that Shaikh Faiz Muhammad actually

called for a division. It was only after that that the Honourable Minister stood up and you allowed him to speak.

Mr. President : I have already stated that if both "ayes" and "noes" had been collected and decision for "noes" or "ayes" was announced, then it was quite wrong to allow any member to speak. In any case the mere fact that by a mistake the Honourable Minister was allowed to have his say does not justify the debate to be re-opened.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Have the other members a right to speak? They did not rise to speak immediately after the mover had made his speech. In fact even the Honourable Minister for Education did not rise and therefore the question was put to the House.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I want to submit one thing in this connection. It is a very important matter and it may affect the procedure in the future. The fact is that after the mover of this motion had finished his speech, nobody got up and you got up and put the question. The question was answered by "ayes" and "noes." You were pleased to declare in favour of "noes." That is a fact. But by some chance you forgot that this procedure had been completed. The honourable mover had asked for a division. You forgot that and you said that the question had not yet been completely put and that only the "ayes" had been asked and that no demand for "noes" had yet been made and therefore under that impression you were pleased to give an opportunity to the Honourable Minister to address this House. Now the question that arises is this. Supposing by some mistake, as happened in this case, you give a ruling and declare that the question has not yet been put. When you say the question has not yet been put, from a legal point of view it means that the question has not yet been put and then the Honourable Minister is allowed to speak; the question is whether on the discovery of your mistake you take back your last ruling and go back to the original position, or you stick to the last ruling and the position is that the question has not yet been put. Such a mistake may again be made, because everybody is human and is liable to err again. That is a point which I want to be cleared as it may serve as a precedent.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : An identical question was, as I submitted before, raised by the honourable member from Hoshiarpur. He then said that you had collected the Ayes and the Noes and therefore no further debate was competent. There and then you were pleased to over-rule the point of order. Then the matter was immediately before you. You were able to see quite clearly what you had done. Having made that statement and given me permission to speak, the fundamental and primary rule of law is there to help us. *Omnia præsumptur rite esse acta*. Everything must be regarded as having been properly and regularly done. I do not think, Sir, that there is any room for basing an argument on any mistake on your part. I refuse to admit that any mistake was made.

Mr. President : I have already stated that when I allowed the Honourable Minister for Education to speak the other day I was under the impression that I had not given my final decision on the question then under discussion. My impression was that only 'Ayes' had been collected

[Mr. President.]

and that the 'Noes' had yet to be collected. However, I now find as some honourable members have pointed out, that I had given my final decision. On these facts it was very wrong of me to re-open the question and allow the Honourable Minister for Education to speak. But if I was under a misapprehension or if I had made a mistake unconsciously, I would have been obliged, had the honourable members of the House pointed out my error there and then. It is common knowledge that a debate is closed when no member rises to speak. But it is not finally closed until both 'Ayes' and the 'Noes' are fully collected. When no honourable member of the House got up to speak the other day, I concluded that the House did not wish to discuss the motion any longer. Thereupon I put the question and acting under the misapprehension that only 'Ayes' had been collected, I allowed the Honourable Minister to speak. I did not mean to re-open the debate. I may again make it clear that once a question is fully put, that is, when both 'Ayes' and 'Noes' have been collected, the debate cannot be re-opened.

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad: May I have an opportunity to reply?

Mr. President: I regret I cannot allow the honourable member to reply. May I know if he wishes to withdraw his motion?

Shaikh Faiz Muhammad: I asked for a division and I shall even now press for it.

Lala Bodh Raj: Before the question is put, may I ask the Honourable Minister how many of these unaided schools are maintained by Hindus?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: I am afraid I cannot answer that question off-hand.

Mr. President: Grant under consideration, motion moved is:—

"That the grant be reduced by Re. 1."

The question is that, that motion be adopted.

The motion was lost.

Chaudhri Duli Chand: [Karnal (Non-Muhammadian Rural)] (Urdu): Sir, I beg to move—

"That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 2,80,570—
Total Pay of Tata Staff—31-E. (2) Inspection. [To point out the unsuitability of the inspecting staff.]

Sir, in the very beginning I would submit that the Education Department consists of two main branches, that is to say the teaching branch and the inspecting branch. The former concerns itself with imparting education to the people residing in villages and towns, while it is the duty of the latter to inspect schools situated in different parts of the Province. Most of the present inspecting staff being incapable of evincing any sympathy with the rural population is quite unsuitable for the discharge of the duty assigned to it. Sir, I should suggest that only such persons should be appointed in the inspecting line who belong to the villages and are agriculturists themselves, for it is only they who can in all sincerity sympathise with the rural population and can propagate education amongst them. I want to draw your attention to a certain report regarding rural education in England and the Punjab by Messrs. Parkinson and Sanderson. In this

report also for the reason stated above great emphasis is laid on the fact that the members of the inspecting staff should be recruited from the rural classes.

At present urban people are appointed as inspectors and they being in no way interested in the spread of education amongst the rural classes fail to discharge their duties satisfactorily. For this reason, primary education lags far behind, and adult education is at a standstill. Since grown up people are required to attend to other domestic duties, the classes for the education of the adults can only be held in the night schools. Consequently it is natural that the inspection of their schools should also take place at night time. But our district inspectors and their assistants who are generally of urban classes and are even afraid of travelling during the day time never venture to go out for the inspection of these schools at late hours after sunset. It is a fact, Sir, that these officers are so naturally prone to fear that they often, after finishing the inspection of a school, seek the services of the school master to accompany them to the other school in some other village even if it is daytime.

Again, Sir, these gentlemen who are born, bred and educated in towns become so habituated to the comforts available only there that they even when appointed in the rural area try to seek the same facilities. If they have to go to inspect a school in any village, they will first try to know whether they can reach it by railway. If there is no railway station they will then try to find out whether there is any road leading to it and whether that road is fit for cycling, and if unfortunately it happens to be a kacha road not fit for cycling, they will simply send word to the schools situated in such rural areas to gather on a certain railway station for their inspection. The schoolmasters bring all their classes to that place and this causes a great deal of inconvenience and trouble to the small children who have to walk to that place on foot.

Again, Sir, if the inspection of a school finishes at 4 P. M. or there about the inspecting officer keen to his own personal interest of increasing his travelling allowance would like to go to the next school on the same day and the poor school master will have to accompany him thither as his guide and body guard. So the school remains open till his return causing a lot of trouble to the children, their parents and the school master himself.

Some time back a responsible official of the Education Department told me that once he enquired from an assistant-district inspector of schools as to where a certain school was situated. He in answer offered to bring the map of the district to find out the locality of the school. From this you can very well guess that these district inspecting officers do not even take the trouble of acquainting themselves with the schools and the villages in which they are situated.

Sir, I can show that the cause of rural education has suffered a great deal at the hands of the present inspecting staff. Scholarships were provided for the children of the military class and the officials concerned were instructed to award these scholarships to deserving students. But I am sorry to remark that these officers took no interest in the matter. On the other hand there are many instances in which they have tried to

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suppress and ignore the rights of deserving students. For instance, the renewal of a Military scholarship of a certain student was required to be sanctioned and an officer of the inspecting staff was applied to, but he did not condescend to return a reply. A reminder was sent and still he did not respond. The third time a registered letter was posted, and to it also he turned a deaf-ear. Then one or two more registered reminders were posted but to no effect. But when the Deputy Commissioner of the District came to know of the matter he took a strict action against the District Education office. There are numerous instances of this kind and for fear of wasting my time as well as yours I refrain from quoting them.

Then there is another complaint with regard to the grant allotted for the award of military scholarships. For the year 1926-27 a sum of Rs. 4 lakhs was granted for awarding scholarships to the sons of the military men. During that year out of this sum only Rs. 2,98,684 were spent. A similar sum of Rs. 4 lakhs was again granted for the same purpose for the year 1927-28. This time only Rs. 2,28,089 were spent out of the total grant. The remaining amounts in both the years were saved and they lapsed to Government. From these figures it is quite apparent how much sympathy the Department has got with the zamindars and the military classes.

Again, Sir, the principle enunciated by Messrs. Parkinson and Sanderson of employing rural people for the spread of education amongst the rural classes is not adhered to in the matter of recruitment. Townsman are employed for carrying on the work of inspection while for teaching work recruitment is made from the rural classes. In other words, both rural and urban people are put at the wrong places. Therefore they are often unsuccessful in accommodating themselves to the nature of the work assigned to them.

Again, Sir, for our consolation on the list of the employees in the subordinate educational service people who are non-agriculturists are shown as agriculturists, e.g., the caste of a certain member of the service is shown as Chopra while at another place he is shown as an agriculturist. Some times back I had also referred such instances by their serial numbers to the Director of Public Instruction, and he made a note of them; but I regret to say that no action has so far been taken. With these remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. R. Sanderson (Director of Public Instruction): Sir, I am sorry that I missed a great part of the honourable member's speech, but I will do my best to deal with him:.....

Mr. President: Will the honourable member deal with his speech and not with him (*Laughter*).

Pandit Nanak Chand: That he will do outside (*Laughter*).

Mr. Sanderson: The honourable member has made a strong attack upon the efficiency and integrity of the inspectors of schools of this Province. As I am proud of my colleagues, and as my substantive post is Inspector of schools Lahore Division, I cannot tolerate anything that verges upon a charge against their integrity:.....

Pir Akbar Ali : The members on this side are unable to follow the speech of the honourable member. He should speak a little louder.

Mr. President : I presume Mr. Sanderson could not hear Chaudhri Duli Chand and is, therefore, meting out the treatment he had experienced.

Mr. Sanderson : I think, Sir, the Inspector of Schools, Ambala Division, will feel that he has been nourishing a viper in his bosom. The honourable member who has moved this cut is in charge of a school which was recommended by him for some Rs. 11,500 as grant-in-aid this year. It is rather hard on the poor Inspector of Schools. The first charge by the honourable member was that non-agriculturists could not ride and riding was an essential element in a good inspector, since otherwise he could not go out to villages. Well, Sir, I am a villager and I do ride. I occasionally test my staff asking them to ride cross-country with me.

Chandhri Duli Chand : On a point of personal explanation. I referred to district inspectors and their assistants. I did not refer to inspectors of schools.

Mr. Sanderson : One assumes after hearing the honourable mover that a statutory agriculturist is born glued to a horse but in my tests of district staffs I find that the statutory agriculturists is not necessarily a better horseman than a non-agriculturist. Therefore I do not accept this argument as proving the unsuitability of inspecting staffs. Another point raised by the honourable member has already been suggested in questions put in this House—the fact that our gradation lists of the Provincial Educational Service and Subordinate Educational Service record certain people as agriculturists who are not members of statutory agricultural tribes. We are trying to clear up this error on the part of the Director of Public Instruction. Long before this Council came into being the gradation lists were worked out on the basis of the definition of an agriculturist in the Punjab Education Code. This definition for the purposes of scholarships and grant-in-aid is an excellent one; it eliminates the owner of many acres from the list of those receiving concessions in fees and so forth, but it brings in poor men who may not be members of statutory tribes but who do happen to till land. Though we are correcting our lists, I still hold that this definition is good enough for the department. Again, Sir, the Honourable member has alleged that the department is short of agriculturists. I do not agree. Figures show that we have fifty-six per cent. of agriculturists in the directorate and inspectorate. I admit, Sir, that there is a shortage of Hindus of statutory agricultural tribes, but they are difficult to recruit.

Then, Sir, the question of military scholarships has been raised. Here again, I feel a little sore about this being made a source of grievance against the inspectorate. These cases are handled by Deputy Commissioners and District Advisory Boards. I do not know how long the honourable member has been a member of this House.

Mr. President : Mr. Sanderson need not speak on this point inasmuch as Chaudhri Duli Chand has already intimated to the House that by inspecting staff he meant only district inspectors and their assistants and not the divisional inspectors. Are scholarships recommended by the district inspectors and their assistants?

Mr. Sanderson: The district inspectors do deal with military scholarships. I understand that the honourable member has been a member of this House for the last six years, and I find that he has only asked one or two questions on this subject during those years. During several of these years the expenditure on military scholarships has fallen below the amount allotted. Why should the honourable member have thought fit to raise the problem now? It is quite natural that the question of military scholarships for the sons of soldiers should fall as the years go on as there is a date fixed for determining that children born after that date shall not be eligible. I do not think there is any further point in the honourable member's speech with which I need deal. His arguments will be handled by the various sections of this House and I merely ask them to deal with this case on its merits.

Pandit Nanak Chand (Hoshiarpur. (Non-Muhammadan) Rural) (Urdn): Sir, the tone of the debates and discussion in this Council had been very serious for some time, so much so that every honourable member was tired of it and we were all of us anxiously waiting for such a lively motion as might provide an opportunity for a hearty laughter. I am glad that my honourable friend Chaudhri Duli Chand rose to the occasion, for I can say without any fear of contradiction that his speech did relieve the House of that awkward tension for a few minutes. (A voice:—A few minutes only?) A few minutes at least. Sir, the honourable member for Karnal has urged that while appointing officers on the inspecting staff the Education Department is in the habit of ignoring a very important and absolutely necessary qualification. He would have the Department appoint on the inspecting staff only those persons who are able to ride well, to climb trees, to cross a river, to pass through a forest at an unearthly hour of the night and to perform many other heroic feats. Under these circumstances, I would suggest that the Director of Public Instruction should call for applications from all the dacoits and highway robbers in the Province for the posts of district inspectors and assistant district inspectors because they are all of them fully qualified in this respect. Then you will see that the teachers will be relieved of the unnecessary burden of their clothes and the students of their books within a very short time because you may depend on it that these people if appointed on the inspecting staff will perform their pleasant duties to the entire satisfaction of my honourable friend. Moreover, the Government will be relieved of the undesirable necessity of spending a lot of money on the industrial and agricultural settlements which it provides for these people.

Next, he has asked how many members of the Inspecting Staff belong to rural areas and how many of them come from urban areas. Sir, we are not prepared to admit that all the inspecting officers belong to urban areas as the honourable member has tried to make out. If he wanted to convince the House of the so-called paucity of rural representation in the inspection branch of the Education Department he ought to have supported his arguments with figures and facts. In that case his speech would have been of very great interest to me because I also have the honour to represent a rural constituency. (Chaudhri Duli Chand: Do you?) Is the honourable member really so ignorant. Moreover, Sir, he has not placed before the House any clear definition of

the rural and urban communities by which it may be possible to say definitely whether a certain person belongs to a rural or an urban area. What would my honourable friends from Rohtak, Karnal and Sialkot say about themselves? Do they belong to urban areas or to rural? They are living in big cities and one of them resides in Lahore itself. Thus it is very necessary to be absolutely clear on this point because the present state of uncertainty is causing a lot of inconvenience. However, Sir, let me assure my honourable friend that not less than 70 per cent. of posts in this department are held by officers who belong to rural areas. He should not be misled by the fact that some of them are living in cities because it is due to their being in service or some other considerations of the same kind.

Again the honourable member was pleased to remark that the Hindus and Sikhs residing in cities have no sympathy with the village population and they always stand against the rural interests. It is a pity Sir, that the Muslim benches are in the habit of attributing such motives to and making insulting remarks about the honourable members sitting on the other sides of the House.

Chaudhri Zafrollah Khan: Are there any particular Muslim benches in this House?

Pandit Nanak Chand: Yes, your benches must be called Muslim benches. I submit Sir, that it is highly undesirable to say that the Hindus and Sikhs have no sympathy with the rural community. Those gentlemen have no better reason for making such remarks than that they want to insult us and create the same atmosphere again which you Sir, were so anxious to remove. Thus my honourable friend has not supported his motion with any convincing argument or any facts and figures. He simply prepared a speech in an hour of leisure with a view to insulting the Hindu and Sikh members and then came forward to deliver it in the House. With these remarks Sir, I oppose this motion.

Pir Akbar Ali [Ferozepur (Muhammadian) Rural] (Urdu): Sir, the question under discussion was a very simple one. The honourable mover wanted simply to draw the attention of the Education Department that if it was really anxious to popularise education among the villagers it should make it a point to see that the inspection branch consists mainly of officers belonging to the rural community. He had put forward this suggestion or proposal for the very simple reason that the officers belong to the rural community being cognizant of the needs of the villagers and having every sympathy with them will leave no stone unturned to rid their brethren of the curse of illiteracy. But I am sorry to observe that some of the honourable members have unnecessarily dragged unpleasant topics into the discussion of this very simple question. It is quite clear from the tone of their speeches that they do not recognise the necessity of abstaining from personal attacks even to preserve the dignity of this honourable House.

Sir, the honourable mover has made it quite clear that he wanted nothing more than that only a particular section of the inspecting staff, i.e., the district inspectors and assistant district inspectors should be appointed from amongst the rural community; no matter whether they are Hindus, Muslims or Sikhs. I think that his demand is quite a legitimate one from the public as well as the Government point of view because those officers

[**Pir Akbar Ali:**]

have better chances of increasing the popularity of education among the villagers than those belonging to urban community. But let me submit Sir, that some of the Sikh officers are Sikhs simply for the sake of better opportunities and it is now admitted that the Sikh Gurus were really Khatri.

Sardar Ujjal Singh: Sir, is it permissible to any member to offend the religious susceptibilities of the Sikhs?

Mr. President: No member can be allowed to make offensive remarks in this House. The honourable member is requested to withdraw his remark.

Pir Akbar Ali: Sir, I meant to say that they are not the followers of the Sikh Gurus in the real sense of the word.

Mr. President: Order, order! Is the honourable member prepared to withdraw his remarks or not?

Pir Akbar Ali: I did not mean any offence Sir, and, therefore, I withdraw such remarks as might have offended any honourable member.

Now Sir, there has always been a great difference between the rural and the urban communities with regard to their habits and inclination.

Lala Gopal Das: Do you belong to the rural community or the urban?

Pir Akbar Ali: I am coming to that presently. Some of my honourable friend have asked for a definition of the agricultural communities. Let me tell them that the agricultural community consists of such people who have got no other means of livelihood than the lands while by the urban population we mean all those people whose interests are confined to cities and who lend money to zamindars. I think this explanation will enable my honourable friends to make out whether a certain person really belongs to the agricultural community or merely poses to belong to it.

Another honourable member was pleased to remark that if bravery is to be considered a qualification for a post in the inspection branch the Director of Public Instruction should call for applications from dacoits and highway robbers for these posts. I may tell him Sir, that it is not dacoits and robbers only that have been gifted with bravery. He must be aware of the fact that there has never been a dearth of brave and gallant persons among the greatest and noblest families of the world. The honourable member meant to say nothing more than that the city people are not as brave and fearless as the villagers. They are only fit for sitting comfortably in their decorated rooms and that is the reason why the inspecting officers belonging to the urban community are afraid to pass through a forest and have to ask the teachers under them to accompany them from one place to another. Therefore, I submit Sir, that the presence of such officers cannot be expected to create any wholesome ideas in the minds of the rural students. There is another reason also why the officers belonging to the urban community should not be appointed in rural areas. The urban population has lately taken it into its head to ignore the law and if officers from the urban population are posted in rural areas our children are sure to catch the infection.

Then, Sir, the Director of Public Instruction and my honourable friend from Hoshiarpur were pleased to address me a question as to how the Education Department is to know whether a certain person is an agriculturist or not. I beg to submit that this question is very easy to answer. There are only two classes of people. That can be regarded agriculturists or zamindars. One of them consists of those tribes who have been declared agriculturists under the Land Alienation Act and to the other class belong those people whose only means of livelihood is agriculture. This is what we mean by the term agriculturist. We cannot regard all such people agriculturists or zamindars as have seen the land or walked on it.

Now Sir, I do admit that there are certain inspecting officers belonging to the urban community who have very great sympathy with the rural population and its aspirations. But it must be admitted that in spite of all their good and admirable intentions they cannot be as helpful to the rural population as those belonging to the rural community because the former can never be expected to fully realize the requirements of the rural population. This is also the reason why the courses of studies prescribed by the Education Department are so very defective from the rural point of view. With these remarks Sir, I support this motion and request the Education Department not to consider it a censure motion because it has been brought forward simply to explain the grievances of the rural population and to make some suggestions for the improvement of the department, and therefore deserves a very careful and sympathetic consideration at the hands of the Education Department.

Sardar Harbakhsh Singh [Hoshiarpur and Kangra (Sikh) Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, it is said that too much of everything is bad and this saying is exactly applicable to the Rural versus Urban controversy in this Council. As far as the motion under discussion is concerned if we take the remarks of the mover himself and also the remarks made by my honourable friend Pandit Nanak Chand that the Director of Public Instruction should call for applications from dacoits and highway robbers for the posts of district inspectors and assistant district inspectors as mere jokes all is well and good. But if we are to take them seriously I must submit that this motion as well as the speeches made by both the honourable members are anything but desirable. Sir, the honourable mover has pointed out that the Education Department should appoint such officers on the inspecting staff as might be fully conversant with the needs and requirements of the rural population including knowledge of Punjabi and Gurmukhi and so far I quite agree with him. But with regard to the remaining part of his speech I must say that if his suggestions are put to practice our life which is already bad enough will become all the worse in no time. Let the rural members bear it in mind that if they go on making such complaints against those officers in the inspection branch who belong to urban community as they are unsuitable for this reason or that, they must be prepared to see the urban members follow in their wake and say that no officers from the rural community should be appointed on the inspecting staff because the children belonging to the urban community are always afraid of them for their fierce looks and rough manners.

Pandit Nanak Chand : They are already making such complaints.

Sardar Harbakhsh Singh : I was saying that you urban people will possibly make such complaints in turn.

Pandit Nanak Chand : No, we do not.

Sardar Harbakhsh Singh : You may begin to do so, at any rate. Next it is very difficult to say definitely whether a certain person belongs to the urban or the rural area apart from the question of his being a zamindar or a non-zamindar. There are a good many non-zamindars residing in villages, i.e., in rural areas. Now if some of their children get themselves sufficiently qualified for the posts of Inspectors or district inspectors it would be absolutely unjust to deprive them of all opportunities of serving in the department simply because they do not belong to what some of my honourable friends are pleased to call the rural classes. Thus the method which we are asking the Education Department to adopt is not a proper one. If we go on placing such undesirable limitations at the discretion of the department it will be quite at a loss to understand what to do. Moreover, my honourable friends must remember that this is not the proper way to solve the problem of poverty. It is obvious that the urban population got itself educated much before we shook off our lethargy and that, therefore, it has got ahead of the rural population. But no useful purpose can be served by such motions as the one under discussion. We should depend upon the Education Department to help us to make up the deficiency of the rural classes.

My honourable friend Pandit Nanak Chand has very rightly remarked that the honourable mover of this motion has not supported his arguments with any facts and figures. However, I may submit Sir, that I am aware of some instances in which candidates belonging to the urban community were given preference over those belonging to the rural community. But what then? The Education Department cannot and should not be expected to shut its eyes to all other qualifications necessary for these posts and make all the appointments under it on the single basis of rural versus urban controversy. It is true that the rural community is not adequately represented in the inspection branch and that, therefore, something must be done in this direction. It is also true that while considering the various qualifications of different candidates for a post in this branch the Honourable Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instructions should bear in mind the advisability of making up this deficiency. But as I have already pointed out this purpose cannot be served or advanced by such a drastic thing as a motion for reduction or cut. In my opinion the only reasonable demand that we can make in this direction is that the Education Department must see that there is always an adequate number of such officers on the inspecting staff as have the fullest sympathy with the movement of Adult Education and who are conversant with the needs and requirements of the rural population, and who know Punjabi and Gurmukhi in which Primary Education is imparted.

This much for the problem of poverty and adequate representation of various interests in the inspection branch of the Education Department. Now as regards the necessity of putting a stop to the rural versus urban and other communal controversies. I beg to submit that this end cannot be achieved unless we give a wide berth to all petty consideration, sink our unpleasant differences and undignified quarrels and work together for the uplift of the Motherland. And this again is possible only if every community

recognises the desirability of being content with its proper share in the Government departments and thus abstain from making encroachments on the rights of other communities as Gura Nanak Dev has said :—

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The urban people should realize that the village population also consists of their brother human beings with all the human wants and aspirations. Similarly, the rural people should remember that they cannot be justified in trying to reduce the urban population to a race of petty shopkeepers and hawkers simply because the latter availed themselves of the educational opportunities before the rural community shook off its lethargy and thus it got ahead of the former. So long as we do not present a united front to the Government the condition of the country will remain as it is. The Government knows our weak points and it has been utilizing its knowledge to the best effect. Therefore, let us remember that so long as we continue to quarrel among ourselves it is absolutely impossible for us to make the Government accede to our demands of further or full advancement.

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, it is a pity that such an important subject like Education should be treated so lightly by the House. Some honourable members said that there might be some dacoits.....

Pandit Nanak Chand: Is the honourable member in order in making a reflection on the House?

Sayad Muhammad Husain: Not the House, Sir, I referred only to some honourable members.

Mr. President: Including himself. (Laughter).

Sayad Muhammad Husain: If I have included myself, I beg to withdraw. Some honourable members said, I do not want to mention their names, because I have great respect for them. Some honourable members regretted.....

Mr. President: May I request the honourable member to refrain from discussing the attitude of the other members? He will please discuss the question.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: The fact is that we are passing through a period of renaissance. Every community is anxious to uplift the weaker sections of it. The Muhammadans here who constitute the majority of the population are most backward in education and they claim and rightly claim that they should also be helped to reach the goal by uplifting their masses by education so that they can march side by side with their sister communities.

Pandit Nanak Chand: That is not the question now before the House.

Mr. President: The honourable member is not speaking to the motion.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: Sir, I submit that for this purpose the inspecting staff with regard to which this motion is moved should be sympathetic and wherever possible, belong to the same community as the people

[**Sayad Muhammad Husain:**]

of the locality. Sir, we see how great is the communal tension in this chamber itself and this Chamber is nothing but a reflection of the outside world. (A voice: "No"). Fortunately or unfortunately, if the inspecting staff does not belong to the same community, what will happen? These communal ideas have also gone into the minds of the inspecting staff, to the great fear and detriment of the Muhammadan community. There were 16 Muhammadan District Inspectors out of a total number of 40 or 50. (The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: Only 28). The Muhammadan community rightly expect that at least 20 out of the cadre should be members of their own community. But instead of increasing the number, their number has been reduced still further.

Pandit Nanak Chand: The honourable member is talking about a motion which is not before the House.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: I am talking on the motion the object of which is to discuss the unsuitability of the inspecting staff. Is not the fact that the majority of the inspecting staff posted to Muhammadan localities belong to another community, a point with regard to the unsuitability of the staff?

Mr. President: Is it the honourable member's position that the suitability of the inspecting staff is to be determined by the religion to which the inspectors belong?

Sayad Muhammad Husain: My point is that in the Muhammadan districts there should be Muhammadan Inspectors, otherwise there would be unsuitability owing to want of sympathy.

For the information of the House I may give them the example of the District Inspector, Mr. Abdur Rahman. He was censured by the Deputy Commissioner and by the Inspector of Schools. For what purpose? When the Honourable Minister for Education toured in that part of the country, the Muhammadan population of the town did not accord him a welcome. But that happened in spite of the best efforts of Mr. Abdur Rahman. These are days when even the Governors and the Viceroy are not welcomed in some places. It is quite an ordinary thing; it is only a form of constitutional protest. Anyhow, fortunately or unfortunately the people there did not accord any reception to the Honourable Minister. What happened? Mr. Abdur Rahman was transferred to the teaching line. The people of Jhang attribute this act to the vindictiveness of the Honourable Minister for Education. They say that I do not attribute that motive to the Honourable Minister.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: The honourable member is casting a reflection on my motive in the transfer of a district officer in the subordinate educational service. It is for you to rule whether a reflection on the motive of a member of the House can be made in this manner.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: The Honourable Minister has misunderstood me. I do not at all attribute that motive to the Honourable Minister. I only said that the people of Jhang attributed that motive to him. This was the opinion of the Jhang people.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Is the honourable member aware that the District Inspector of Schools, Jhang is a Mussalman gentleman?

Mr. President : Is the honourable member prepared to state that the people of Jhang district ever made to him the allegations he has referred to?

Sayad Muhammad Hussain : I only read it in the "*Muslim Outlook*."

Mr. President : My question was whether the people of Jhang had ever told the honourable member that the transfer in question was made for the reasons stated by him.

Sayad Muhammad Hussain : I did not attribute it to the Honourable Minister. I only read so in the "*Muslim Outlook*". I cannot say more, Sir.

Mr. President : The question is whether any residents of Jhang district ever told the honourable member now in possession of the House that such a thing was done?

Sayad Muhammad Hussain : No such person came and spoke to me.

Mr. President : I request the honourable member to withdraw his statement, and proceed with his speech.

Sayad Muhammad Hussain : I withdraw it, Sir. I regret very much that such a sympathetic officer should have been transferred from the Jhang district. It is a backward district and requires very, very delicate handling at the hands of a very sympathetic officer. This is one instance.

I shall now come to the inspectors of schools. The Multan division and the Rawalpindi division are 90 per cent. Muhammadan in composition. The people there wanted as a right that there should be two Muhammadan inspectors of schools at least for these two divisions, if not more. But we find there is only one inspector in charge of these two divisions. He also, I find, is a weak gentleman, on the verge of retirement. (*A Voice : What is his name ?*) Why should I mention names? The Muhammadan community fear that when this gentleman retires there will be no other Muhammadan left to take his place. It is a most backward district in education. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. President : I hope the honourable members will please allow the honourable member to proceed without interruption.

Sayad Muhammad Hussain : These are very plain facts. We have got a very small number of inspectors and district inspectors, and assistant inspectors. Unfortunately I am not in a position to quote figures accurately. Perhaps my honourable friend who will follow me may throw some light on the exact position of my community in this service. These are our real grievances. The cut has been moved only with that object in view. We may take it as that. We want to draw the attention of the Minister for Education to show to him that he should be more liberal in the appointment of Muhammadans to the inspecting branch of the service. The appointment of sympathetic Muhammadan gentlemen is the only way of improving the education among the Muhammadans and the depressed classes who are backward in education. Unless they are educated and made to come up

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to the level of the other communities it is not possible to liberate the country as a whole. It will be very difficult to bridge the wide gulf existing between the Hindus and the Muhammadans. The only way is to educate the masses. No stone should be left unturned to achieve this end. It is very unfortunate if the Muhammadan Inspector tries to care more for his own community and the Hindu Inspector tries to care more for his community. But as things are at present, we must take such steps as are necessary to improve the educational standard among the communities which are backward in education. With these words, I support the motion.

Lala Bodh Raj [West Punjab Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, every speaker has deprecated the unfortunate communal and rural versus urban controversies which occur only too frequently in this Council. It is really a pity that we are strengthening the hands of the bureaucracy by quarrelling amongst ourselves. Therefore, I will avoid this unpleasant situation by confining my remarks strictly to facts and figures. Sir, as far as I am aware, there are seven inspectors of schools in our province of whom one is a Christian, two are Hindus, three Muslims and one Sikh. (*A Voice*: There is no Sikh Inspector of Schools).

Lala Bodh Raj: What about Sardar Gian Singh?

Sardar Buta Singh: He is not a Sikh.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: He may be a Sikh at heart.

Sardar Buta Singh: As to that, you may be a Sikh at heart too.

Lala Bodh Raj: Sir, it has been pointed out that Sardar Gian Singh is not a Sikh. Very well, then let us say that there are three Hindu Inspectors of Schools in the province. The honourable member for Montgomery was pleased to remark that in the Multan division the whole inspecting staff should consist of Muslim officers only. I beg to say, Sir, that the Inspector of Schools in that division is a Muslim gentleman and all the District Inspectors with the exception of one are Muslims. What more does my honourable friend want the Education Department to do?

Now let us examine the representation of the various communities on the district inspecting staff in the province as a whole. The number of District Inspectors and Assistant District Inspectors according to communities is as follows:—

	Muslims.	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Christians.
District Inspectors	14	9	6	1
Assistant District Inspectors	82	28	28	..

Under these circumstances if my Muslim friends are not satisfied with the present state of affairs then nothing short of a monopoly of all the Government services can satisfy them. It is a pity that we do not realize what effect our communal quarrels in the Council will have on the minds of the various officers working in the different parts of the province. Let me inform the honourable member for Montgomery that the Hindu population of the Multan division has very serious complaints against the treatment meted out to them by the Muslim officers there. The question of grants-in-aid has

already been discussed in this Council. But I may be allowed to inform the House that there is general complaint in the Multan division that the Muslim Inspector of Schools is always careful not to bring even the very best Hindu institutions on the list of schools eligible for grants-in-aid. Sir, if this is the mentality of the officers who are responsible for the education of our children, you cannot expect our educational institutions to produce good citizens of the Motherland. Under these circumstances, I must say that if we cannot get rid of this mentality it would be much better to stop such educational institutions altogether where the atmosphere is charged with communal tension so that no more mischief may be done by the communally minded officers.

The honourable member for Montgomery has told us that the Inspector of the Multan division is about to retire. Therefore, I request the Honourable Minister for Education to pay some attention to the grievances of the Hindu population of the Multan division while making new appointments. I do not say for a moment that there should be no Muslim officer on the inspecting staff in my division. All I want is that no single community should be allowed to monopolise all the services in any department and in any part of the province.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Bialkot (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, the Education Department of the Punjab is one of the cherished departments not only of the Government but of the whole province, and the province is justly proud of the achievements of this department in the past. I would have no sympathy with any effort, whether made in this House or outside this House, to in any manner check or restrain the further progress of this department, and I would assure the Honourable Minister that the suggestion and criticism which I am about to submit do not emanate from any desire either to discredit the department or to emphasise any communal matters. The motion under discussion is the unsuitability of the inspecting staff. In discussing this motion one is faced with the difficulty that if one were to confine one's remarks within the strict bounds of relevancy, one would have to discuss the merits and demerits of the present inspecting staff and therefore one is faced with the situation that, as has been expressed by honourable members on previous occasions, it does not seem very desirable to discuss the merits and demerits of officers of a department by reference to their names. I shall, therefore, endeavour to make my suggestions and to put forward my criticisms without referring to specific officers by names, so far as it is possible to do so. I must, however, in order to enable the Honourable Minister to follow the trend of my criticism, give such particulars of these officers as would enable him and the Director of Public Instruction to specify those officers in their own minds. The greater part of the criticism on this motion has so far been directed against the suitability of the present district inspecting staff. It has been pointed out that the present district inspecting staff is unsuitable from two points of view; from the point of view of disproportion of communal representation and from the point of view of the unsuitability of the staff so far as the work entrusted to them is concerned. Before I go on to discuss the latter aspect, the former being purely communal, I shall, as I have said, try to avoid, I may say this, that it would perhaps be scarcely fair to take the whole of the district inspecting staff into consideration in order to lay the blame with regard to their

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inefficiency on the Honourable Minister for Education. He can in fairness be held responsible only for the arrangements which have come into being during the period that he has been in charge of the department. Now, with regard to this matter of the suitability of the district inspecting staff, a great deal has been sought to be made of the rural and urban classification, which has been vehemently put forward on the one hand, and has been ridiculed on the other and I may perhaps be excused for saying that I cannot regard the ridicule as justified. I would not myself go into the division of rural and urban, a division which according to some honourable members of this House it is not so easy to definitely mark out, but I would certainly say this, and I hope that it will not be denied, in the first instance that appointments and postings in every department must be in view of the suitability of the particular officer for the kind of duties which are to be entrusted to him and secondly, that the duties of a teacher whether in a rural or in an urban school or whether in a high school or a school of a lower standard are of an entirely different nature from the duties of an inspector, whether he is a district inspector of schools or an assistant district inspector or, for the matter of that, an inspector of a division, or a deputy inspector. It is not every teacher, merely because he is a good teacher, who can be regarded as likely to turn out to be a good inspector, and the mere fact that a certain gentleman happens to be senior in the list of teachers would not necessarily justify his appointment to the inspecting staff. There is one other error, or rather wrong assumption which has been made during the course of this discussion which I might correct, namely that the only duties of the district inspecting staff are to inspect the schools and to report on the work of the teachers. I would submit that one of the main and principal duties of the district inspecting staff would be to popularise the spread of education in the rural areas. As I have said, we are proud of the Education Department and one of the chief achievements of the department in this province has been the pushing forward of elementary and even secondary education in the rural areas, and one of the ideals we have in view is to make the whole of our population literate. People in the urban areas have very many opportunities of taking advantage of the various schools that are established in urban areas and can attain literacy with much greater ease and at a far less expenditure of money than people in the rural areas. And that is one of the principal reasons that there should be in the mind of everybody who has the good of this province at heart an anxiety with regard to the spread of education in the rural areas and I have not the slightest doubt that the Honourable Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction are actuated by that anxiety and that being so, any suggestions made to them as to how that object can be more easily and more rapidly attained ought to be welcomed. One of the duties, as I have said, of the district inspecting staff being to popularize education in rural areas, where, as I have had occasion to observe on one previous occasion, the mentality of the people is such that a thing which is obviously good for them has to be put before them and they have to be induced to accept it, as if it was something the Government was trying to do by force, and it is only gradually that these people will be able to realize that these things are for their own benefit. Therefore, so long as people do not realize that some of these departments are really beneficent departments established and maintained primarily

for their benefit, it would be necessary for these beneficent departments to carry on a great deal of propaganda in the rural areas. Having that purpose in view there are two things which would primarily fit a person for discharging the duties of a member of the district inspecting staff. First would be his fitness, physical or otherwise, with regard to the due discharge of the duties that may be entrusted to him such as purely inspection duties, and from that point of view, the suggestion that a gentleman who is entrusted with such duties should be able to rough it, as it were, in the rural areas and that he should not be a man, who having been nurtured entirely in urban surroundings should not be fit, or willing to face the rigours and hardships of camp life in the district, was not such a ridiculous one as some of the honourable members tried to make out. The second qualification should be that a member of the district inspecting staff ought to be able to win the confidence of the people whom he has to work. I would not go so far as to say that a person who is not a member of the statutory agricultural tribes cannot possibly possess those qualifications nor can I go to the opposite extreme and say that every member of these tribes must necessarily possess those qualifications. But this much I am sure would be conceded that for a gentleman who has, during the greater part of his service and till after he has turned the point of middle age, been a teacher in an urban school, for such a gentleman, I say, to be suddenly placed in charge of a district as District Inspector of Schools would perhaps not be described as a very fitting or appropriate choice. During the tenure of office of the present Honourable Minister for Education I believe, I speak subject to correction, eight appointments, permanent or officiating, have been made to the rank of District Inspector of Schools. Five of those appointments were to the districts of Ferozepore, Hoshiarpur, Gujranwala, Hissar and Lyallpur. Out of these, the Gujranwala and Lyallpur appointments are described as officiating appointments. I shall have a word to say with regard to this aspect of the case in a moment. I might, however, here submit that these two appointments are also practically permanent appointments as the vacancies are likely to be permanent. With regard to these five appointments, I have this criticism to offer. Apart from the fact that four out of these five gentlemen, if not all, are non-agriculturists, the real criticism is this, that every one of them, certainly four of them, have up to the time of their appointment to these posts been teachers in urban high schools, and before their present appointments had had no experience of inspection work. Now, the gentleman appointed to Ferozepore, for instance, if my information is correct, is above 50 and I am also informed that he cannot ride. Honourable members might smile, but I would submit that a gentleman who has up to the age of 50 or beyond occupied, let us say with credit, the position of a teacher in a high school, and who is both by habit and also owing to his age certainly now unable, as I have said, to undergo the rigours of camp life in rural areas, for him to be appointed a District Inspector of Schools was not a very suitable choice. And in almost the same degree, except perhaps with regard to one gentleman who has been appointed to Lyallpur, the same criticism applies almost *mutatis mutandis* to the four gentlemen whom I have mentioned. As I have said, the point of the criticism is this that these five gentlemen, at least four of them if Lyallpur is excluded, although as a matter of fact the Lyallpur

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gentleman has also in a previous capacity not been considered fit for this kind of work by the officers under whom he served, the point of the criticism, I say, is this that these gentlemen by their previous record, by their previous habits, by their previous associations, were *prima facie* unsuitable for the kind of work with which they have been entrusted. In the second instance, also by virtue of their previous occupation and their lack of association with rural people and lack of interest in rural matters, they would not be likely to win the confidence and sympathy of the people among whom they have to work. With regard to two appointments, the Gujranwala and the Lyallpur appointments, as I have already submitted, they are going to be permanent vacancies, one of the permanent gentlemen has been appointed a Deputy Inspector of Schools and I understand he is not likely to revert, and the other has gone on deputation outside the province and he is likely to remain there for sometime. In any case whether they are likely to be permanent vacancies or are likely to remain temporary vacancies, another criticism would be this that the ordinary practice is that when these temporary vacancies occur the seniormost Assistant District Inspector of Schools in the district would be given the chance of officiating in place of the District Inspector, if there is nothing specific against him. In both those districts there were capable Assistant District Inspectors of Schools, gentlemen against whom neither of the two categories of criticism could have been directed had they been appointed to those vacancies, and they have been overlooked contrary to the usual policy that a local man if available and not unsuitable should be given an officiating chance rather than a gentleman imported from outside. For instance, in the Gujranwala vacancy a gentleman was imported from Muzaffargarh, and in the Lyallpur vacancy I do not know the district from which the gentleman came, but I believe that he was brought from outside. One further criticism which I have to offer before I go on to the other branches of the inspection line is this. Even these gentlemen perhaps there would not have been so much objection to, with regard to their unsuitability if they had had a certain amount of experience of inspection work as Assistant District Inspectors of Schools. I realise the difficulties which the honourable member from Hoshiarpur who spoke before me has pointed out that no Honourable Minister could possibly carry out all the suggestions that are made from all the corners of this House, and therefore I would not say that either A or B or C should not have been appointed to this vacancy, but I would submit that even if the Honourable Minister and the Education Department were left entirely free to make their own choice in the filling of vacancies, it would not be out of place to suggest that whoever may be the gentlemen who are appointed to these posts, they should be men who have had a considerable experience of inspection work, which would give them the necessary outlook and which would season them to that life which it would be necessary for them to lead if they were subsequently appointed District Inspectors of Schools.

With regard to Deputy Inspectors four vacancies have been filled up by the Honourable Minister during the last two years. Two of these are permanent vacancies. To these two permanent vacancies two gentlemen have been appointed who undoubtedly possess the M.A. degree but are untrained, and so far as I have been able to ascertain, do not possess previous

inspecting experience. The criticism that I have offered with regard to such appointments in the district inspection line applies to these gentlemen also.....

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Which districts?

Chandhri Zafullah Khan : The two permanent Deputy Inspectors' appointments. Both the gentlemen are untrained. It might be said that these two gentlemen were appointed in order to make up the deficiency with regard to the representation of one particular community in the inspection line. That may be so, and if that is so I have absolutely no quarrel with this principle. But my submission is that out of the members of all the three communities I could submit names of officers who have had training and some experience in the inspection line and who could well be selected from whichever community it was sought to fill these vacancies. I shall again try to avoid names, but the present Reporter on Books is one of these gentlemen. He has been a successful Headmaster in a High and Normal School and he has worked as a District Inspector of Schools. Then there is the present Headmaster of the High and Normal School at Gurdaspur who in addition to having been a District Inspector and Headmaster has also officiated as Deputy Inspector for a year. Then there is the present Headmaster of the Simla High School who has worked as Headmaster of high schools and has also worked as District Inspector of Schools. Then there is the present District Inspector of Schools, Rawalpindi, who belongs to the particular community to which these two gentlemen belong, and there is yet another gentleman of the same community who is a Lecturer in the Central Training College. If one were to go still further among the juniors though not of the same community, there are the District Inspector of Schools, Dera Ghazi Khan, and the District Inspector of Schools, Montgomery, who would have been eminently suitable. The Honourable Minister has remarked that the two gentlemen belonging to the community to which the present two permanent incumbents of the posts of Deputy Inspectors belong are junior. If that were a strict rule followed throughout in the filling of these posts, I would not have made the suggestion, but as I shall presently show that that is not a rule which is always followed and perhaps the Honourable Minister will be the last to say that that is a desirable thing always to do and that it is always fair to stick to the rule of seniority.

With regard to Divisional Inspectors two appointments have been made by the Honourable Minister, one, I understand, is permanent and the other an officiating vacancy although the officiating period has now exceeded a year and a half. The gentleman who has been appointed to the permanent vacancy is, no doubt so far as mere ability and academic distinction goes, an able gentleman and possesses a good many distinctions, but the unsuitability as I view it comes in here, that this gentleman has not had, before being appointed to the direct charge of a division any previous experience in the inspection line. As I have said, I would not object to the choice of this particular gentleman to fill this post provided that before he was entrusted with the duties of an Inspector of a division he had had an opportunity of obtaining some training as to those duties. Three gentlemen on

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previous occasion have been appointed almost direct to the post of Inspectors of Divisions, of whom two were Indians and one European. In the case of the two Indian gentlemen, each of them had to obtain his training either as a Deputy Inspector or as second Inspector as he was called before either of them was placed in independent charge of a division. I would again submit that it would be readily conceded by honourable members that before a gentleman is taken away from the lecturing line and placed in charge of the duties of an Inspector, as the duties of the latter could not be said to be cognate in essence to those of the former, he must have some experience as to the discharge of those duties and in this case there was no such experience at all. In the case of the third inspector who, it may be said was so appointed, and who is a European, I understand that he is a gentleman who possesses a diploma in training. I speak subject to correction on this point. If that is so, then his case also is distinguishable from that of the gentleman whose direct appointment without any experience I am criticising. The difference is this. He might, no doubt, have much experience at College lecturing. But surely the work of supervising the work of teachers is entirely different from the work of lecturing in a college, and if this gentleman at least had had training as a teacher he would certainly have appreciated the difficulties with which a teacher has to contend, would know what responsibilities attach to the work of a school teacher would be better fitted to discharge the duties of an inspector of a division than he is at present.

The second appointment to the rank of Inspector which has been made by the Honourable Minister for Education is, as I have said, to an officiating vacancy which has already lasted for over 18 months, and therefore may be regarded as more or less a permanent appointment. In this case, the remark of the Honourable the Minister when I was dealing with Deputy Inspectors would be relevant for a gentleman who was very junior in the list of the grade to which he belongs has been placed over the heads of nearly half a hundred people and appointed to this officiating vacancy. And so far as his academic qualifications are concerned, he is not a graduate and is only an Senior Anglo-Vernacular so far as training goes. One is aware of the strictness with which the Honourable Minister for Education insists upon the possession of some academic degree even for smaller posts in his department, a strictness to which I am sure none of my friends could take objection. In view of that strictness and in view of the remark made by him a short while ago that he was powerless with regard to one matter which I brought to his notice, as the gentleman whose appointment I was criticizing was senior to the gentleman mentioned by me, one fails to understand why this particular gentleman was placed in charge of a very important division in the province as the Inspector of Schools.

Dr. Sir Muhammad Iqbal: The Minister has expressed his unfavourable opinion in his speech at Sialkot.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: I question that. I am sorry that a statement like that is being attributed to me.

Mr. President : No statement should be attributed by one honourable member to another honourable member of the House.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : With regard to this gentleman I have already submitted that he has been placed over the heads of as many as between 40 and 50, nearer 50 than 40, gentlemen who were senior to him in the grade in which he himself was. It would be futile for me to name the gentlemen who are senior to him and who could very well, nay, very much better, discharge the duties of this post than the gentleman whose appointment I am criticising, not only that, but who had a right, before a gentleman lower down in the list was selected, to be given a chance in the officiating appointment. As I have said, the number being so large I shall not weary the House by reading out the qualifications of the gentlemen above him in the list, and as I have said I shall not mention names. But one matter I might perhaps bring to the notice of the House which is by way of illustrating the qualities of mind that this particular gentleman possesses. That is an instance of which I have personal knowledge, although so far as the facts are concerned I have no personal concern with them, and I can put that forward with confidence. It is an instance which, anticipating the advice of some of the honourable members of this House who say that such matters should be brought to the notice of the Honourable the Minister and not be discussed in this House, I have brought already on more occasions than one to the notice of the Honourable the Minister and at least on one occasion to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction. Very recently, only a few days ago, I was asked to give particulars of that instance over again to the Director of Public Instruction and I am sorry I have not had time to refresh the memory of the Director of Public Instruction with regard to this matter. He can now take the facts from me. The facts are these, that in this division there is a District Board High School situated in the midst of a rural area although the place itself may be regarded as a small town. Till about two years ago or perhaps less than that, this school was only a middle school. The district board subsequently raised it to the standard of a High School and proposed that the Headmaster in charge of the Middle School should be appointed as the Headmaster of the High School. The district board in that district did not delegate to the Inspector of Schools powers with regard to the appointment of the staff and all that was really necessary was to obtain the approval of the Inspector of Schools as to this appointment and the Inspector of Schools happened to be this gentleman who is now officiating and whose appointment I have been criticising during the last few minutes. Well, the district board wanted this gentleman to be appointed as Headmaster. The Chairman of the district board wanted that he should be so appointed; the work of the gentleman was very well reported on during the previous inspections and the District Inspector of Schools, in a meeting of the district board at which this appointment was discussed and sanctioned, had nothing to say against this particular headmaster. As a matter of fact, on a reference to a previous Inspector of Schools of this division it was found that although no express promise was given, yet in view of the qualifications of this particular headmaster, hopes had been held out to him that as the school was likely to be made a High School in the near

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future, this gentleman if his work justified it, would be appointed as the Headmaster of the High School. As I have submitted there was nothing against his work. Now the tussle began between this non-graduate Inspector of Schools in this division and the district board. Time after time the district board sent up their recommendation and time after time the Inspector turned it down. It was on one of the three occasions when I made representations to the Honourable Minister and the Director of Public Instruction in this connexion that I was told, several months after this had happened, that one of the reasons for the delay in the matter was that in some other district in district board service there were one or two men who were forsooth senior to this headmaster whom this district board insisted upon having as headmaster. This explanation was given to me, I do not now recollect, either by the Honourable the Minister or the Director of Public Instruction. I am not concerned with the appointment of this particular gentleman; my objection comes further on. Some additional staff for the High School was also wanted as the institution had been raised from the standard of a middle to a High School. The appointment of the headmaster was pending. The district board would not have anybody else and the Inspector of Schools would have none of him. In the meantime additional staff for the high classes was not sanctioned by the Inspector of Schools of this division. And the poor students for whose benefit the standard of the school raised went on without the additional staff till the inspection time came round. And that has been the result of the attitude adopted by this gentleman who from a position of probably 50th in the list was considered to be such a genius in the educational line as to be selected to fill this officiating vacancy which he has filled as I have said for over 18 months over the head of 49 of his seniors. This is only by way of illustration of the attitude and capacity of this particular gentleman. I have, in this review of the appointments made to the inspecting staff during the last two years and with regard to their suitability, as I gave an assurance at the beginning, tried to avoid questions both of caste and of creed. I hope that some sort of explanation will be forthcoming on behalf of the Education Department with regard to these appointments. And I may also hope that whatever explanation for purposes of debate may be given, the Honourable the Minister and the Director of Public Instruction will certainly try to keep in mind the considerations which I have humbly submitted to this House in making such appointments in the future. The matters which I have brought to their notice are not put forward out of any to spirit discredit the Education Department. The department is one of the principal departments of every civilised country and must continue to be a flourishing department. But so far as these things which I have placed before the House have happened in regard to this particular department, I am sure the materials I have placed call for some very convincing explanation from the department, in the absence of which more or less, a censure from this House that, in the past so far as this line is concerned the Honourable Minister and the Director of Public Instruction have not paid such attention to these matters as they ought to have done, would be deserving (Cheers).

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang [North-West Towns (Non-Muhammadan) Urban]: Sir, I have been listening to this debate in patience and I assure you it has been most trying to me to sit here and to listen to the talk that has been going on for the last one hour or so. This motion was moved by my honourable friend, Chaudhri Dali Chand, I have no doubt, Sir, from a different motive. His point was that the rural people were ignored when appointments to the inspecting staff were made. And he tried to point out that urban people were unsuitable for being appointed to the inspecting staff because they could not brave the dangers that lie in the way of people who have to travel all night and sometimes through woods and jungles, and that therefore it was necessary that only those people should be recruited for the inspecting staff who could defy tigers and other wild animals they might meet in these places. I was not here, but I was told that Pandit Nanak Chand gave some sort of reply to this argument. I am sure this must have satisfied Chaudhri Dali Chand, that

it was not necessary to have only such people appointed to the inspecting branch, who could carry a big gun on their shoulders or a big club in their hands, looking this side and that side for a little tiger or a wolf which might come on the way from this lair or that lair so that they might use the club or the gun on the wild animal. Chaudhri Dali Chand did not know, at least I say that he did not know, when he moved his motion, that the debate would take an entirely different turn as it undoubtedly did, when the turn of the Honourable Member Pir Sahib came. He was not so particular as to the appointment of rural people to the inspecting staff; he did not object so much to the appointment of urban people to the inspecting staff. His complaint, so far as I was able to follow him was that there were very few Muhammadans in the inspecting staff. I am sure that if Chaudhri Dali Chand had known that this debate would take the turn it has undoubtedly taken.....

Pir Akbar Ali: Is the honourable member referring to me. Sir?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: I am referring to Pir Muhammad Hussain. I did not hear my honourable friend's speech. I am sorry.

Mr. President: Nor did I hear the honourable member's speech. (Laughter).

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: I was just saying that if Chaudhri Dali Chand had known that the debate would take the turn it has taken, this Hindu-Muhammadan turn, he would not have moved his motion. He is not a communalist. Like Rai Sahib Chaudhri Ohhotu Ram, he has ignored communalism. However, then came the honourable member from Montgomery who debated the motion from the communal point of view. Then some other speakers preceded me. Then came the turn of the honourable member from Sialkot, Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan. He started with great protestations saying, "Oh, I do not want this rural and urban division. Even if a division is called for I would not like to take part in a divi-

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sion on a question like this. Because I do not like this rural and urban question so much."

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: I did not say any such thing.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: Of course I agree he did not actually say that if a division was called he would not take part in it.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: I never said that if a division was called I would not take part in it.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: That was what I understood him to say. There was at least something to that effect. The word "division" was undoubtedly used. I know we cannot call witnesses. The report of his speech would go to my learned friend to-morrow. He can see if I am wrong. That was what he definitely said. That was only a pious wish on his part. If he wants he may remove that impression from my friend. And I am quite prepared to have that impression removed and not credit him with having said what I consider to be very good thing for him to say. But he started after these introductions to state certain truisms and certain obvious things. The sum total of his speech was also the same thing. He wound up his speech by saying, "I have been a good boy. I have not used the word, caste; I have not used the word, creed, I have not brought in the rurals and the urbans." But the truth is that the 60 and odd typed pages of notes kept before him have no other aim but this, namely to insinuate that the Minister had some motive in making the appointments which my honourable friend has discussed before the House and in the irregularities which he was delighted to point out. I have no doubt in my mind that Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan would not have come forward with this long prepared speech, if things were different from what they are now. Notes have been supplied to him by some courteous friends. It is not for me to say that the heads of the departments should be very careful and see that they are not betrayed by their subordinates. It is their look out. I for one have no business to criticise this or that. But the fact remains that after all his protestations the sum and substance of his speech was not essentially different from the speeches of other honourable members. He drew the attention of the House to the various appointments that have been made from the lowest to the highest posts, and tried to pick holes in them. He said that the District Inspectors of Schools should possess certain qualifications. They must be strong and must be able to rough it out. They must be able to bear the rigour and hardship of journeys in rural parts. They must be very good propagandists; they must be able to command the confidence of the people whose children they are going to examine in the various schools. This was the sum and substance of his criticism with regard to the district inspecting staff. Now, Sir, if that were all I would not mind very much. But he solemnly argued further and said that certain appointments were bad because the gentlemen holding them were past 50 according to the information

supplied to him by some courteous friend in the departments. Again another appointment is not good, because that gentleman is not an expert in riding and it is open to that objection. Then it was argued solemnly before this House that another appointment was bad, because the gentleman holding it had been imported from Muzaffargarh and posted in Gujranwala and the local talent was not exploited. Again, Sir, it was said that though such and such a gentleman was an M.A., and a gold medalist, he had no experience of inspection work beforehand and therefore, was not suitable for the work. Sir, one has a right to ask those speakers whether they are merely raising the question of the individual officers, or whether they are prepared to lay down some principles for the guidance of the Honourable Minister and the department. Various propositions have been laid before the House and if I may briefly refer to them, they were something to the following effect. No man should be appointed from among the teachers to the inspecting line? Do they want it to be laid down as a principle that no one should be appointed as inspector unless he has been an inspector beforehand? Will it not come to this that no man should be allowed to enter water unless he is an expert swimmer beforehand? Is it then to be laid down that no direct appointments should be made and that only Assistant District Inspectors should be promoted as District Inspectors and they in turn as Divisional Inspectors? Is that what is meant? Is it again to be laid down that none but an urban gentleman should be appointed and none but a rural gentleman should be appointed? Is it again to be the rule that no one who does not know riding should not be appointed as a District Inspector? Or is it again to be laid down that no one past the age of 50 should be appointed Inspector or District Inspector? Supposing an age limit is laid down like that and a gentleman of 85 years is appointed, will it not be then objected to on the ground that he is a raw young man and has no experience and tact and does not know how to handle teachers and to treat the parents of the alumni whom he is going to examine and so forth? Are we then to make a rule that no Mussalman is to be transferred either from Jhang or from any other district to some other district, because that also has been raised as a grievance by one of the honourable members who preceded me? What are the principles that we can deduce from the speeches made by the various honourable members not excluding the learned speech of the last speaker? What are the principles that we can glean from these speeches? Suppose a man wants to buy a horse for his trap. He will look to certain qualifications in the pony. He will first look at the appearance of the pony. If it is good-looking, then it is very good. It is not very old; very good. It is not too young; very good. It is very swift; very good. It is not too fast; very good. It is quiet; very good. It is not restive; very good. It is not too quiet; very good. Now when the horse satisfies all these tests of quietness, swiftness, appearance and so on, he buys the pony. Now my honourable friend Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan says, 'This pony is no good, because it has a short tail and the flies will pester him. They will eat the life out of him. He has not got a long enough tail.' Well, Sir, I change the pony and get a pony with a long tail. Here comes Chaudhri Dali Chand who says, 'Long tails are not in fashion; they are no good. These tails become dirty; flies will sit on them and the mosquitoes will get into them. Other impurities will get into them and you will have to keep a man wholly

[Dr. Narang.]

and solely engaged in the cleaning of the tail of the pony." I do not know what to do. I dispense with it and get a pony with a moderate tail, a tail neither very short nor very long. Then comes Pir Sahib and says, "Oh, it is not an Arab." I am choosing this expression because his principal point was communalism. He says, "Oh, this is only a Desai bred pony. What is a country-bred pony for a man of my position? I must have an Arab. I must get a young enough pony; this is too old." I do not want to take up the time of the Council by reciting all the possible objections and multiplying these illustrations. But I have said enough to show that this was exactly the nature of the debate so far carried on to-day. Chaudhri Iuli Chard says that the inspecting staff should have people from the country side. Pir Sahib says that we must have people from a particular community. Chaudhri Zafullah Khan says that we must not recruit the inspecting staff from among the teachers, who have been in touch with urban schools for so many years, because they have not been in touch with rural conditions. Then, Sir, inspectors can be appointed only from among the senior men. If the principle is not to be laid down that teachers should not be appointed as inspectors, where is the teaching staff from which these inspectors are to be recruited to come from? Generally the high schools are in urban areas, not in villages. By the nature of things, they should be in big places and teachers can be had only from those places unless they take professors from the intermediate colleges. Those recruits have to be taken only from the urban areas.

Because in the villages we have only primary schools or perhaps lower middle schools and even Chaudhri Zafullah Khan and Pir Sahib would not advocate that teachers in primary schools or in lower middle schools should be appointed as inspectors and even as district inspectors or assistant inspectors. I, therefore, fail to see the force in the argument, if any, advanced by my friend that teachers who have been teaching for a number of years in urban schools are not fit to be appointed to the inspecting line. Then where are we to get these if some teachers have to be appointed to the inspecting staff and my learned friend would agree that teachers who have put in work for a number of years look forward to some sort of promotion? Some are pre-eminently fit to serve in the inspecting line and if they are not at all to be deprived of appointments on the inspecting staff then they would have to be taken from the schools and if my learned friend's argument is to be accepted it would mean that they have absolutely no chance to go to the inspecting line and I am sure his own friends and members of his own community would not like that such a rule should be laid down. Then, Sir, my learned friend referred to some other appointment and tried to point out irregularities in them. I have tried to illustrate the action taken by the Education Department by the example of a pony wanted for a trap. Certainly no one is perfect and everybody possesses some qualifications and some disqualifications. Now if certain qualifications strike the Director in a particular man and he selects him for a certain job in the inspecting line and either appoints him himself or recommends him to the minister as the case may be there will always be room for criticism. It will be always open to some people who want to pick holes in everything that is done by others to say that this man

possesses this disqualification and there is that man who possesses this qualification which you have ignored. Here is this man, you should appoint him because he is an M.A. But then will come another man and would say, "no, he possesses a great disqualification, he is not a B.T.", as if studying for a year or two in a training college and obtaining the degree of B.T. would make a man a perfect Inspector. Take a man who has been teaching in the Government College and even in the Training College for 20 years. He is appointed an Inspector, he himself was never a B.T., and if I am not mistaken perhaps some of the professors who are teaching in the Training College, themselves are not B.Ts., and do not possess any degrees corresponding to B.T., as if teaching experience meant nothing, as if a knowledge of child nature, a study of the psychology of the student meant nothing and B.T. was everything. Now if a man is appointed who is a B.T. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan will come forward and say, what is he, even children pass B.T. So and so got his B.A. in 1925 and was B.T. in 1927 (A voice: It takes a year to pass B.T.). It used to take two years at one time. Here is an M.A., he stood first in the University and left a record. The objection will remain the same. I am myself feeling in the criticism that I am making that I am also talking inanities, but you cannot help talking inanities when you have to reply to inanities, but I regret to feel that the level of the debate on this question and on every other question has been such as would not do credit to our House and for the honour of the House, I would submit that such debates should be eschewed and if possible should be avoided on all occasions. Only a little while ago, a gentleman asked me what will happen if the official members disappeared. Well I had a reply in my mind and that was furnished to me by a great educationist of this province, whose judgment even in political matters deserves very great respect. He said (I do not mean any disrespect; it is really to uphold the honour and prestige of this House), that time was coming when this Council would be reduced to the present state of the Lahore Municipal Committee. That would be a misfortune and a great discredit to our province and to this House and I observe with a very great regret that some of the honourable members of this House do not put forward sufficient effort to keep the level of debate high in this House. We used to criticise the members of every department and we do so even now but we never brought in individual cases, we never brought in personalities and never allowed the level of the debate to fall so low as it is unfortunately now.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan [South-East Towns (Muhammadian), Urban] (Urdu): Sir, in the very beginning of his speech my Honourable friend Dr. Narang has stated that he is tired of this most disagreeable debate that has been going on in this House for the last three hours. While feeling the same, I feel called upon to make a few observations in connection with the subject under consideration. The amendment under discussion has been fully debated upon from different points of view. My honourable friend representing Karnal (rural) has complained about the poor representation of the zamindars in the Inspecting staff of the Education Department. The honourable member from Montgomery has ventilated the grievances of the Muhammadian community regarding the recruitment to the Inspecting line. The honourable member from Sialkot has dwelt at length on the failure of the education authorities to observe some specific principle in

[Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan.]

making appointments on the Inspecting staff. To me Sir, the sum total of the whole debate seems to be that with the exception of one section every other section of the people is wholly dissatisfied with the present state of affairs. When my honourable friend Dr. Narang stood up, I thought he would bring home to us the weakness of the position we have taken up but, Sir, to my utter disappointment he could not say anything beyond that the pony has a long or short tail and his whole argument centred round the tail of the pony and ended there. Sir, the Simon Commission is touring in different parts of the country. All communities have laid their claims before the Commission, but they are all agreed so far as the question of the achievement of self-government is concerned. But here Sir, with regard to the administration of Education Department every community has its own grievances and this shows that the administration lacks the confidence of the people. However, there is one redeeming feature and that is that the Ministers are not responsible to the legislature. If they were amenable to the legislature the case would have been different.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: Ministry would have changed every day.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan: Sir, the irresponsibility of our Ministers is the root cause of all evils. They are not answerable either to the public or to the legislature. They do not care a two pence for the public opinion. It is therefore that objections are raised that the Ministers are anti-rural, pro-urban, pro-Muhammadan or pro-Hindu, and that whatever they do they do with certain sinister motives. Sir, the reasons responsible for this miserable state of affairs are not far to seek. In this connection I would refer the House to the statement issued by the Punjab Government regarding the working of Ministers in the Punjab. It is expressly laid down in the statement that Ministers in the Punjab patronise their parties.

Pandit Nanak Chand: To which statement the honourable member is referring. No such statement has been published.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan: I am referring to the statement which was sent to the Government of India.

Pandit Nanak Chand: Oh, we have seen that. (Laughter.)

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan: Sir, the Ministers try their best to please their parties and are generally unmindful of the results that are likely to follow from their one-sided policy. This is a fact which even the Government cannot deny. In spite of this, the Government have so far taken no steps to remedy this state of affairs. In the Simla session of the Punjab Legislative Council in 1927 the Honourable Sir Geoffrey de Montmorency, the then Finance Member, declared that with regard to the recruitment to public services the policy of the Government was to see that no one community should have a preponderance in any particular branch of public service. This is the declared policy of the Government so far as the question of recruitment to public services is concerned. No one can take exception to this. Whenever this policy of the Government is contravened it is the duty of the Government to take the officers at fault to task, no matter whether the department to which they belong is a reserved or a transferred subject. I do not say that certain

limitations should be imposed on the powers of the Ministers. But this does not mean that they should be left to do whatever they please. Just a few minutes ago my honourable friend Dr. Narang has said that one of his friends had asked him on the other day what would have become of this House if there were no official members. To this question he had replied that the House would have become a veritable cock-pit. It would not have been in any way better than the Lahore Municipality. The absence of the official members might be a source of pain to my honourable friend's friend, but to me it would be a matter of great joy. I wish that time to come soon. It would be an auspicious hour for the country when there are no official members in this House. Then the Ministers or Executive Councillors by whatever name they might be known would be answerable to the legislature for their actions. That is the ideal which we wish to attain. Sir, I would say that the Government has been guilty of criminal negligence in putting no check to the unconstitutional practices on the part of its Ministers. The Government knows and admits all this and in spite of that when a cut is proposed to condemn the policy of the Ministers the official members come forward to their rescue and not only vote but canvass for them. Sir, a Minister who patronises one section of the people or a community, is doing a great harm to the best interests of the country. A Minister for Education should be very careful because it is his department on which the general progress and social advancement of the country depends. This department should set a good example to be followed by other departments. Sir, of course to some extent we are also to blame. We have become very much touchy, we exaggerate matters and we do make mountain of a mole-hill. When one party puts forward a motion however innocent and useful it may be the other party considers that its duty is to oppose it. That is our mentality.

Pandit Nanak Chand : What is the honourable member doing? Is he speaking to the amendment?

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : I am doing my duty. I think I am speaking to the amendment.

Mr. President : The honourable member has discussed the principles of debate and not the question before the House.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Of course, Sir, as you have observed I wish to discuss the principles of the debate, because to me the question of someone's becoming senior or junior does not appear to be of any great significance. In my opinion there must be some standard, some principles should be observed in giving promotion to public servants. Promotions should be given on the score of seniority, capability or merit (*Hear, hear*). Yes, the question of merit should also be taken into consideration. But the declared policy of the Government with regard to public services, is to avoid the preponderance of any one class in any particular branch of public service, and it should not be lost sight of. Here, Sir, I would give one instance to show that no specific principle is observed in giving promotions to the public servants. The Education Department has more than once issued a circular asking the local bodies to remove untrained teachers from the aided schools and employ in their place trained ones. I do not object to this principle.

Pir Akbar Ali : The employment of untrained teachers affects the grant-in-aid as well.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : No, no, leave aside the question of grants-in-aid. I cannot understand the anomaly of putting one F.A. untrained gentleman in charge of an important division on the score of experience. In one case untrained teachers are removed or are being removed from service although they have got much teaching experience, but in the other, experience is considered to be the sole qualification for appointment to a very high position. In the end, Sir, I would request the Honourable Minister to be careful to do such things as may be really conducive to the general welfare of the province. By making appointments on a communal basis they may benefit some members of their community or some friends, but they by so doing are doing great harm to the best interests of their motherland.

Pandit Mehr Chand (Jullundur-cum-Judhiana. (Non-Muhammadan), Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, the all-important problem of education is now before the House and in the course of the discussion. I was under the impression that a flood of light will be thrown on this problem, but to my utter disappointment I see that a good deal of the precious time of the House is lost in mutual warfare. Sir, the real question is being altogether ignored. My honourable friend Chaudhri Duh Chand proposed a cut but failed to state on what ground the present inspecting staff appeared to him to be unsuitable and how could it be made suitable. In this connection the first point that was raised was that only those gentlemen should be appointed as District and Assistant District Inspectors of Schools who have got sympathy with the rural people. With regard to this question I would observe that already a certain percentage is fixed so far as the admissions to the training institutions are concerned. Special concession is shown to Agriculturists. But with regard to the question of appointment to the inspecting staff training is not and cannot be the sole qualification. There must be teaching experience as well. How can an Inspector who is ignorant of the principles of teaching satisfactorily perform his duties. It is said that Assistant District Inspectors of Schools should be recruited from Senior Vernacular teachers. This proposal also, as is apparent, does not stand to reason. Sir, the rural urban question would not solve our difficulties in education. In my opinion everything depends on the honesty and common sense of the head of the department who should appoint such persons as are in his opinion best fitted for the job. Progress in education can only be made if the best available teachers are secured, no matter to which community they belong. Sir, the idea that because the District Inspectors and Assistant District Inspectors of Schools have before their appointment to these posts been working in schools situated in towns and cities cannot have sympathies with the rural people is as illogical as it is ridiculous. Sir, this mentality of ours is really responsible for almost all our misfortunes. We are making our educational institutions communal. The Education Department sometimes thinks of discouraging the establishment of the denominational institutions simply because they are doing great harm to the country. Sir, only such persons should be appointed as Inspectors of Schools who can thoroughly understand the human and child psychology. But how can it be possible that a Senior Vernacular may understand child psychology as much

as a highly educated and advanced person can do. Again, it is urged that only B.T.'s should be appointed to these posts. But how are they to acquire teaching experience when they are not to be appointed in schools? As my learned friend Dr. Narang has pointed out the objection still remains. They would have no experience and the honourable members would come forward and say that they are without teaching experience. Therefore, Sir, teaching experience is indispensable and no one should be appointed in the inspecting line unless he has got sufficient teaching experience. In this connection I would draw the attention of the House to one serious defect which has not been taken notice of hitherto and that is, that generally speaking, only very few transfers are made among the inspecting staff of the Education Department. This causes stagnation. It is often noticed that if one public servant is allowed to remain in one place for a long time he begins to abuse his powers. Therefore, Sir, I would suggest that a certain period should be fixed for members of the inspecting staff to stay in one particular division or district and after that they should be transferred to some other division. This would certainly improve matters. Sir, I am at one with the honourable members who have said that Inspectors of Schools should know the languages used in *ilagas* where they are appointed. In fact they should know these languages. For instance an inspector who is appointed in an *ilaga* where education is imparted to the boys through Gurmukhi or Hindi languages ought to know these languages. I know of a District Inspector who knew only one language and did not know other languages. He examined the boys only in that language and asked his assistants to examine them in the other languages and thus failed to offer suggestions to the teachers of the other languages to make necessary improvements. In fact that is a serious defect. But I am sure that there is not even one Assistant District Inspector of Schools in the province who does not know Urdu language through which education is imparted to our boys in schools. With regard to the question that inspectors should be strong and stout enough to satisfactorily perform their duties of touring in the *ilaga*, I would submit that in the Jullundur Division the Inspectors are very strong and stout. They knew riding three or four years ago. When my honourable friend the Director of Public Instruction came on tour and told the Inspector that he would like to pay surprise visits (*Laughter*) to certain unaided unrecognised schools, the Assistant District Inspector of Schools went round the whole *ilaga* and made aware the Headmasters of the District Board Schools of the intended visit of the Director of Public Instruction. The next morning the Director of Public Instruction came and was pleased to remark that the District Board Schools were neat and clean and well kept. He told me that unaided unrecognised schools were not up to the mark. I replied that it was only due to the timely intimation given by the Assistant District Inspectors of Schools to the authorities concerned that he found the District Board Schools in good condition. The unaided and unrecognised schools would have presented much better look, if the fact of that intended visit would have been known to their authorities. Let my friends Chaudhri Duli Chand and Chaudhri Zafullah Khan and other members of the House put their heads together and devise some means to find out the solution of the difficult problems of education. To offer destructive criticism would involve us in further

[Pandit Mehr Chand.]

difficulties. Therefore, I would request the House to offer constructive proposals with regard to the problem now before the House.

Mr. President: The question is—

“That the question be now put.”

The House divided: Ayes 22: Noes 25.

AYES 22

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan,
Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana,
Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah,
Khan Sahib Khan Muhammad Saifullah Khan,
Mr. Din Muhammad,
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,
Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan,
Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan,
Shaikh Fazl Muhammad,
Chaudhri Duli Chand.

Pir Akbar Ali,
Rai Shahadat Khan,
Chaudhri Ali Ahmad,
Sayad Muhammad Husam,
Chaudhri Yasir Khan,
Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Anwar Khan,
Bisildar Bahadur Nur Khan,
Khan Bahadur Khan Muhammad Hayat Qureshi,
Chaudhri Umar Hayat,
Khan Muhammad Abdullah Khan,
Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan.

Chaudhri Aizal Haq.

NOES 25

Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath,
Dr. Gokal Chand, Narang,
Mr. Lakh Singh,
Rai Bahadur Lala Swak Ram,
Lala Mohan Lal,
Chaudhri Ram Singh,
Chaudhri Kesar Singh,
Pandit Nanak Chand,
Lala Gopal Das,
Lala Jyoti Pershad,
Rai Bahadur Lala Batten Chand,
Lala Kasho Ram, Sekhri,
Pandit Mehr Chand.

Sardar Narain Singh,
Sardar Buta Singh,
Lala Boda Raj,
Sardar Hira Singh, Nari,
Sardar Hari Singh,
Sardar Partap Singh,
Rai Bahadur Lala Dhanpat Bai,
Lt. Sardar Baghbir Singh,
Sardar Bahadur Capt. Dalpat Singh,
Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sheo Narain Singh,
Sardar Hishan Singh,
Mr. E. Maya Das.

The motion was lost.

The Council then adjourned till 2 p.m., on Wednesday, the 27th March 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

8th SESSION OF THE 8th PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 27th March, 1929.

THE Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SUPERINTENDENTS, HEAD VERNACULAR CLERKS AND NAIB-TAHSILDARS.

*2162. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether any new candidates for the posts of superintendents, head vernacular clerks, and naib-tahsildars were accepted by the Commissioner, Multan, in October and November, 1928;

(b) what is the number of such candidates communitywise?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the table.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES COMMUNITYWISE WHO WERE ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSIONER, MULTAN DIVISION, FOR THE POSTS OF SUPERINTENDENT, HEAD VERNACULAR CLERK, AND NAIB-TAHSILDAR DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1928.

Name of post.	Number of candidates accepted.	COMMUNITIES TO WHICH CANDIDATES BELONG.		
		Mohammadan.	Hindu.	Sikh.
Superintendent ..	4	4	..	..
Head Vernacular Clerk ..	1	1	..	..
Naib-Tahsildar ..	11	8	2	1

TORTURE BY POLICE OF THANA SIDHANWALI.

*2163. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the account of torture alleged to have been perpetrated by Police of Thana Sidhanwali in Kala Khatri of Tahsil Shahdara, as published in the *Bande Mahram*, dated 15th August, 1928;

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

(b) if any enquiry has been made into the said allegations and with what result? By whom was the enquiry made;

(c) whether the statements of the aggrieved persons and of the persons cited by them in support of the allegations were recorded by the officials holding the enquiry? If not, why?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) If the honourable member refers to the complaint of *Musammam Harnam Kaur* against certain police officers, the reply is in the affirmative.

(b) An enquiry was held by a first class magistrate. The conclusion which was endorsed by the District Magistrate was that no torture or violence had occurred, but that threatening and abusive language, had been used by certain police officers to members of the public. Those officers were formally charged before the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, and the case is now under consideration by the Inspector-General of Police.

(c) Yes.

HARI SINGH-BHAGWAN SINGH HIGH SCHOOL, SHUJABAD.

*2164. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hari-Singh-Bhagwan Singh High School, Shujabad, was allowed Rs. 2,000 as special grant for two years, while it was allowed only Rs. 1,000 last year;

(b) what are the reasons for reducing this grant;

(c) what are the reasons for delaying the matter of bringing the school on the permanent list of grant-in-aid schools?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The facts are approximately as stated by the honourable member.

(b) Special grants are given with reference to the circumstances of each case at the time, and to the funds at the disposal of Government.

(c) Schools are not brought on to the permanent grant-in-aid list until Government is convinced of their necessity and suitability, nor until funds are available, but the application of this school for being placed on the grant-in-aid list is under consideration.

MUHAMMAD ASLAM KHAN, B.A., LL.B., LYALLPUR.

*2165. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Muhammad Aslam Khan, B.A., LL.B., Lyallpur, gave evidence before Mr. Boyd, Commissioner, Bawalpindi, with respect to the enquiry made into the alleged beating of Congressmen on the arrival of Simon Commission in Lahore;

(b) whether any travelling allowance was given to the said Muhammad Aslam;

(c) whether he is the same man who wrote the Panjabi poem praising His Excellency the Governor;

(d) whether the said Muhammad Aslam in a resolution in the Afghan League held in the month of February 1929 in Muhammadan Hall, Lahore, praised Sir Humphreys of the British Legation in Afghanistan;

(e) whether there is any truth in the rumour that Government have promised to give him a Government post or reward him otherwise?

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

(b) No.

(c) It is not known to what poem the honourable member refers.

(d) Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan is Secretary of the League, which passed the resolution in question.

(e) No.

Lala Bodh Raj : May I know whether the gentleman referred to in part (a) of the question wrote any Punjabi poem praising His Excellency the Governor?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I do not quite catch the honourable member's question.

IMPERIAL BANK, AMRITSAR.

***2165. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Imperial Bank at Amritsar is located inside the city;

(b) whether it is a fact that every litigant has to take the challan from the Treasury Officer's office to the bank and after depositing the money there has to come back to the Treasury Officer's office and get the required stamp paper;

(c) if so, what steps Government intends to take to remove the trouble and inconvenience thus caused to the litigant public?

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

(b) & (c) The honourable member's meaning is not very clear. If he will explain it in greater detail, enquiries will be made.

OFFENCES IN THE THANA SADAR, AMRITSAR.

***2167. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** (1) Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(1) (a) whether it is a fact that number of offences accompanied with violence have increased of late in the Thana Sadar at Amritsar;

(b) if so, what steps does Government propose to take to reduce the number of such crimes in that area?

(2) (a) Whether it is a fact that population within the area of the Thana Sadar, Amritsar division, has of late increased very much;

(b) whether the police force has also been increased;

(c) if not, what action does Government propose to take to give protection to the people living in that area?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The information to enable a reply to be given has not been received. A reply will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

POLICE POST AT DURGIANA TEMPLE, AMRITSAR.

***2168. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the building of a police post at Durgiana Temple, Amritsar, has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, when the building of that post is likely to be taken in hand?

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

(b) As soon as the municipal committee of Amritsar hands over the site proposed for the building, plans and estimates will be prepared and administrative approval obtained. The construction of the building will then be taken in hand.

GOVERNMENT TREASURY, AMRITSAR.

***2169. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Government Treasury at Amritsar, other than that conducted by the Imperial Bank Branch;

(b) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, whether it is a fact that the Treasury Officer's office refuses to transact business after certain hours on particular days of the week; if so, why?

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

(b) The honourable member's attention is invited to Article 290, Civil Account Code, Volume II, and paragraph 290 and note II thereunder of the Punjab Treasury Manual, a copy of which is in the Council Library.

SMITORS' SHED IN THE KUTCHERY COMPOUND, AMRITSAR.

***2170. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any smiters' shed in the kutchery compound at Amritsar;

(b) if the answer to the question is in the negative, whether the Government proposes to build one; if so, when?

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

(b) The plans and estimates for the construction of a shed have been sanctioned and the work is expected to be put in hand shortly.

BAR ROOM, AMRITSAR.

***2171. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government intends to build a bar-room for lawyers practising in the Civil and Criminal courts at Amritsar;

(b) if so, when?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The matter is under the consideration of the Honourable Judges.

(b) No definite date can be assigned.

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE'S COURT, AMRITSAR.

***2172. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Additional District and Sessions Judge's court at Amritsar is permanently located in the bar-room attached to the District and Sessions court;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to build another bar-room for the District and Sessions Judge's court at Amritsar; if not, why?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes; but not as a permanent measure.

(b) The additional post is not likely to be made permanent and the question of constructing another bar room cannot therefore be considered.

MR. FOY, ex-CHIEF ENGINEER, SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

***2173. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Foy, the ex-Chief Engineer, Sutlej Valley Project, was dealing directly with the firms supplying material for the project;

(b) if so, under what authority was he permitted to do so;

(c) whether any objection was taken by the Auditor to the said action of the Chief Engineer;

(d) if so, what action was taken by the Government on the said objection note of the Auditor against the said Chief Engineer;

(e) will the Honourable Member please lay on the table the audit note referred to in (c) above?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member has not given the month or the year about which he is anxious to gather information.

Lala Bodh Raj : Will the honourable member please give a reply to the question covering the period of the Chief Engineer's tenure of office?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No, certainly I cannot.

PURCHASE OF EXCAVATORS FOR THE SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

*2174. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) if it is a fact that the late Mr. Loughran, Superintending Engineer, 1st British Circle, did not agree with Mr. Foy, the ex-Chief Engineer, on the question of purchase of excavators for the Sutlej Valley Project;
- (b) if it is a fact that the said Superintending Engineer was removed from the Sutlej Valley Project on the report of Mr. Foy;
- (c) if not, what were the reasons for transferring him from Sutlej Valley Project?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : However interesting the research work into agreements or disagreements between officers, and into transfers may be, should not the Honourable member be content to deal with my administration of the Department, more than three years old now? I may, however, inform him that the allegation contained in part (a) of his question is altogether baseless.

REVISED ESTIMATES OF SULEIMANKER WEIR.

*2175. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) if it is a fact that Mr. Nicholson, C.I.E., while he was Executive Engineer at Suleimanke Weir, revised the estimates of the construction of the said Weir after the expenditure had been incurred and the construction mostly completed;
- (b) if so, what were the reasons for revising the estimates, and what was the excess over the original estimates;
- (c) if it is a fact that the market rates were far less than the rates allowed in the revised estimates;
- (d) by whom were the original estimates prepared?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The estimate for the Suleimanke Weir was revised in 1926 when the estimate for the Sutlej Valley Project was revised.

- (b) The reasons for the revision are given in the Revised Project Estimate.
- (c) There is a considerable saving in expenditure compared with the revised estimate.
- (d) Mr. Ives, assisted by Mr. Nicholson.

ROYALTY FOR SUPPLY OF STORES AT DELHI.

*2176. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the time when Mr. Nicholson was Executive Engineer at Suleimanke Weir, royalty of about Rs. 8,000 was allowed to Messrs. Tehl Singh Baisakha Singh, contractors, on account of supply of stores at Delhi two years after the close of the work order;

- (b) whether there was any such term in the work order or did the rates allowed in the work order include the royalty ;
- (c) in case the reply to the latter part of (b) be in the affirmative, why was an additional royalty referred to in (a) above paid ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the entry of said royalty made in the measurement book by the Sub-Divisional Officer was initialled by the said Executive Engineer against the usual practice ;
- (e) whether any objection was taken in audit, if so, what was the action taken on the objection note of the Auditor in connection therewith ?

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

(b) The original work order did not contain any reference to a royalty, it being mutually understood that the royalty would be paid if the stone were up to specification.

(c) Because the stone was found when used during the ensuing years to be up to specification.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes ; The Audit Officer was satisfied with the above explanation.

BEST HOUSE OF THE GREY CANAL AND MR. NICHOLSON, C.I.E.

***2177. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Nicholson, C.I.E., while he was Executive Engineer at Suleimanke Weir got the Best House of the Grey Canal for residential purposes of the canal officials ;
- (b) whether the rent of the said house has been debited to the accounts of Sutlej Valley Project and credited to the District Board, Ferozepore ;
- (c) whether the rent has been charged from the canal officials using the house ; if not, why ;
- (d) what amount of rent has been paid to the District Board, Ferozepore, and what amount charged from the canal officials ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The information has been called for and will be supplied when received.

REPORT BY MR. DIXON REGARDING BIKANER MAIN LINE.

***2178. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) if it is a fact that Mr. Dixon when he was Executive Engineer in charge of Bikaner Main Line made a report to the higher authorities against the defective work of lining of the bed and banks of the said canal executed by his predecessor Mr. Jefferys ;

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

- (b) if so, what action was taken on the said report against the persons responsible for the defective work;
- (c) whether it is a fact that said Mr. Dixon was immediately after the said report, transferred to another circle, if so, what were the special reasons for his transfer and who succeeded him;
- (d) will the Honourable Member please lay on the table the report of Mr. Dixon?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member has mentioned no month or year in his question. Is he quite sure that it is in public interest to ask this question, for it is not to answer it?

Lala Bodh Raj : It is for the President to say that.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If the honourable member having been appealed to by me not to indulge in putting such questions, still chooses to indulge in them, I have at times to decide for myself whether to answer them or not.

REVISION OF PULLA WEIR ESTIMATES OF SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

***2179. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the time when Mr. Fedrick was Executive Engineer in charge Pulla Weir of Sutlej Valley Project, estimates of the construction of the said weir were revised;
- (b) if so, what were the reasons for such revision and what was the excess over the original estimates;
- (c) whether it is a fact that rates allowed in the revised estimates were far higher than those of the market?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No such person as Mr. Fedrick was ever in charge of the Pulla Weir, the estimate for which was revised together with the whole estimate of the Sutlej Valley Project in 1926.

- (b) The reasons are given in the Revised Project Estimate.
- (c) There is certainly a considerable saving over the revised estimate.

CONSTRUCTION OF PANJNAD WEIR.

***2180. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on the construction of Panjnad Weir the work orders are being given to the contractors who got the contracts for the construction of Pulla and Sulaimanke weirs;
- (b) whether it is a fact that other persons are prepared to offer less rates than those demanded by and allowed to those contractors;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons for not giving the contracts for works to persons other than the said contractors?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The principal contractors working on the construction of the Panjnad Weir are not the same as the principal contractors who worked on the Pulla and Sulaimanko Weirs.

- (b) Government is not aware of this.
(c) Does not arise.

CANAL RAILWAY LINE FROM DERA NAWAB TO PANJNAD.

***2181. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the estimates for the construction of canal railway line from Dera Nawab to Panjnad have been revised by Mr. L. Raj, Executive Engineer, Panjnad Weir Division ;
(b) what is the amount of the original estimates and what is the excess over those in the revised estimates ;
(c) what are the reasons for such revision ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) There has been no revision in the estimate for construction of the Dera Nawab-Panjnad Railway since the whole Project estimate was revised in the year 1926.

- (b) & (c) Do not arise.

UNDER-SECRETARY, ESTABLISHMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH.

***2182. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Under-Secretary in charge of Establishment in the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department has never been an Indian ;
(b) if so, what are the reasons for not appointing an Indian to the said job ?

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

(b) Because at the times of selection non-Indians have had better qualifications for this particular post.

TEMPORARY SUBORDINATES ON SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

***2183. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Engineer issued any instructions to the Superintending Engineers, Irrigation Branch (Running canals), to the effect that temporary subordinates who had served on the Sutlej Valley Project for at least 3 years or if they were brought under reduction or their services were dispensed with for no fault of theirs, should be employed in preference to temporary subordinates who were junior to them in service and pay ;
(b) if so, whether any such temporary subordinates have been taken on the running canals during the last 5 years, and what is their number ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes. Instructions have been issued to Superintending Engineers that temporary subordinates may be transferred from Sutlej Valley Project to the running canals provided that the men concerned possess a thoroughly good record and are in the opinion of the Superintending Engineers worthy of being kept on in the Department.

(b) The order was issued on 26th February, 1929 and has not had time to operate yet.

TEMPORARY SUBORDINATES ON SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

***2184. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) if it is a fact that the applications of certain temporary subordinates working on the Sutlej Valley Project for transfer to other circles on running canals have been withheld in the divisional or the circle office for more than 3 months without any action being taken thereon for final disposal;
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for such an unnecessary delay in action being taken on such applications;
- (c) what is the number of such applications made during the last five years?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Government has no information, though it is quite possible.

(b) Necessary consideration.

(c) Not known and Government does not consider it worth while to have the information collected.

FLOODS IN JHELUM.

***2185. Major Nawab Malik Talib Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please state—

- (1) the number of villages affected by recent floods in the Jhelum district;
- (2) how many villages have received the benefit of remission of land revenue and how many that of suspension of revenue, and
- (3) how many villages there are which have been left out, and what are the reasons for it?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (1) 141.

(2) Remissions of land revenue in whole or part were granted in 182 villages; of them, 61 were granted also suspensions of part or all of the land revenue that was not remitted.

(3) Nine. They were only slightly affected by floods.

PUNJAB JAIL DEPARTMENT.

***2186. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the allegations published in the *Muslim Outlook* by one "Fairplay," from March 1928 to October 1928 against a responsible officer of the Punjab Jail Department have come to the knowledge of the Government;
- (b) whether the Government have taken any action upon them or made any inquiry; and if so, with what result;
- (c) whether the letter of the above said "Fairplay," published in the *Muslim Outlook* of 11th October 1928 came to the notice of the Government and whether any inquiry has been made about these specific allegations;
- (d) whether the letter published under the signature of one "Independent" which appeared in the *Muslim Outlook* of 8rd October, 1928 came to the notice of the Government, and if so, what action, if any, has been taken with reference to it;
- (e) did the Government make an inquiry into those facts and accounts through officials not connected with the prisons department;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the writer of the above said letters in the *Muslim Outlook*, challenged the Government to make an enquiry into the allegations made by him?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) to (f) The honourable member's attention is invited to the reply to part (b) of starred Council question No. 1876 asked by Chaudhri Afzal Haq in the last session of the Punjab Legislative Council.

FEROZEPUR GREY CANAL.

***2187. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Auditor in paragraph 82 of his report of the Local Audit Department for the year 1926-27 pointed out cases involving defalcations in Public Works Accounts due to alteration of figures in measurement books of Ferozepore Grey Canal;
- (b) if so, what action has been taken against the persons responsible for such defalcations;
- (c) will the Honourable Member please lay a copy of the said paragraph of the report on the table?

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

(b) The services of those who were most to blame for the irregularities were dispensed with. Prosecutions were considered inadvisable.

(c) No.

PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNTS, FEROZEPUR.

*2188. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Auditor of Local Funds, Ferozepur, in paragraph 44 of his report for 1927-28 pointed out several cases of defalcation and other irregularities in Public Works accounts ;
- (b) if so, what action has been taken thereon against the persons responsible for such irregularities ;
- (c) will the Honourable Member please lay on the table a copy of the said paragraph of the report ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, but they were the same as those referred to in the preceding question.

(b) & (c) The honourable member is referred to the replies given to that question.

SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

*2189. **Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether the register for the Subordinate Educational Service is printed and issued every year ;
- (b) when was it printed and published last ;
- (c) whether a copy of the register is supplied to the members of the Council ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that notifications of transfers and promotions were formerly published in the *Punjab Government Gazette*, and that that is not done now ;
- (e) how are members of the Council kept in touch with the appointments, promotions and transfers made in the Subordinate Educational Service ;
- (f) whether Government intends to supply each member of the Council with a copy of the register when the said register is printed and published ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The register is printed annually for use in the Director of Public Instruction's office.

(b) It was received from the press in October 1927. It is not published.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) It is not usual to keep members of legislative bodies in touch with administrative details of this kind.

(f) Does not arise,—vide (a) and (b) above.

SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

*2180. **Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- how many posts were created in the various grades of the Subordinate Educational Service in the years 1927 and 1928;
- to what serial numbers in the graded list or register were promotions given in the various grades during the said years;
- how many juniors were thus made seniors in 1927 and 1928;
- whether it is a fact that the posts referred to in (a) were created to alleviate the distress of the members of the service in the absence of a time-scale in the service?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) to (c) A statement of the information desired by the honourable member is laid on the table.

(d) The posts were created for various purposes, one of which was to improve the prospects of promotion in the Subordinate Educational Service.

(a)

Names of classes in which posts were created in the years 1927-28 in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section.	Number of posts created.	Names of classes in which posts were created in the years 1927-28 in the Subordinate Educational Service, Clerical and Vernacular Section.	Number of posts created.
Class I (Rs. 200—10—250)	21	Class I (Rs. 140—10—180)	8
Class II (Rs. 140—10—190)	48	Class II (Rs. 110—5—135)	9
Class III (Rs. 110—5—135)	50	Class III (Rs. 80—4—100)	20
Class IV (Rs. 80—4—100)	26	Class IV (Rs. 55—3—70)	50
Class V (Rs. 55—3—70)	18	Class V (Rs. 35—3—50)	31

(b)

Names of classes in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, from which promotions to higher grades were given.	Approximate serial number on the list to whom promotion went in the years 1927-28.	Names of classes in the Subordinate Educational Service, Clerical and Vernacular Section, from which promotions to the higher grades were given.	Approximate serial number on the list to whom promotions went in the years 1927-28.
Class I (Rs. 220—10—250)	1, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 29, 30, 46, 58, 70, 73.	Class I (Rs. 140—10—180)	NIL.

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

Names of classes in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, from which promotions to higher grades were given.	Approximate serial number on the list to whom promotion went in the years 1927-28.	Names of classes in the Subordinate Educational Service, Clerical and Vernacular Section, from which promotions to the higher grades were given.	Approximate serial number on the list to whom promotions went in the years 1927-28.
Class II (Rs. 140-10-100)	2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 12, 25, 31, 33, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 47, 49, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 58, 59, 61, 71, 77, 89, 97, 101, 123	Class II (Rs. 110-5-125)	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9
Class III (Rs. 110-6-135)	1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16, 20, 23, 28, 30, 32, 33, 37, 38, 44, 45, 49, 56, 57, 58, 65, 68, 71, 74, 75, 78, 79, 82, 93, 95, 102, 103, 106, 107, 120, 121, 129, 130, 132, 175, 188, 200, 202	Class III (Rs. 80-4-100)	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 40, 47, 50, 51, 53, 58
Class IV (Rs. 80-4-100)	3, 7, 9, 12, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 37, 38, 41, 47, 48, 52, 53, 59, 64, 65, 66, 70, 74, 78, 83, 87, 88, 91, 92, 95, 98, 99, 112, 113, 115, 117, 127, 140, 146, 155, 178, 179, 184	Class IV (Rs. 55-3-70)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 42, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 73, 74, 75, 76, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 88, 93, 104, 105, 108, 116, 117, 119, 122, 130, 204
Class V (Rs. 55-3-70)	35, 55, 98	Class V (Rs. 35-3-50)	2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 52, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 74, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 83, 85, 100, 106, 112, 126, 127, 128, 139, 147, 148, 150, 163, 166, 200, 206, 230, 237, 238, 242, 245, 258, 260, 260

Besides these numbers teachers belonging to provincialized schools were also promoted during the years 1927 and 1928. The seniority of teachers belonging to these schools has recently been determined and it is, therefore, not possible to give serial numbers in their cases.

(c) The information supplied in answer to part (b) of this question shows the number of teachers passed over.

SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

***2191. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that he gave instructions in 1928 that promotions to newly created posts should be given to persons selected from among the topmost 50 men in each grade;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this direction of his was not followed;
- (c) whether it is a fact that instead of promoting senior men from the first fifty on the list of each grade, promotions went down below number 100 on the list;
- (d) whether it is a fact that these irregularities were brought to his notice in question No. 805 by Lala Kesho Ram, M.L.C.;
- (e) whether it is a fact that in reply to the said question the Honourable Minister undertook to right the wrong and further promised to "devise steps" to prevent such promotions in future;
- (f) if so, in how many cases were grievances set right and what steps were devised to stop the recurrence of such promotion?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: (a) It is not the practice of Government to disclose departmental instructions, but it is a fact that I have on appropriate occasions emphasized the desirability of paying due regard to seniority in making promotions.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In a few cases promotions from below 100 on the list did take place.

(d) Council question unstarred No. 805 by Lala Kesho Ram is on record, and referring to promotions in Subordinate Educational Service in 1927 and 1928 suggested that "juniors have been made seniors."

(e) The honourable member's attention is drawn to the exact terms of the answer.

(f) Claims of any qualified men who were passed over will no doubt be borne in mind by the Director of Public Instruction. It is not possible to disclose any further the nature of steps taken to provide against the possibility of promotions to which serious exception can be taken.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

PUNJAB TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadian), Rural]: Sir, I wish to move the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

of discussing the following definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the recommendation of the Punjab Text-Book Committee, re the contract for the printing and publishing of text-books for schools in this Province during the next five years whereby a loss of nearly Rs. 11,000 per annum during the next five years is likely to be occasioned to the public and the action taken thereon by Government (Ministry of Education).

Mr. President : At this stage the honourable member cannot move the motion. He should first seek the leave of the House, and to satisfy myself as to whether the motion is in order, I propose to invite discussion.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, I ask for the leave of the House to move the motion which I have read out.

Mr. President : There are one or two points which I wish to have made clear. First, in what way is the responsibility of the Government involved in this case?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : This contract in the first instance, although recommended by the Punjab Text-Book Committee, has to be sanctioned by the Government in the Ministry of Education before it becomes binding upon the parties.

Mr. President : I have ascertained from the Honourable Minister. He says that the Government has absolutely no hand in this matter, and that the contract is solely between the Text-Book Committee and the publishers.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : In the next instance, my submission is that Government is concerned in this way, that the members of this Committee which gives this contract are nominated by the Ministry of Education and inasmuch as the nomination of that Committee rests with the Minister for Education, any matter of public importance which results from their action would be attributed to the Minister for Education. *Secondly*, this Text-Book Committee is a part, in a sense, of the Education Department, and a very important part inasmuch as it prescribes text-books for schools in the Province and makes provision for printing and publishing them. *Thirdly*, Government makes a grant which I believe in this year's budget is about Rs. 15,000 to the Text-Book Committee. I therefore submit that on these considerations Government is in a sense responsible for the action of this Committee.

Mr. President : Why should the motion be considered urgent?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I submit, Sir, that this matter was discussed, I believe, in the Text Book Committee during the period when the present session of the Council was in progress, and their decision was arrived at on some date during the sitting of this Council, I think, on the 4th of March, and I understand that the decision was merely in the shape of a recommendation; at any rate, I have no information, nor have the public any information that the contract has been duly signed and become binding. If the matter was discussed subsequent to the 4th of March and it has not been brought to the notice of this House, it would make it a matter of urgent importance.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education) : Sir, if you will kindly refer to page 86 of the Manual of Business and Procedure,

you will see under section 111, the Rule lays down clearly that "no resolution shall be admissible which does not comply with the following conditions", one of which is, "it shall not relate to any matter which is not primarily the concern of the local Government." It is laid down also in regard to motions for adjournment for purposes of debate that "the motion must not deal with a matter on which a resolution could not be moved." It is my submission that no resolution could be moved on this matter because it is not primarily the concern of the local Government. The honourable member is not right in saying that any recommendation with reference to this contract is made to the Punjab Government. Tenders are invited and tenders are made, which the honourable member is well aware means an offer. These tenders are on the basis of a contract between the tenderer and the Punjab Text Book Committee, and the moment the Punjab Text Book Committee accepts the tender or offer the contract is complete, and the Punjab Government has nothing to do with the matter. I am in a position to say very definitely that it is laid down amongst other things as one of the terms of the tender itself that the contract is a matter entirely between the tenderer and the Punjab Text Book Committee, a body duly registered under Act XXI of 1860 and it is also expressly stated further that the Punjab Government is no party to it. The contract becomes complete as soon as the offer is accepted and no recommendation whatsoever comes up to the Punjab Government with regard to this tender or the acceptance thereof. The matter becomes completed as soon as the Punjab Text Book Committee, a body duly registered, accepts the tender. Therefore, Sir, it is not a matter which is the primary concern of the Punjab Government in the Ministry of Education.

Mr. President : Is the Punjab Text Book Committee in any way subordinate to the Minister for Education?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : It is undoubtedly the fact that the Punjab Text Book Committee is a body which is nominated by the Punjab Government.

Mr. President : Is it not responsible for its actions to the Ministry of Education?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I do not think it can be responsible in a matter of this contract at all. It is a body which has its own funds. Government does not finance it in any way.

Mr. President : Government finances it at least to the extent of Rs. 1,500.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : That small sum of Rs. 1,500 is for the award of certain scholarships. The Committee carries out this operation on behalf of Government. That is the only item which you will find figuring in the budget.

Mr. President : If that body acts in a perfunctory way, will not the Honourable Minister for Education be entitled to take them to task or direct them to act in the right manner? Is that body so independent that this Council and the Honourable Minister for Education have absolutely no control over it?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I was going to say further, Sir, that as far back as the year 1899 a definite agreement was entered upon between the Secretary of State or the Punjab Government on the one hand and a body called the Punjab Text Book Committee on the other by virtue of which the Punjab Government parted with such rights as it had in certain publications to the Punjab Text Book Committee in consideration of the educational services that were performed by this body, and it was laid down in this agreement—I have not a copy of the agreement by me but I have had occasion to see it—in this agreement it was laid down that those rights were completely vested in the Text Book Committee until such time as it got dissolved or the Committee itself wanted to retransfer any rights which it possessed to the Government. That is the Government's position with reference to this particular body.....

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, is this document available to the public?

Mr. President : I will take the Honourable Minister's word for it.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : If you so wish it, Sir, I shall have no hesitation in having copies of that document placed before the honourable members to see it. It is a registered document and all registered documents are available at the Registry office.

Mr. President : May I take it that in the opinion of the Honourable Member, the Punjab Text Book Committee and the Punjab University are not amenable to the jurisdiction of this Council, though both of them are educational bodies and Education is a transferred subject?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I do not know in what regard the Punjab Text Book Committee may be amenable to this Council? That is a very large issue, but certain it is that in the matter of this contract the Punjab Text Book Committee stood as far as back as 1899 clothed with certain definite powers.

Mr. President : From what authority has the Punjab Text Book Committee acquired its rights? Is it not a fact that it has acquired them from Government either by delegation or assignment, etc.?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The Punjab Text Book Committee was a body acting in a particular manner duly registered under the proper Act for the registration of private bodies. In the year 1899 an agreement was arrived at by which certain rights which the Government possessed were transferred completely to the Punjab Text Book Committee. Those rights can be retransferred or if the Punjab Text Book Committee should be dissolved, then those rights can revert to the Punjab Government. As regards this contract, it is made an express term of the tender itself that the offer is on the one side by the offerer or the tenderer and the other party is the Punjab Text Book Committee. In the form of tender it is expressly laid down that the Punjab Government is no party to this contract at all and therefore.....

Mr. President : It appears clear that whatever rights that body possesses have been given to it by Government, and that its members are nominated by the Minister for Education. It is further clear that it deals with matters of education and that Education is a transferred subject. In the face of all this, how far is it correct to say that this Council has nothing

to do with that body and that it cannot go into its irregularities even if any are brought to its notice?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : A similar motion was given notice of by me last session in exactly the same form in which the question has now come before the House. That was admitted by you, Sir, and no objection was raised by the Ministry of Education on that occasion.

Mr. President : Did it relate to the Punjab Text Book Committee?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Yes, Sir, in exactly the same terms.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : No such motion was reached and I had no occasion to enter any objection against it.

Mr. President : That precedent, however, is not conclusive and as the question is an important one, we should thrash it out.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : This motion definitely raises the question of a contract and before it could become the subject of a motion, it is definitely laid down in our Standing Orders that an adjournment motion should be on a matter which could form the subject of a resolution. I need not read out the Standing Order to you. The position then is, that it must be a matter which is a primary concern of the local Government. And my submission is that it is not only not the primary concern of the Punjab Government but the contract itself has become complete.

Mr. President : The word 'primarily' in that Standing Order does not necessarily mean 'directly'.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : It need not, Sir. The Text Book Committee is really in the nature of a private body clothed with certain powers. The powers may possibly be varied but that will be a different question. But as it is, the powers of the Committee are not open to question. The state of a contract enforceable by law has definitely arisen.

Mr. President : What authority, if any, can question the actions of this Committee?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Sir, as I read the constitution of that Committee, though the Punjab Government nominates the members, under the rules of the Text Book Committee it is not open to the Ministry to issue any fiat, or orders to the Committee.

Mr. President : If the Text Book Committee acts illegally, am I to understand that the Honourable Minister is incompetent to dissolve it?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : It is so, Sir.

Mr. President : Who can dissolve it?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I do not know; a court of law may be able to do so, at the instance of a suit by a private aggrieved individual.

You were pleased to ask about the question of delay. So far as my information goes, the tender was considered as far back as the 4th of March, and since then, this Council has been continuously in session for a long number of days and we have now come pretty nearly to the end of it. And I think the delay in this matter is of considerable seriousness. Further, Sir, if I may say so, would it be considered a matter of grave public importance that a duly completed contract between one body properly registered under

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

the Act and one who approached that body with a tender on specific terms, the Government not coming in at all, whether that could be regarded as a matter of public importance? Further, Sir, this is where I speak subject to such opinion as you may be pleased to have on this matter; there are two other distinct motions on the agenda paper to-day, one of them distinctly relating to this particular matter. In view of that, Sir, would you consider the motion for adjournment as competent?

Mr. President : Does the honourable member mean that clause 4 of paragraph 45 at page 14 of the Business Manual stands in the way of the motion, for it says :

"The motion must not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration, or with reference to which a notice of motion has been previously given."

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I did not want to give any special prominence to this because I consider it is a technical bar *in limine* in the way of a motion as this, and I should hesitate to oppose the motion merely by reason of this technical bar.

Mr. President : May I draw the Honourable Minister's attention to the newly added paragraph at page 18 of the Business Manual, paragraph 68. It reads :—

"A motion must not anticipate a matter already appointed for consideration by the Council, whether it be a Bill or an adjourned debate upon a motion. In determining whether a motion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, the President must have regard to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time."

Is not that a sufficient reply to the Honourable Minister's contention?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Not at all, Sir. It is open to honourable members to bring the matter before the House within the next five minutes.

Mr. President : Is there any probability of that motion being taken up between now and the time when the discussion on the Demand should come to a close?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : It is not for me to say. It is a matter definitely before the House, entered on the agenda paper and it could be brought up.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : On a point of information, Sir, may I know through you from the Honourable Minister for Education if it is a fact that instructions have been given now and then through the Government officials to the Text Book Committee for such contracts?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Not that I am aware of in the Ministry. I think I will be borne out by the former Minister for Education in this regard. I have no hesitation in categorically denying that statement.

Mr. President : What has the honourable member from Sialkot to say as to the matter being or not being primarily the concern of the local Government?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, the Honourable Minister for Education has submitted that Government is not directly concerned with this

contract, but I would submit that that is being conceded. But the Text Book Committee is practically constituted by the Honourable Minister and although it may be, that it is a body registered under Act XX of 1860, as a matter of fact, the Committee's activities are not only included in the annual reports on the progress of education in the Punjab but credit is taken for them by the Department, and it is open to the Honourable Minister if he feels dissatisfied with the working of the Committee in any respect to put an end to its activities by refusing to make nominations to the Committee or even to dissolve it. In view of this, my submission is that the department is responsible for the activities of the Committee, and being so responsible....

Mr. President : May I know whether all the members of that body are nominated by the Minister or some of them are elected ?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : The Director of Public Instruction is the Chairman by virtue of his office. All the others are nominated. My submission, therefore, is that it is the primary concern of the local Government. Take the case of a district board or a municipality. Can it be said that it is not primarily the concern of the Local Government even though it is a part of the machinery of Local Self-Government ? I would contend that district boards and municipalities would be primary concerns of the local Government and similarly the Punjab Text Book Committee which was brought into existence by a devolution of certain powers belonging to the Government, which is kept in existence by nominations made by Government and at the head of which the *ex-officio* president is a permanent official of Government, and which received grants from Government every year cannot be said to be primarily not the concern of the local Government. Even with regard to its composition I believe out of 25 members, as many as 16 are officials of the Education Department.

With regard to the motion not being in order as a resolution could not be moved, my submission is that a resolution on the subject can be moved that the grant to the Text Book Committee should be discontinued and in support of that resolution it could be brought forward that the Committee as a whole is behaving in such a manner that it is desirable that the Government should cease making grants to it, whatever may be the purpose for which they are at present being made.

With regard to the objection on the ground of anticipation, I submit that no doubt there is a motion which has been admitted, as it is presumably in order, standing in my name as No. 36 in to-day's list of business, which relates to this particular matter. But we are discussing Motion No. 4, at the present moment and this being the last day of the discussion of the budget and also the last day on which the demand could be discussed, you will realise, Sir, that the discussion may not be continued longer than an hour and a half or two hours and there is absolutely no likelihood of that motion being reached at all. Not only is it not probable that the motion will be reached, it is absolutely impossible, particularly owing to the fact that yesterday afternoon when this side of the House wished the question to be put with regard to the matter then under discussion which now continues to be discussed in the House, honourable members on the opposite side, and I believe also the Honourable Minister, opposed the discussion being brought to a close, expressing their desire thereby that the matter under

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

discussion should continue to-day also with the result that other matters are extremely unlikely to come up for discussion. On these grounds, I submit that the discussion on my motion should be allowed.

Mr. President : Does the Honourable Minister wish to say anything in reply to the honourable mover?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I have not really very much to add to what I have submitted already and I maintain that it is not a matter of public importance.

Mr. President : That is a point on which the honourable member, Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan has not spoken. What has the honourable member to say as to the matter being a matter of public importance?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : At present I am afraid I cannot go into the details of the matter. I have indicated in the motion that the Committee have acted in such a manner and it will be subsequently for the House to pronounce upon it when the matter is brought under discussion, that it is open to objection. As a result of that action the loss likely to be caused to the public is nearly Rs. 11,000 a year, for the next five years, namely Rs. 55,000 in all. And in view of the fact that the public, particularly that portion of the public interested in schools and text-books and other similar things, is likely to lose that valuable sum of Rs. 55,000 which could have been utilised towards the grant of scholarships and awards of prizes for the promotion of literary and scientific education, certainly the matter is one of public importance. I am surprised to find the Honourable Minister holding a different opinion. The Text Book Committee is, as a matter of fact, being offered a royalty of Rs. 55,000 which it refuses to accept and if that is not a matter of public importance at all, I do not know what will be.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I barely started, Sir, before you asked the honourable member to explain. I submit it is not a matter of public importance whether the Text Book Committee should accept the offer of A, B, or C. It is argued that the Committee has lost Rs. 11,000. It is not for me to say whether the Committee has lost this sum or not. But it is the Text Book Committee and not the public that is losing the money. Secondly, I have already made the submission as regards this that we are, a most unfortunate thing, trying to canvass the legal nexus like that of a contract which has already arisen between the tenderer on the one side and the Punjab Text Book Committee on the other, and it is also definitely laid down in the terms of the contract that the Punjab Government has no concern with it.

Mr. President : The Honourable Minister is repeating his argument.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I am trying to explain the matter, Sir. The legal nexus, as I have submitted, of a contract has been established between the Committee and the tenderer distinctly on the basis that the Punjab Government shall be no party to it. And for this Council to try to canvass that position, that seems to me to be most unfortunate.

The more fact that the Punjab Text Book Committee is a body nominated in a particular manner.....

Mr. President : Is this body independent of the authority which nominates it? Is it subordinate to any authority under this dome of heaven?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Certain rights have been transferred and completely transferred to that body. They need only refer to the Punjab Government in the event of certain contingencies such as dissolution.

Mr. President : Because the body holds certain rights by assignment, there is no power which can interfere with it, however atrocious or illegal may be its acts. Is that the position?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The assignment is completed *qua* those acts. I think the technical bar so far as this motion is concerned is absolutely complete. Further, this matter happened 23 or 24 days ago, and there seems to be no urgency about it after having been delayed for such a long time.

Mr. President : But Government say that they have not signed the contract and that they have nothing to do with it.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : With regard to the delay my submission is that the Text Book Committee made a recommendation to the Government only.....

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : No. I am in a position categorically to say that no recommendation was ever made to the Punjab Government in respect of the contract. The offer was duly accepted by the Text Book Committee. The President of the Text Book Committee may be able to explain the matter.

Mr. R. Sanderson : Yes, Sir.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : The Text Book Committee accepted the offer or decided to accept the offer of one tenderer, I understand, on the 4th March. The proceedings of the Text Book Committee are not public and they are not published. Therefore, the Honourable Minister could not assume that on the 4th March the matter was circulated to honourable members of the House and that they became cognisant of it at once. Therefore, the delay in making this motion cannot be said to have rendered it a matter of no urgency. Besides, the contract comes into force on the 1st April 1929 and has not come into force yet. Any motion made before that date cannot be rightly objected to on the ground of having been delayed.

Mr. Sanderson : The honourable member said that the proceedings of the Text Book Committee were not published. But I may submit, Sir, that on the day after the decision was taken, it was known to every one concerned.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : On a point of order, Sir, the time for the discussion of the Demands for Grants will be over by five o'clock to-day. Will the House be allowed some extra time in view of the fact that a large amount of time has been consumed in the discussion of this question?

Mr. President : Is that a point of order?

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : May I know whether it is in the jurisdiction of the Council to set aside the contract?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I shall deal with that matter also.

Mr. President : I think the Council has no power to set aside the contract. It may ask the Minister to dissolve the body or see that such a thing does not recur but it cannot touch the contract.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Now, Sir, one point raised by the Honourable Minister was to the effect that this House has no business to enquire into whether the contract should have been given to A or B or C. As a matter of fact my motion is not directed towards enquiring whether it should have been given to A or B or C. I have nothing to do with any individual. The contract might have been given to any individual. That is not my point. It may be that so far as the capacity of the firm to whom the contract has been given is concerned, there may be nothing objectionable in it. But I want to discuss the action of the Committee itself in dealing with the matter, both in the procedure adopted by it and the subsequent selection it has made, not with regard to the firm selected, but with regard to the sum offered. The question that I want to discuss is this:—A says that he would pay Rs. 65,000 for the contract.—The Committee says: "We give you the contract; but we shall not take Rs. 65,000 from you, we shall take only Rs. 54,000. We shall make a gift of Rs. 11,000 to you." It is not a question of A, B, or C; it is only a question of A and the gratuitous generosity of the Committee towards him. My honourable friend raised the point which was also mentioned by the Honourable Minister that the Council cannot interfere with the contract which has been accepted. I do not wish to ask this House to try to interfere with the contract. I merely want to discuss the question whether the action of the Committee in giving that contract was legally justifiable. If it was not justifiable, and if the Committee has behaved in a manner which shows that it has not realised its responsibilities towards the public, then perhaps it would be for the Honourable Minister subsequently to see whether he should dissolve the Committee, or when vacancies occur he should fill them with men who have a proper sense of the responsibility attached to their duties.

Mr. R. Sanderson : The question has been raised whether the matter is urgent or not. The honourable member who wants to move this motion sent it to the Council Office on the 16th March, that is, about 11 days ago....

Mr. President : Urgency is a relative term. The fact that the honourable member gave notice of his motion on the 16th is not enough to show that he is too late. He may not have moved his motion even now if he were sure of his motion for the reduction of the grant being reached. As there is not a probability of that motion being reached, he has come forward with the adjournment motion. That appears to be clear.

Mr. Sanderson : Is there no probability of the motion being reached to-day, Sir. Is it impossible for the honourable members to arrange that that motion may be taken up?

Mr. President : Possibility is not the same thing as probability. Is the honourable member in a position to say that it is probable that this

motion, item No. 86 on the agenda, will be reached and discussed to-day before five o'clock? (*The Honourable Minister rose to speak*). Is the Honourable Minister in a position to say whether there is a probability of this motion being reached before 5 o'clock to-day?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I cannot say what is probable or what is in the womb of futurity. But I may say this, that in this very House, after one particular motion eleven motions dropped out all of a sudden. I am not in a position to say whether this motion will probably be taken up or not. But there is an earlier motion, No. 4 and that is the only grant which relates to the Text Book Committee. That can be reached to-day.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Sir, Section 45 says that an adjournment motion must not anticipate a motion with reference to which notice has been previously given. It only means.....

Mr. President : I have already read out to the honourable members sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 68. It was added to our Manual of Procedure only last year. It says "In determining whether a motion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, the President must have regard to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time."

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I fail to understand how this is a matter of public importance so that leave may be given for moving a motion on it.

Mr. President : The honourable member is repeating the arguments used by the other honourable members.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I submit that this is not a matter of urgent public importance. The honourable mover said that there would be a loss of Rs. 11,000 per annum on account of this contract. As a matter of fact, it is not quite correct to say that. It all depends on the quality of the work that is to be taken from the contractor. Now we know that in the Public Works Department contracts—Mr. Astbury will bear me out in what I am going to say,—it is not always the lowest tender that is accepted, because the lowest tenderer may not always do the best work.

Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir : Is not the honourable member going into the merits of the question, Sir?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Sir, I submit this can in no sense be called a matter of public importance. If we are going to give leave for a motion of this kind, I am afraid this will be a bad precedent for many more adjournment motions in future on each and every contract given in the Public Works Department. That is my point.

Mr. Sanderson : Sir, if this is considered to be such an important matter deserving an adjournment motion, surely, it is quite possible for the honourable member to arrange that his motion for the reduction of the demand is reached earlier. Most of intervening motions stand in the names of honourable members of that section of the House where the honourable mover of this adjournment motion has great influence. If the matter is so important he can easily arrange to reach his motion before we close the debate to-day on the demands for grants.

(*Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan rose to speak*)

Mr. President : I think the honourable member has had his say.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Only two observations, Sir.

Mr. President : No more observations. Several points have been raised and discussed to enable me to decide whether the motion is in order or not. As to urgency, I may refer the Council to the Parliamentary Practice. The relevant passage runs as follows :—

"The urgency of the matter which forms the occasion for the motion is not taken too literally. It is enough that the mover considers his subject to be urgent, and is able to give it a plausible appearance of urgency, provided always that the nature of the subject is not of such a kind as plainly to make such a description an abuse of language."

As to the President's powers with regard to such motions, the Parliamentary Practice is this :—

"The Speaker has no general power of suppressing motions for adjournment; his authority only extends to prevent an abuse of the rule by refusing to accept a motion which he considers improper. On the whole the Speaker's practice in exercising his discretion has leaned towards favouring the minority."

I come now to the point whether the subject matter of the motion is or is not primarily the concern of the local Government. All matters relating to the services are primarily the concern of the local Government, and the Minister in charge of a department is responsible for the actions of his subordinates. I am not prepared to hold that the Punjab Text Book Committee is a body independent of the Government and the Minister of Education. It is presided over by the Director of Public Instruction in his official capacity. Its members are nominated by the Honourable Minister for Education. To say that the acts of such a body cannot be examined or criticised by this Council, that it is independent of and above all rules and laws which this Council or the Minister responsible to it can make, appears to be preposterous. I am not prepared to hold that the body is not responsible to the Minister for Education as representing this Council. Further, I am not prepared to hold that the Minister for Education is not responsible to this House with regard to matters educational, however, indirectly and remotely the House may be concerned with such matters.

As to whether the question is one of public importance, this is rather a difficult matter. Opinions may differ as to whether a certain matter is or is not a matter of public importance. When I propose the motion to the House it will be for the House to decide whether it is a matter of public importance or not, by giving or withholding its leave for the motion. *Prima facie* the motion appears to be a matter of some public importance and, therefore, I am not prepared to rule it out of order on the ground that it is not a matter of public importance. I hold that the motion is *prima facie* in order.

Now I proceed to read the motion to the House and if the House objects to it, it may not allow it to be moved. The definite matter of urgent public importance which the honourable mover of this motion wishes to discuss is—

"The recommendation of the Punjab Text Book Committee regarding the contract for the printing and publishing of text-books for schools in this province during the next five years whereby a loss of nearly Rs. 11,000 per annum during the next five years is likely to be occasioned to the public and the action taken thereon by Government (Ministry of Education)."

Has the honourable member leave of the House to move the motion?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I object, Sir.

Mr. President : May I now ask those who are in favour of the motion being moved to rise in their places?

(More than 20 members stood up.)

Mr. President : As more than 20 members have risen in their places I intimate to the House that leave is granted, and that the motion will be taken up at the conclusion of the business of the day.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

EDUCATION GRANT—concluded.

Mr. President : The Council will now resume discussion of Chaudhri Duli Chand's motion.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, I have an adjournment motion to make.

Mr. President : If the honourable member will read sub-para (f) of paragraph 45, he will find that no more than one such motion can be made at the same sitting. As one motion has been made, a second motion cannot be allowed.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I am not actually moving the motion. I am only asking leave of the House to move that motion.

Mr. President : It is not quite clear that the honourable member is not technically right, but I think he has no right to move another motion to-day.

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : [Multan Division (Non-Muhammadan), Rural], Urdu : Sir, this subject has been sufficiently discussed by the honourable members of the House. Chaudhri Duli Chand has given vent to all his malice against the urban people and has sufficiently represented the cause of the rural population, and has urged upon the Government the necessity of increasing the representation of the agriculturists on the inspecting staff. After him even my honourable friend, Rana Feroze ud-Din Khan, has also dwelt on the same topic with all the threats and warning at his command, and therefore I need not dilate any further on the same subject which has already been discussed by my honourable friends. I have got one great complaint which I want to lay before the House. There are many inspectors who are posted at the same place for 6 or 7 years and then there are others who are posted in the very districts to which they belong. The District Inspector of Dera Ghazi Khan is an instance in point. Such Inspectors who are suffered to remain continuously for some six or seven years in the same district naturally make friends and enemies. They always show undue favour to the friends and always try to suppress those who have the misfortune of becoming their enemies, even if they are on the right. Those schools which happen to have the misfortune of incurring their displeasure can never hope to come on the list of the Government aided schools. Therefore, through you I request the Honourable Minister for Education to take care that in future no inspector should be allowed to remain at one place for more than three years and that no person should be posted in his home district. The honourable member for Montgomery has suggested that in districts

[Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram.]

where the majority of the population is Muslim, Muslim Inspectors should be appointed and where Hindus preponderate, Hindu Inspectors should be appointed. Apparently this sounds very reasonable but if put into practice it would exterminate the minorities in no time. Muslim Inspectors in Muslim districts would try to suppress and discourage Hindus, and on the other hand Hindu Inspectors will try to practice all the tyrannies on the Muslim minorities of the districts to which they will be appointed.

Again, Sir, the same honourable member has complained against some Hindu District Inspector of Schools in Multan forgetting that in all the previous years only Muslim Inspectors and District Inspectors have been posted to that place and therefore, it was not fair on his part to complain against an appointment which has been made after so many years. In the Multan Division the Inspector and the District Inspector of Schools have always been Muslims. I have brought this fact to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction and the Honourable Minister for Education and they both have never condescended to pay any attention to it. In my humble opinion, Sir, a Muslim Inspector should be appointed in the first instance to a district for some fixed time and after the expiry of that period, he should be transferred to some other districts and his place may be given to a Hindu, and after the expiry of his period a Sikh may be appointed. By this method of appointments, by turns, all the three communities will each be given a chance to thrive, although turn by turn, under their respective Inspectors. Thus even the remote possibility of quarrels will be removed.

Now, I come to the question of promoting teachers to the ranks of Inspectors. On this point I would submit, Sir, that it is only teachers who are the most deserving and appropriate persons for becoming inspectors, for they have teaching experience and know how to inspect a school most successfully. Moreover, if they have no hope of becoming inspectors they will never attend to their duties earnestly and the cause of education will suffer a great deal.

In the end I again lay stress on the same fact, that no Inspector should be allowed to remain at one place for six or seven years, nor in his home district. With these remarks I resume my seat.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education): Sir, this motion has been examined in this House from three points of view. One was the point of view which was kept permanently before him by the honourable member from Karnal who moved the cut. The other was the communal aspect to which emphasis was given by certain other members and the third was a very suggestive and helpful analysis which was given to us in this connection by the honourable member from Sialkot, and I hope and trust that in the very few minutes that I propose to address this House on this question, I shall have satisfied members approaching the subject from every one of those points of view. Now, Sir, I am not here to lay down any hard and fast rule. It will be improper for me to do so. I may thereby be improperly fettering the discretion which must really remain unfettered in the department. I shall not, therefore, lay down any rigid formula as to what proportion of the inspectorate must consist of various elements in order that it may be regarded as suitable. The honourable member

from Karnal who moved this out emphasised, and emphasised from his point of view very strongly, that in the inspectorate, that is, divisional inspectors, deputy inspectors, district inspectors and assistant district inspectors, a fair proportion, a proper proportion, of people who come from rural areas or belong to agricultural tribes and who may be presumed to have full sympathy with the people among whom they have to work, ought to be represented. I think, Sir, the Director of Public Instruction yesterday pointed out that we have, at the present moment, as large a percentage as 56 of zamindars in the inspectorate. I mean to make a correction, that is 56 per cent is not merely of zamindars in the larger sense but of members of the statutory agricultural tribes, and not only that, but includes in it divisional inspectors and others. Until 1927 only one statutory agriculturist person existed among Divisional Inspectors within 6 or 7 years. During the years 1927 and 1928 for a period of something like 18 months it was possible to add a member of the agricultural tribe to this class and that I hope will satisfy Chaudhri Duli Chand. Even if one were to exclude these inspectors and deputy inspectors and concentrate on the assistant deputy inspectors the actual proportion of the members of the statutory agricultural tribes on it would be even larger than 56 per cent. and if a reference was made to that document to which so much attention was invited the other day, that is the Government Resolution of 1919, the honourable members in that part of the House should find that satisfactory. The other aspect from which the matter was viewed was the percentage and importance of the Muslim element on the inspectorate. Now taking all the figures, Sir, out of 182 gentlemen who constitute the inspectorate, that is the whole body of it, from the inspectors down to the assistant deputy inspectors, it will be found that 102 are Muslims. Out of 182, 102 at the present are Muslims.---

Mr. Din Muhammad : May I know how many of them are assistant deputy inspectors ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I am going to analyse ; I am not going to pass over any matter. The honourable member may exercise a little patience and restraint. Sir, I made it perfectly explicit that I was taking the totality of the inspectorate. Out of 182, 102 are Muslims, 40 are Hindus, 37 are Sikhs and 5 are Christians. That is as regards the totality. Now, coming to the various parts of it, as I said, I am not here to lay down any rigid principle as the basis on which these things should proceed, because large has to be the scope that we must allow for administrative exigencies, such as the way in which candidates are available, the need for efficient working of a particular division and so on and so forth. Make the assistant deputy inspectors who are often referred to as the very pivot of our vernacular education and on whose shoulders the whole burden of carrying the torch of knowledge to remote villages is to be placed. The position is this. There are at the present moment 82 Muslims, 28 Hindus, 28 Sikhs and 3 Christians. You will see, Sir, as I said, I am not here to expound any rigid principle, but certain it is that it can not be asserted that the number of Hindus, whatever else may be the position, is unduly large. My honourable friends will see that as far as population is concerned,—it is often the test which the honourable members like to stress so much,—

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the disparity between Hindus and Sikhs for example, is certainly greater than would be indicated by 28 and 28. Honourable members would further realise that referring to this population basis which might be said to have some measure of validity when one is dealing with this class of inspectors that is assistant deputy inspectors, it cannot be said that the Musabian element was of an inadequate character so that the Muslims could take any objection, far from any serious objection. If anybody could take any objection, it would be the gentlemen who preponderate on this side of the House. I may add, Sir, that during the last 18 or 20 months the number has varied from 80 to 82; when I took over charge it stood at about 80. Here again, the number varies almost from day to day. But I am giving you not only the position as it is to-day but fairly the average position as it has existed for the last 12 months. Coming to the district inspectors, and the district inspectors cannot entirely be dissociated in this regard from the deputy inspectors, what is the position? If you kindly turn to the figures as they are at present and as they have been for the last many months, indeed the whole year or so, the number of Muslims is 14, the number of Hindus is 9, the number of Sikhs is 6 and the number of Christians is 1. I am not sure whether any manner of exception even on that strict and narrow ground can be taken to this, the total number being 30, including the one at Delhi as he is a part of our regular cadre. Coming to the deputy inspectors what is the position? Deputy inspector is a term fairly interchangeable with the district inspectors. What is the position there? The position is that at the present moment there are 3 Muslims, 2 Sikhs and 1 Hindu, and if I may further tell the House, during the last 12 months or so what has occurred is this. There have been only three fresh appointments—2 Sikhs, and 1 Muslim. Two Muslims have been holding over from before and these 2 Sikhs and 1 Muslim are the new appointments. A Christian gentleman had to leave service, a Hindu gentleman retired, and a new post was created. Of the three posts filled during the last 12 months or so, 2 have gone to Sikhs and 1 has gone to a Muslim gentleman so that the present number is 3 Muslims, 2 Sikhs and 1 Hindu; and if you will add up deputy and district inspectors you will find, if of anybody, it is the position of the Hindus that may be said to have deteriorated. Sir, coming to the inspectors we find we have 5 divisional inspectors and 2 other inspectors who work at the headquarters. Our total number of inspectors is 7. The position is 3 Muslims, 1 European, 2 Hindus and 1 Sikh gentleman; but if my Sikh friends chose to regard Chaudhri Gian Singh a Hindu and not a Sikh—he is named as a Sikh, he professes the religion of the Sikhs—then you may say 3 Hindus. This, Sir, is the composition and I hope and trust that whatever criticisms may be levelled against it, it cannot be said for instance that the Muslim position is weak. It certainly is not weaker than what it was two years ago and, if I may make bold to say so, it is stronger. If I may say so, Sir, I am myself afraid to say so, the boot is entirely on the other leg.

Then I come to the third aspect of this question. I am very glad of the calm and suggestive manner in which the honourable member from Sialkot developed his theme. He threw out in the course of his speech two or three suggestions. There was the respect to be paid to the principle of seniority. There was the desire that men who work in these places must be those who

were able to carry forward this work successfully. He also emphasised the view that training qualifications are of considerable importance in regard to those who undertake the work of inspection. In the course of addresses by the other members of the House a vast variety of other suggestions were made, more with a view to find out whether a particular inspector from his point of view had discharged his duties well or not. May I say this with reference to the five appointments of district inspectors—to which the honourable member from Sialkot referred? Three of them were senior members of the Punjab Educational Service. At least one of them had not only served as assistant district inspector before but also belongs to a statutory agricultural tribe. This is the gentleman at Lyallpur and further,—and this is a matter on which the department lays considerable emphasis, and if I may say so, very rightly,—three of these gentlemen had occupied positions in schools and colleges where the normal school work or the work of training of teachers is carried on and they have, from what I can gather from the recommendations, done work that deserves the commendation of the department in the matter of uplift. We have, therefore, men immediately in high provincial service liable to serve anywhere in the province with adequate teaching qualifications, B. T's., in addition associated intimately with normal schools. Also they have to their credit not only a good general record but special record for uplift work. Sir, these are some of the considerations that weighed with the Director of Public Instruction and myself in making these appointments. These are the only valid criticisms which I was able to disentangle from the speeches of honourable members who have addressed the House on this question. Sir, in developing these arguments about a course of training and also the desirability of having got previous experience in the inspectorate before one takes up the more responsible work of a deputy inspector or inspector, our learned friend from Sialkot referred in particular to the appointments of 2 deputy inspectors who belong—I do not think it is necessary to conceal the fact—to the Sikh community. With reference to that I am not here to praise individual merits, because honourable members would realize that it will be very serious for me to enlarge on the merits and demerits of individual officers in this House, and as a matter of fact, a very heavy and just caution was given in that regard by the Honourable the Leader of the House, and if I may venture to say so, by yourselves only the other day. But in regard to these gentlemen it was stated, on a scrutiny of the list, that some men were senior to them and not appointed and references were made to certain district inspectors of schools who undoubtedly were B. T's. but have not been in the provincial service for more than two or three years but were fairly junior as district inspectors. May I say this, that both these gentlemen had considerable experience as teachers in colleges and also some association with schools before they actually entered Government service and at least one of these gentlemen had been in charge of a college for about a year, a college that has in it a Junior Anglo-Vernacular class at Lyallpur; and therefore, with regard to these two senior Sikh gentlemen in the Provincial Educational Service, it cannot be said that they came as mere novices when they were appointed as deputy inspectors, and certainly my learned friend can take it from me that we think very seriously before we can take men from the bottom and put them in these high places.

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Sir, certain things were then mentioned from another record and it is difficult for me to analyse the names. If my learned friend would take the trouble of going to the Civil List or the list of those gentlemen in the Provincial Educational Service, he will find that a very large number of these gentlemen are comfortably fixed up in colleges and we could not think of disturbing them, because while it will be news to the honourable member, it is clearly known to the department that certain people who have been good professors have no desire to be taken away from those places. They are experts or keen students in particular directions and they have no desire to go into the villages. With regard to the two deputy inspectors of schools, they are very senior members of the Provincial Educational Service. But, Sir, I have only to mention the word seniority to draw upon myself immediately the criticism of my learned friend from Sialkot. He asked yesterday very pointedly "What about Gyan Singh?" (*Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan*: No, I did not mention the name). I am mentioning it, Sir. I shall not give many names but will mention only one, Chaudhri Gyan Singh, and I will do so for two reasons. The main one is this. The gentleman is on the eve of retirement, I think he retires in less than three weeks' time. And I should like to be able on the floor of this House to express my distinct appreciation of the work that the gentleman has done. (*Hear, hear*). Sir, his name came to me on the double recommendation of two Directors of Public Instruction, Sir George Anderson and Mr. Sanderson. He had an absolutely unblemished record. He was at the time of the appointment Deputy Inspector of Schools of Lahore Division. His position was strongly supported by the Inspector of Schools who preferred him to go to the higher appointment of the Inspector of Training Institutions. Under those auspices his name came to my notice, strongly urged and confidently supported. And I am here to-day in a position to say that the confidence so definitely expressed by those gentlemen competent to speak on the departmental ability, integrity and work of the gentleman, has been amply justified. That, Sir, with regard to seniority. It is undoubtedly a fact that the appointment has lasted longer than it was originally anticipated. But the gentleman, as I have said, is on the eve of retirement, and I think the language of cavil should certainly cease at such a moment as this. Therefore I say this, that from whatever point of view you wish to regard the inspectorate, no criticism can really stand. And further, no substantial question whatsoever of their suitability to discharge the work arises.

Sir, the powers of this House to canvass the ability or the work of various members in the services are complete and comprehensive. At the same time, as the Director felt yesterday when he was speaking on this motion, I think we are taking a very heavy onus on us if we canvass in minute details the suitability or otherwise of members of our Imperial and Provincial services to discharge functions which they have been appointed to carry out. And I shall—I have mentioned one name already—refer to no other names. I would only say this, that I was talking only this afternoon to a gentleman who has had considerable experience, long experience, of administrative and public life in this province and who had more recently the opportunity to visit not only the whole of India but to study conditions abroad as well, he has been watching how educational advance

was making its effect in provinces other than the Punjab and it was a pleasing testimony that he afforded to the excellent work that was being done here. That could not have been possible if the inspectorate deserved half the criticism which certain honourable members were pleased to level on that very valuable body (*Cheers*).

Mr. Din Muhammad [East and West Central Towns (Muhammadan), Urban]: It is very unfortunate, Sir, that every time that a voice is raised from these benches regarding the administrative policy of any of the departments under the Honourable Ministers, honourable members occupying Hindu benches at once attribute it to communal bias or to narrow-minded bigotry. I believe, Sir, their primary motive is to throw discredit on the remarks that we make so as to divest our suggestions of all earnestness and seriousness with which they are urged. (A voice: Is there any?) A good debater might successfully employ this tactics of confusing the issue but once. When we see, however, that every day such tactics are being repeated they lose their value and their charm.

Mr. President: Order, order. The honourable member should not attribute motives to any other honourable member or party in this House.

Mr. Din Muhammad: I have attributed no motive to any.

Mr. President: To attribute tactics is tantamount to attribution of motives.

Mr. Din Muhammad: On the day, Sir, when the cut on Agriculture was moved, the honourable member from Hoshiarpur quoted a speech of the Honourable the Finance Member delivered in March 1928. On the next day when a cut in the Public Health Department was moved the same honourable member re-quoted the same speech. Again on the third day, when a cut on Education was moved the same honourable member drew attention to the same speech and he was reinforced by the honourable member from Rawalpindi who is so very resourceful in his anecdotes about animals. From camels he came down to horses yesterday and would still claim dignity of speech.

Mr. President: The honourable member is again making a personal reference.

Mr. Din Muhammad: I would submit that I shall avoid all personal remarks as far as possible but I should explain my position.

Mr. President: The honourable member is at perfect liberty to criticise or meet the points of view of other honourable members or answer any arguments advanced by them but he should not make any personal references to the other honourable members.

Mr. Din Muhammad: I am going to meet the arguments raised on the other side, Sir. My point in submitting these observations was that either wittingly or unwittingly our position is being misjudged, our views misrepresented. It is not our position to urge any preferential treatment for our community as such. But what we do urge with all the force at our command is that our community should not be excluded as such, and there is a vast difference between the two points of view. I might claim that a Mussalman should be given a particular post because he is a Mussalman but in doing so, I cannot go beyond reasonable limits. But

[Mr. Din Muhammad.]

I must feel righteous indignation if, as I can prove to the House, a Mussalman is excluded from all his just dues, is deprived of all his equitable rights simply because he is a Mussalman. The instances that have already been cited in this honourable House lead to prove the position which I am laying bare here. We entirely agree with the wisdom and justice of the remarks contained in the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member delivered on the 9th March 1928. But, as I have submitted before, an attempt is made to misjudge and misrepresent our position. No self-respecting community, however loyal, however level headed, however sober minded, however down-trodden it may be, can tolerate this humiliation at the hands of its administrators. And, however headstrong, however resourceful and, however obstinate, an administration may be, it cannot afford to spurn at our demand for any great length of time. The day of reckoning is bound to come and then it might be too late to repent. That is the position, Sir, which I wish to place before the House. If I can lay my finger on even one instance in which a Mussalman has been excluded, has been deprived of his just rights simply because of his community, I would be perfectly justified and the House would be perfectly justified in condemning that policy. (Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: Would you apply the same principle to other communities?) I would, Sir, but within proper limits. I would not deprive any community of its just rights. (Sardar Ujjal Singh: A strength of 100 out of 182, is that within proper limits?) I am coming to the numbers quoted by the Honourable the Minister for Education if only the honourable member will be a little bit patient.

I would now appeal to the honourable members occupying the Nationalist benches, because they also accuse us of communalism, especially the honourable member from Multan who always urges that we should not harp upon this subject too often. I would most respectfully assure them that we are actuated by the most patriotic and the most noble motives in bringing to the notice of the House the weakness of the Muslim community so far as education is concerned. The day is not far when India would reach the goal of self-determination and we will be called upon to bear some burden at least. We would not then like to urge our weakness and we would not want to throw on other shoulders the burdens that we should bear ourselves.

Education is the chief operative factor in equipping the people for self-government. I warn you beforehand therefore that you should not leave the Muslim community in a backward state. If in spite of all that I have said, the honourable members on the other side of the House do not see any reason or any sense in what we say, it is not our fault.

گو نہ بڑا ہر روز شہر چشم چشمہ آفتاب را چہ کند

'If the bat's eye cannot see the radiant light of the sun, it is not the fault of the fountain head of light.'

Coming now to the speech of the honourable member from Rawalpindi we see that he appealed to the honour of this House and accused us of degrading the tone of the House by making speeches which were not worthy of the members.

Mr. President : The honourable member is again criticising not the speech but the manner of speech.

Mr. Din Muhammad : I am meeting the accusation which was advanced against us. It is really too much for us to bear and we want to justify our position. We cannot tolerate a charge made so unjustifiably against us. The honourable member from Rawalpindi described us as.....

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : What does the honourable member mean by 'us'?

Mr. Din Muhammad : The honourable members of the party to which I have the honour to belong.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I never brought any accusation against the honourable members of that party. It was only an appeal to the whole House.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, I distinctly remember that the honourable member from Rawalpindi yesterday expatiated at great length on the tone of the honourable members' speeches on this side of the House and said that they were objectionable and that they were the cause of lowering the general level of the House. He also made a distinct reference to the official benches, and said that he could not say what would become of this House if the official members were not here. The honourable member persisted in characterising the speeches made from these benches as objectionable. Was that not a distinct charge against the members on this side of the House to which we have a right to reply?

Mr. President : I once more request the honourable member not to make personal allegations.

Mr. Din Muhammad : I am not making any personal allegations. But I cannot refrain from referring to one incident which happened yesterday, and to which I desire to draw your special attention as our President. The honourable member from Rawalpindi referred us to the official benches as our mentors. And what lessons can they teach us, we find in the speech of the Director of Public Instruction. I would particularly draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Education also to that speech. Referring to the honourable member from Karnal, Chaudhri Duli Chand, the honourable Director was pleased to remark that the Inspector of the Ambala Division made a grant of about Rs. 11,500 to his school not knowing that he was nourishing a viper in his bosom. (*Cries of Shame*).

Mr. President : Who made that remark?

Mr. Din Muhammad : The honourable member, the Director of Public Instruction, Sir. This is what he said—

"I think, Sir, the Inspector of Schools, Ambala Division, will feel that he has been nourishing a viper in his bosom. The honourable member who has moved this out is in charge of a school which was recommended by him for some Rs. 11,500 as grant this year."

Mr. R. Sanderson : I only said that the Inspector would have a grievance.

Mr. President : Where is the honourable member reading from?

Mr. Din Muhammad : From a copy of the speech made by the honourable member.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : The honourable member has obtained a copy of the speech made by the Director of Public Instruction during the course of the discussion that went on yesterday.

Mr. Sanderson : It is not a copy that has been corrected by me. It is possible that the reporters did not hear me aright.

Mr. President : Let me see the copy.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : May I know whether the honourable member now denies that he used those words?

Mr. President : The report as taken by the official reporter reads as follows :-

"I think, Sir, the Inspector of Schools, Ambala Division, will feel that he has been nourishing a viper in his bosom. The honourable member who has moved this out is in charge of a school which was recommended by him for some Rs. 11,500 as grant this year."

Mr. Sanderson : That is roughly speaking correct, Sir. I only said that the Inspector would feel so.

Mr. President : Objection appears to be taken to the expression, 'viper in his bosom.' To describe a member of this House as a viper.....

Mr. Sanderson : Which I never did.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I distinctly remember he said it, Sir.

Mr. Sanderson : I never called any honourable member a viper.

Mr. President : Now that the honourable member has explained that he did not use the term in its literal sense, and never intended to call any honourable member of this House a viper.....

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : Sir, may I draw your attention to this fact that a much milder term, 'howl' was used by a member on this side of the House and you were then pleased to rule that the term should be withdrawn? I do not see why the honourable member who has used a very strong expression should not be asked to withdraw.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, Mr. Sanderson says that he did not say that the honourable member was a viper. It is clear to every one that he did not say so, because he could not say so without doing violence to nature, as the honourable member is not a viper. But he likened him to a viper. I am extremely sorry to find that an honourable member of this House who is occupying the high position of the Director of Public Instruction, which post includes responsibility not merely for general instruction but also for moral instruction, should think that an honourable member of this House is like a viper or that he considers it only reasonable that an officer of his department should regard an honourable member of this House a viper.

Mr. Sanderson : I am afraid I have been misunderstood. I only gave that analogy to describe the sort of sensation that the Inspector of Schools would feel in his heart. I only likened that sensation to the sensation that I have described. It was far from my mind to compare any honourable member of the House to a viper. It is a misunderstanding, Sir.

Mr. President: When the Inspector comes to know all that the honourable member Chaudhri Duli Chand has said, will he not feel that he should not have done something for a man who, to say the least, was unworthy of the favour?

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: May I know whether the honourable member has withdrawn that expression?

Mr. President: Is it not too late to call upon the honourable member to-day to withdraw the expression? This point ought to have been raised yesterday as soon as the expression was used in the House.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: It is never too late to mend, Sir. It is open to the honourable member even now to take back the expression. Because is only a question of the dignity of the House and it is *infra dig* for the House as a whole that an honourable member should characterise another member that he was like a viper.

Mr. President: He has already told the House that he has not corrected his speech yet.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: Why not do it, here and now?

Mr. President: The speech has not been sent to him, nor is it under discussion.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: If he is going to modify it anyhow when he gets a copy of his speech what objection is there to modify it now in the House?

Mr. President: He did not say that he would modify it; all he said was that the speech was not corrected by him.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan: Nor did he deny having used that expression. He is the head of a department of Government. If he has used the expression, I would request you to ask him to withdraw it, not only for his own sake but also for the sake of the dignity of the House and the advice given by the Chair.

Mr. President: May I request the Honourable Minister for Education to intervene and put an end to this unpleasant discussion?

Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan: Sir, if the Honourable Minister for Education assures us that there is nothing objectionable in that expression we would not press the matter.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: Sir, I am certainly in a position to say that the Director of Public Instruction did not wish to call any honourable member of this House by any such opprobrious term. All that he was trying to do was to figure to himself the possible feelings of the Inspector who was described unsuitable, after he has done what he felt to be his duty by an institution over which my learned friend from Rohtak has the honour to preside. The Director of Public Instruction has now told the House that he was not giving expression to any feeling of his own or any attitude of his own towards the honourable member. I think that that ought to close the matter. I may assure the House again on behalf of the Director of Public Instruction that nothing could have been farther from his mind than to call an honourable member of this House by that term. I think that ought to close the matter.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: Sir, I did not make any reference to the particular inspector of the Ambala Division. Did Chaudhri Duli Chand make any reference to the gentleman?

Mr. President: The honourable member may read his speech.

Chaudhri Duli Chand: I did not make any reference to that gentleman.

Mr. President: He may or may not have made a reference to the gentleman. But that is not the point. If the House considers that the honourable member, the Director of Public Instruction, was not in order in his reference to the Inspector of the Ambala Division, the point should have been raised then, not now.

Chaudhri Ram Singh (Urdu): Sir, you have given a ruling that the words derogatory of an honourable member cannot be withdrawn after three or four days have elapsed; but my honourable friend Mr. Din Muhammad has quoted a Persian couplet just now in which he had compared the whole House to a bat. This is a direct insult to this dignified House and since he had used this comparison just now, I request you to ask the honourable member to withdraw his words.

Mr. Din Muhammad: I was only submitting before the House, Sir, that.....

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: Sir, even if notice is taken on a reflection made upon any honourable member after 1 or 5 days, it is in time. It is in time even after months, and the Parliament have taken cognisance of it even after months.

Mr. President: Yes. But that is done on a specific motion.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: If honourable members will not withdraw on your intervention, then we will be right in bringing forward such a motion.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: May I say one further word? Mr. Sanderson has already explained what his position is, and I want to say further on his behalf that nothing could have been further from his mind....

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: On a point of order, Sir. The Honourable Minister has no right to speak a second time.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: I am speaking under the indulgence and at the desire of the chair.

Mr. President: I have asked the Honourable Minister, who is the head of the department, to intervene and put an end to this unpleasant discussion.

Pir Akbar Ali: Will the Honourable Member let us now whether he has consulted the Director of Public Instruction?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: If I am permitted to speak. I have said that Mr. Sanderson has assured you, Sir, and assured the House that nothing was further from his mind than to describe the honourable member by any such objectionable terms, but since the matter continues to be misunderstood, he has no hesitation whatever in saying that those words will be duly excised from that speech. They will not remain part of that speech.

Mr. President : How can that be done ?

Mr. Sanderson : The speech has yet to be corrected.

Mr. President : The words will not be expunged, even if they are withdrawn.

Mr. Sanderson : I withdraw the words.

Mr. President : It is very laudable of the honourable member to withdraw.

(When Mr. Din Muhammad stood up to continue his speech there were loud cries of "withdraw, withdraw").

Mr. Din Muhammad : My words were much more innocent than the words now withdrawn.

Mr. President : Much more innocent indeed, but they fall under the same category. The question is merely of degree.

(Shouts of "Withdraw, withdraw").

Mr. President : There is no harm in withdrawing the expression which has been taken to be offensive by certain gentlemen.

Mr. Din Muhammad : May I know which of the honourable members take the words to be offensive ?

(Shouts of "All, all" and "Withdraw, withdraw").

Mr. President : Will the honourable member please withdraw and proceed with his speech ?

Mr. Din Muhammad : I am ready to obey any order which emanates from the Chair, though I do not wish to withdraw.

Mr. President : Please withdraw and proceed with your speech.

Mr. Din Muhammad : I withdraw.

I have referred to this incident not to object to the use of the particular term, but to submit before the House the mental attitude which it denotes.

Mr. President : Please do not discuss the mental attitude of any member or party. You may criticise and examine the arguments advanced by members but not their motives.

Mr. Din Muhammad : A member's mental attitude may be altogether out of question, but if when submissions are being made on our behalf in connection with the administrative policy of the head of the Education Department and when our grievances are being put before the House we are treated like this, my contention is that I would be perfectly justified in submitting before the House that such a mental attitude should not be adopted by such a responsible officer as it is most discouraging. It is in a way intended to restrain the liberty of speech that has been granted to us as members of this House.

Mr. President : Will the honourable member discuss his arguments rather than his attitude.

Mr. Din Muhammad : I now refer to the word used in the motion, *i. e.* "unsuitability." Unsuitability may arise on various grounds and may be due to various reasons. A man may not be possessed of requisite qualifications and he would be called unsuitable. A man may be posted in a

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wrong place and he may be called unsuitable. A man may employ methods of administration which are not proper and he would be called unsuitable. Now, it is perfectly right, as was pointed out by the honourable member for Multan that out of seven inspectorates the Mussalmans can claim three and they do occupy three. Our complaint, however, is this, that if you agree to give three inspectorates to us then why not those that we desire?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I just want to put one question to the honourable member without the least desire to interrupt him and that is this, is the honourable member now speaking as a representative of the Muslim party or of the National Unionist party? It is very important for us to know, because he has been using certain pronouns and those pronouns ought to be explained as to what they connote.

Mr. Din Muhammad : The Mussalmans demand that so far as the inspectorates are concerned, if the Government is not pleased to give them more than three posts, surely a readjustment can take place like this, that two of the divisional inspectorates might be given to them and instead of the two Muslim Inspectors who occupy.....

Lala Bodh Raj : On a point of order, Sir. I think the honourable member of this cut confined his argument to the district inspectors of schools.

Mr. Din Muhammad : And that out of the two Muslim Inspectors one occupying the position of an Inspector of Vernacular Education and the other that of Inspector of Central Institutions, one may be replaced by a non-Muslim. The honourable members of the House fully realise what an important role a Divisional Inspector plays in the administration of the education of the division of which he is placed in charge. All the schools that are to be recognised must be recommended by him. All the grants-in-aid that are to be sanctioned must be sanctioned by him. All the maintenance grants that are allowed must be allowed by him. All the teachers that are employed must be employed by him. All the scholarships to be granted must be granted by him. In fact everything that is important in connection with the educational administration of the division must be done by him.

Now, Sir, a Divisional Inspector being an official who has so many responsible and important duties to perform, are we not justified in submitting before the Government that we should not be deprived of our due share in these divisional inspectorates, and that we are not and cannot be satisfied with only one post out of five? Surely it would not be and it is not a demand which can be simply jeered at or ridiculed at.

Sir, referring to the district inspectors, the Honourable Minister for Education was pleased to remark that out of 80 there are 14 Muhammadans and 16 Hindus.....

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : 9 Hindus, 8 Sikhs and 1 Christian.

Mr. Din Muhammad : Sixteen non-Muslims, and out of 52 Assistant District Inspectors of Schools he was pleased to remark that there were 28 Hindus, 28 Sikhs and 3 Christians—the remaining 93 being Muslims. So far as the present number is concerned, I cannot imagine that this is due

to the sympathetic nature of the present heads of the Education Department. The number existed long before.

Mr. President: Is the honourable member not discussing the mentality of the heads of the Education Department?

Mr. Din Muhammad: I am discussing the suitability of the appointments. I was referring to the numbers to submit before the House that more numbers would not satisfy us. The motion was intended to point out the unsuitability of the inspecting staff. It was not intended as a censure on the Honourable Minister for Education. It was not intended as a motion of want of confidence in the Director. It was only intended to bring to the notice of these two authorities that some of the members of the inspecting staff that have been appointed by them are unsuitable for the posts to which they have been appointed.

I will only place one instance before you to illustrate how some appointments are being made. In the Gujranwala district for the last 50 years there have been no Mussalman district inspectors except for a period of 2½ years. We approached the Director. (*A Voice:* Does the honourable member think that this is the fault of the present Minister for Education?). I am coming to that in one minute. We approached the Director of Public Instruction and on the 1st of March a Mussalman District Inspector was actually shown to have been appointed for Gujranwala. The House may see the method in which we are treated. We have waited and waited and waited, but in vain. The old gentleman still continues, no Mussalman District Inspector was sent to that district and we have none even up till now. I naturally enquire from the Director of Public Instruction why though the Gazette shows that a Muslim inspector has been deputed to Gujranwala we find the same Hindu gentleman there. We cannot be satisfied with mere appointments on paper. We want a man in flesh and blood.

Mr. President: I will not allow any conversation which took place outside this House to be brought in, as that might lead to unpleasantness.

Mr. Din Muhammad: I will insist that we cannot be satisfied with mere appointments on paper and

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: I do not follow him. What does he mean by a mere appointment on paper? Does he mean that he does not get the salary?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: I will explain it.

Mr. Din Muhammad: The honourable member from Karnal referred to the unsuitability of some of the district inspectors of schools and he was ridiculed by the honourable member from Hoshiarpur. The point made by him was that it was on account of some of the disqualifications that existed in the present inspecting staff that adult education was suffering. I refer the honourable members of the House to the Education Report issued for the year 1927-28 and the honourable members would see that this very opinion is endorsed by the authorities of the Education Department themselves. On page 1 it is remarked that about 226 schools for adults were closed for want of efficiency and on page 9 they say that this inefficiency was due to the want of enthusiasm displayed by the local inspecting staff, and therefore the department was compelled to close 226 schools.

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for adults. At the same time, the report says that unless the problem of the education of the adult is satisfactorily solved, the measures for stamping out illiteracy from the land will not prove successful. If keeping all these facts and figures before him the honourable member informs the educational authorities that there is some such defect in the present local inspecting staff as actually hampers the growth of education among adults, surely he does not state a thing for which he should be ridiculed.

The Honourable Minister for Education was pleased to refer to the appointment of the Inspector of Schools, Lahore Division, thus claiming for himself the credit for appointing the best man that he possibly could. With the opinion that he holds about him, we have absolutely no quarrel because he alone is the best judge of his subordinates. Our complaint however is that although there were several better qualified Muslims who could fill this post with greater efficiency and who could show even better results, a gentleman with lesser qualifications was posted over their heads. Now whatever good work the present incumbent might have done, the point still remains the same. If a better man had been posted there, surely better results would have followed. It is, therefore, absolutely no justification for all those superessions to plead that the persons appointed have shown better results. There is a general feeling that in the matter of the educational appointments and especially in the inspecting line, proper regard and proper consideration are not paid to the relative claims of the communities which are chiefly concerned, and I would submit most respectfully that if the educational authorities have the good of the whole population at heart, they would not be pleased to ignore the just claims of the Muslim community which claims to comprise 55 per cent. of the total population of the province.

Sardar Buta Singh [Multan Division and Sheikhpura (Sikh) Rural] : Sir, in the college while studying Shakespeare we had to study different commentaries on his works, and every line of the poet was construed differently by different commentators. The commentators have read in his lines meanings that were far from being present to his mind at the time he wrote his dramas. They have put vastly differing constructions on his words. If by a miracle, Sir, Shakespeare comes back to life he would be simply astonished to hear the numerous explanations given for the same lines written by him. Similar is the case with our debate on the motion under consideration. One honourable member gets up and brings in communalism when the mover never intended it and another honourable member supports him still further on the communal lines.

Sir, every statement made to this House is understood and interpreted in the light of communalism and especially the supporters of Chaudhri Duli Chand have always tried to give a communal colouring even to matters which are of general interest. There is not even a single sitting of the present Council in which things have not been said from the point of view of communalism. Compare the present Budget session of the Council with its similar sessions held in the past and you will find that in the past whenever a cut was moved, the House generally supported it and fully acquainted the Government with its feelings. But now in this session there has not been moved even a single such cut which has been supported

by all the three communities of the province. In the newspapers we read about the defeats suffered by the Government in the Assembly and other Provincial Councils. However much some of us may try to present a united front to the Government on the reasonable demands of the people, we are soon disappointed, as the communal question makes its horrid appearance in the House, and we on the scene unconsciously take it up. Therefore in order to do away with the communal questions altogether, the authors of the Nehru Report have done a wise thing in suggesting joint electorates. At this time the idea of the coming election is present to all minds and therefore in order to ensure their return, the members want to win the confidence and appreciation of their respective communities. That is why they are engaged in harping upon the communal question with such assiduity. I am perfectly at one with the honourable member's first statement concerning the increase of the zamindar element in the inspecting staff. Really Sir, at present we want sympathetic and painstaking District and Assistant District Inspectors. The honourable member's second statement in which he charges the urban people of cowardice is quite unfounded. Various communities have got men of different natures; some are brave while others are cowards, some are bold while others are shy. Then, Sir, Pandit Nanak Chand has said that qualities of bravery, boldness and hardihood are found in dacoits and thieves. I may humbly submit, Sir, that we cannot tolerate such statements, and therefore through you I request the honourable member to refrain from using such language in future.

Now I come to the object of the motion under discussion. The honourable mover has remarked that an officer belonging to the rural communities will have real and active sympathy with the rural population and therefore he will try his level best to popularise education among the villagers. He will take great pains to make them appreciate the blessings of education. He will draw their attention to the treatment meted out to illiterate villagers by police constables and patwaris thus making the villagers feel the importance and necessity of getting their children educated. It is quite true that an officer belonging to the urban community is not likely to take such pains for the welfare of the village community and therefore the Education Department should appoint such District Inspectors and Assistant District Inspectors as can be expected to arrange lectures of this kind for popularising education in the rural areas. Therefore, I am in complete agreement with my honourable friend, but, I cannot lend my support to the other remarks made by him.

Then, Sir, every speaker has requested the Education Department to pay special attention to his community while making appointments in the inspection branch. Therefore, I feel it necessary to draw the attention of the department to the rights and claims of the Sikh community. Let me make it clear that I am in no way a supporter of communal representation. On the contrary, I am dead against it. But so long as it is there, we must be given our due share in every department. The Honourable Minister for Education was pleased to remark that there are two Sikh Deputy Inspectors in the province, but I draw his attention to the fact that out of seven Inspectors of schools not a single gentleman belongs to the Sikh community, and therefore we are quite justified in feeling that our interests are being ignored.

[Sardar Buta Singh.]

In the end, I wish to say a few words regarding certain remarks made by another honourable friend who is not present in the Council Chamber at this time. He was pleased to say—although the remarks were withdrawn afterwards—that the Khatries are not real Sikhs.

Mr. President : The honourable member is requested not to allude to such arguments.

Sardar Buta Singh : I want to tell him, Sir, that even our Gurus were Khatries.

Mr. President : Has the honourable member anything else to say?

Sardar Buta Singh : Nothing, Sir.

Chandhri Ram Singh [Kangra (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, a sufficiently long and heated discussion has taken place on this motion and I am free to admit that in the course of this debate quite a number of absolutely new and ingenious things have dawned upon us for the first time in our lives. Yesterday, my honourable friend Pir Akbar Ali was pleased to remark that the officers belonging to the urban community should not be appointed on the inspecting staff because the urban population is addicted to breaking the law and, therefore, if its members are appointed on the inspecting staff, the law-abiding villagers are sure to catch the infection. But then in the same breath he thought it fit to suggest that the urban people might be appointed on the teaching staff. Now, I beg to submit, Sir, that it is not possible to reconcile this latter suggestion with the exquisite argument which my honourable friend was pleased to advance in support of his former suggestion. Even if we accept the statement that the urban population consists of incorrigible law-breakers as absolutely correct, you cannot but admit that as teachers, these people will have much more and far greater chances of polluting and poisoning the minds of the village children than as inspecting officers.

My honourable friend Chaudhri Duli Chand took offence at some remarks made by the Director of Public Instruction yesterday, but to-day the honourable member for Sheikhpura has compensated him by comparing him to Shakespeare who was certainly one of the greatest men and the foremost dramatist of the world. Sardar Buta Singh has remarked that if Shakespeare were to visit this world again, he would be greatly surprised to find what different meanings and interpretations some of his sentences and expressions have acquired through the ingenuity of his admirers. Sir, Shakespeare is dead long ago, and we cannot be certain as to what his feelings would have been, but my honourable friend Chaudhri Duli Chand is, happily, present in this House and I am sure that he must have been surprised to see what treatment his expression "rural community" has received at the hands of various honourable members of this House. It was quite evident from the speeches of the Muslim members that they took the rural community to mean nothing but the Muslim community, but now when my honourable friend Sardar Buta Singh rose to speak, the expression suddenly changed its associations and came to mean the Sikh, and the Sikh community only. Thus it is clear, from all the speeches that have so far been made on the motion under discussion, that the expression rural community may mean the Muslim community, the Sikh community

or in fact, any other community but by no stretch of imagination can it be taken to mean the Hindu community. Is not my honourable friend Chaudhri Duli Chand surprised at it?

In the end, Sir, I request my honourable friends to remember that bravery is not the privilege of the rural population only. In fact, neither all the rural people are brave nor can we say that every single person belonging to the urban population is a coward. Therefore, we should not fetter the discretion of the Education Department with such unnecessary and undesirable suggestions, but leave it free to decide the cases of all candidates according to their various qualifications and the requirements of the post applied for.

Pandit Nanak Chand : I wish to make a personal explanation in view of what has been stated.

Mr. President : I don't think any personal explanation is called for at this stage.

Pandit Nanak Chand : Yes, Sir. It is an important matter and I should seek your indulgence because my remarks have been wholly misunderstood. I never said that zamindars were dacoits or thieves or anything of that kind. What I stated was that according to the honourable member, Chaudhri Duli Chand, one of the main qualifications for an inspector of schools is that he should be able to cross the jungle at night. I was saying that this qualification is to be found in murderers, dacoits and thieves and so on. I never meant that a zamindar was any one of these. That was my point and I am sorry that it has been misunderstood. Being myself a zamindar how could I make such a statement?

Mr. President : Order, order, the honourable member is making a second speech.

Sardar Hira Singh [Lahore (Sikh), Rural] (Ordn) : Sir, there is a saying—

Vinash kale viparit buddhi.

which in my opinion applies with full force to the present mentality of this House. The life of this Council is shortly coming to an end and, to my mind, this appears to be the only reason why all sense of fairness and equity has deserted us. The valuable time which we ought to have utilized for finding out some remedy for the sufferings of the Motherland is being wasted in communal quarrels. May I ask my honourable friends whether this record can in any way support the contention that in seeking election to this Council we were prompted by no other motive than the good of the country and welfare of the nation?

Mr. President : May I ask the honourable member to set an example?

Sardar Hira Singh : Everybody knows that no more than one or hardly two out of a thousand are in Government service at present. But we have spent all the time in discussing the attitude and actions of the Government with regard to them and paid no attention to the remaining 999 or 998.

Mr. President : Will the honourable member speak to the motion regarding the suitability or otherwise of the inspecting staff?

Sardar Hira Singh : Yes, Sir. My contention is that the educational officers have not been slow in following our example. Communal dissensions are by no means less deep-rooted in that quarter. Instead of directing their best efforts towards popularizing education, these officers are making a shameful display of communal prejudice in its ugliest form. For instance, the Headmaster at Kasur prohibited the use of *jhatka* meat in the boarding house. May I ask, Sir, whether such officers can be expected to impart the right sort of education to their pupils?

Now, coming to the representation of different communities in the various departments, the attitude adopted by some of my honourable friends here throughout the life of this Council reminds me of a very interesting story. It is said that two friends, one of whom was blind, were once eating out of the same dish. For some minutes the meal went on without any untoward occurrence, but then all of a sudden, it struck the blind man that perhaps the other party was taking undue advantage of his blindness and eating more than his share of the meal. Thinking thus he increased the size of his mouthfuls. But the other man did not take any notice of it and went on with his meals quietly. This, however, strengthened the suspicion in the mind of the blind man and now he was quite sure that there was really something black in the matter. He, therefore, began to eat with both hands. But when even this unusual practice did not succeed in disturbing the equanimity of his friend, the blind man simply could not control himself and at once raised a hue and cry that his unscrupulous friend was looting him. The same is the case with a certain section of my countrymen. When they find that the other party is not raising a hue and cry like themselves they at once come to the conclusion that their rights and interests are being trampled upon by the other party. But now that Sardar Banta Singh also has thought it fit to voice the feelings of the Sikh community by deploring the paucity of Sikh representation on the inspecting staff, may I ask him whether we have ever complained of it before? He ought to have remembered that while even that party which was eating with no less than eight hands is complaining of its lot, we could not expect the Government to do anything for us by keeping silent.

In short, Sir, it is neither wise nor fair on the part of the different communities to care only for themselves. It is our sacred duty to see that every party receives its due share and no community is allowed to usurp or make encroachments on the rights of another community. In the present state of our mentality the British nation cannot be expected to attach the least importance to our national demands and agitation for *Swaraj*. Therefore, let us get rid of this shameful mentality and work together for the welfare of our countrymen.

Chandhri Duli Chand : May I reply to the debate, Sir?

Mr. President : Yes, but I request the honourable member not to make any personal references or allusions.

Chandhri Duli Chand : All right, Sir.

Chandhri Duli Chand [Karnal (Non-Muhammadian), Ruzal] (Urdu) : Sir, it is really a pity that the discussion on my motion has been made to drift along the lines which were farthest from my mind. Some of my honourable friends have been pleased to remark that questions and motions of this

kind should not be put forward in this Council, because they tend to disturb the quiet atmosphere of the House and soil its fair name. But I submit, Sir, that I am unable to appreciate the soundness and propriety of this sagely advice. When a person is being deprived of his best rights you cannot expect him to keep quiet and say nothing with regard to the matter. He simply must complain of the injustice done to him. Thus it is not fair to say that such questions and complaints are detrimental to the dignity of this honourable House. It cannot be denied that if a certain party is allowed to monopolise all the services under the Government or in a certain department, it can make or mar the other parties at its sweet will. It is our duty to shatter such monopolies. But whenever any effort is made in this direction the monopolists at once raise a hue and cry that the quiet atmosphere of the House is being disturbed by communal questions. I am glad that the Sikh members are as anxious to avoid undesirable communal questions as I am myself.

But my honourable friend Sardar Ujjal Singh has been complaining of the fact that there is no Sikh Judge on the bench of the High Court. May I ask, Sir, how he proposes to reconcile this demand with the contention that the Sikh members never raise any communal questions in this House?

Mr. President : The honourable member is making a personal reference. I would request him to avoid all personal allusions.

Chaudhri Duli Chand : And now I want to put a question to the Director of Public Instruction. I ask, Sir, when he is in favour of a certain principle why does he not put it to practice? I draw the attention of the House to a paragraph in a report entitled "*Rural Education in England and the Punjab*" by Messrs. R. Sanderson, M.A., I.E.S., and J. E. Parkinson, M.A., I.E.S. This is what these two learned gentlemen have said with regard to the matter in paragraph 5 on page 2 :

"From what some of our older Indian colleagues have told us, it would appear that the Indian inspecting staff was almost entirely urban in its outlook, and largely of one religion. This in itself, must have been prejudicial to the progress of rural education in the eyes of the peasantry."

We have been told that many experiments like that of the zamindari school have failed, and now let us see what, in their opinion, were the causes of these failures. In the beginning of the same paragraph, our Director of Public Instruction, who was then an Inspector of Schools, and his colleagues are pleased to observe—

"The collapse of the zamindari school, though a matter of keen disappointment to its supporters, is most instructive to the student of rural education to-day. Perhaps the most potent causes of failure were the qualifications and the inclinations of those in whom rested the teaching and the inspection of these schools."

This is the opinion of the Director of Public Instruction, and the report was written after the learned authors had visited a good many schools in England; it was published in the year 1928. Now, Sir, when this is his conviction why should not he work according to it? Why should he yield to a Minister who has no sympathy with the rural community? The report was prepared at a time when the Minister for Education was a gentleman.

[Chaudhri Duli Chand.]

who had every sympathy with the outlook and aspirations of the rural population.....

Mr. President : Order, order! The honourable member is making personal allusions.

Chaudhri Duli Chand : Then there is another complaint which I have to make with regard to the speech of the Director of Public Instruction. It is true that my motion relates to the inspecting staff, but I had made it quite clear in my speech that my object was to draw the attention of the Government to our complaints and grievances with regard to the district inspecting staff only. The Director of Public Instruction, however, had prepared a speech at home and he hastened to deliver it without paying the least attention to my remarks.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : May I ask, through you, Sir, whether the honourable member, whatever may have been his speech, means to say that the terms of his motion did not include the inspecting staff as a whole?

Mr. President : It is not for me to say. It is for the House to say whether the terms of the motion are sufficiently wide to include inspectors as well.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I ask, Sir, whether this is the time to put such questions?

Mr. President : Will the honourable member quote his authority?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : A member can put a question to another member of the House only under certain circumstances, Sir.

Mr. President : That is true. But the Minister for Education is not asking a question direct of the honourable member, Chaudhri Duli Chand. He has put his question through the Chair, and that is in order.

Chaudhri Duli Chand : Sir, the Honourable Minister for Education has appointed so many Hindus and so many Sikhs in the inspecting branch. Moreover, some of my honourable friends have said that I have not supported my arguments with facts and figures. Therefore, let me relate what facts and figures I have in this connection. There are 29 district inspectors in the province. But how many out of them belong to the agricultural classes? In the Ambala division only two out of the six district inspectors belong to agricultural tribes, and in the Jullundur Division, one out of five. In the other divisions too their percentage is no better. Then, Sir, there is only one Sikh and no Hindu Agriculturist District Inspector in the whole province. This shows that the complaint in this respect is general and not confined to any single community. (A Voice : What do you mean?) I mean that every community is dissatisfied with the existing percentage of agriculturist officers on the district inspecting staff.

Now, as regards the question put by the Director of Public Instruction as to what principle should be followed in making various appointments, I beg to submit, Sir, that it has been clearly defined by the department itself.

Let the department follow it faithfully and every community will be satisfied. In the end, Sir, I want to ask a question. It is admitted by the department, and an honourable member also has remarked, that the experiments of zamindari schools and adult education failed because the inspecting staff was not sympathetic towards the movement. Then why does not the department appoint such officers on the inspecting staff as might be expected to have the fullest sympathy with the rural population? We have repeatedly drawn the attention of the Government to the necessity of spreading primary education in the rural areas and in every instance the suggestions offered by us in that direction have been strongly opposed by the other party. I submit, Sir, that, as my honourable friend Rana Sahib has pointed out, the responsibility for this unfortunate state of affairs rests upon the shoulders of the Government. Is it too much to ask the Government to fix the percentage of representation that is to be given to each one of the various interests, and thus put an end to all communal quarrels?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I wish only to say a few words, firstly with reference to certain arrangements to which the honourable member from Gujranwala referred. He referred to certain Gazette notifications regarding the postings of district inspectors. If the honourable member had read carefully the notification he would have discovered that the object of the notification was to define exactly where the officers held permanent liens. For instance, a particular district inspector was in Multan, but his position had been shown somewhere else. Another gentleman was at Delhi, but his name was shown as being in Multan. In order to regularise these things and for the sake of departmental convenience, these notifications were issued.

I may refer to one matter with reference to adult education. I wish to draw the attention of honourable members to the Report on the Progress of Education in the Punjab where it is stated that while the total number of adult schools has gone down, there is a greater amount of literacy being actually achieved. I wish to remind honourable members that they cannot be oblivious of this fact, that time and again they have remarked that these adult schools merely exist on paper, and that they are not actually there and they are not doing real work. During the last twelve months certain senior members at the headquarters office of the Director of Public Instruction, including two of the most senior officers, Khan Bahadur Syad Magbool Shah and Khan Bahadur Shaikh Nur Elahi were placed on special duty to see how far these schools were doing their work properly. They went all over the province assisted by two other gentlemen and studied the question. The Director of Public Instruction has made real efforts to bring those adult schools into line with just those ideas on which this Council has time and again laid a great deal of stress. We have also found that during the period of financial stringency, we have a most admirable opportunity to consolidate the work rather than merely imagine that things are as they exist on paper. We were trying to give reality to the situation and therefore it is that certain institutions which were not properly functioning are no longer returned as actual schools in operation. But the total work done is more effective and there is a greater amount of literacy actually achieved.

Mr. President : The object of the honourable mover having been achieved, I hope he does not wish to press the motion to a vote of the House. His object was to criticise, not to condemn or censure. Is it the pleasure of the House that the motion be withdrawn? (*Voices : No, no.*)

I ruled from this chair two years ago that if the object of the honourable mover of a nominal reduction was not to censure the department or any officer of the department concerned, but only to discuss certain matters relating to the department, and his motion was worded accordingly, the motion need not be put to the vote of the House. I think this practice has been in force for some time. It is not fair, therefore, that if the honourable mover wishes to withdraw his motion, the House should object to its withdrawal. I have no objection to put the motion to vote if the House wishes; but it does not appear to be desirable to do so.

Is it the pleasure of the House that the motion be withdrawn?

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : Sir, the other day, discussion was raised on another item and the honourable mover did not wish to press his motion to vote. But all the same objection was raised and you allowed it.

Mr. President : Had the honourable member raised the point then, I would have reminded the House of the practice and the motion might probably have shared the same fate.

There are only five minutes more for the grant to be put to vote. Does any honourable member wish to move any motion standing in his name?

Chaudhri Duli Chand : Sir, I beg to move that the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 3,55,700 the total amount for University Education. I want to raise discussion regarding the constitution of the University.

Lala Boda Raj : On a point of order, Sir, the honourable member refers to an item on page 277. Now that the items on page 297 have been disposed of, according to the practice of this House, the honourable member is not in order in going back to a previous item.

Mr. President : I am afraid this motion cannot be discussed now. It is a pity that it was entered in a wrong place in the agenda.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : On a point of order, it being five o'clock now, may I know if the Chair is going to put all the demands to the House in accordance with Rule 29? If so, I wish to bring to the notice of the Chair the wording of sub-section (3) of Rule 29. It says that on the last day of the allotted days at 5 o'clock the President shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with the demands for grants. I wish to bring to your notice the words "all outstanding matters in connection with the demands for grants." I know that the practice in this House has been in the past to put only the demands for grants. I submit, Sir, that the practice is not in accordance with the spirit or the letter of this sub-clause, and that all the motions for reduction of demands for grants entered in the agenda should be put to the House as they also form part of the "outstanding matters in connection with the demands for grants."

Mr. President : I have no hesitation in saying that clause 3 of Rule 29, as worded, is not very clear; in fact it is not very happily worded. It has been the practice of this House as well as of the Legislative Assembly and the House of Commons that demands for grants only are put from the Chair and not any amendments. I do not wish to abrogate a practice which has been followed by this House for the last eight years by placing upon the clause referred to an interpretation different from the interpretation it has received in the past from my honorable predecessors and myself.

The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,03,00,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1930 in respect of Education (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

EDUCATION (RESERVED) GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,30,000 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 Education (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

POLICE GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,11,24,000 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 Police."

The motion was carried.

JAILE AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 51,03,000 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 Jails and Convict Settlements."

The motion was carried.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 44,78,100 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 Administration of Justice."

The motion was carried.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,10,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Education and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1930 in respect of General Administration (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (RESERVED) GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 82,28,000 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 General Administration (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

DEBT SERVICES GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,800 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 Debt Services."

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE) GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 71,46,000 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 Irrigation (Capital Expenditure)."

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,04,36,000 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 Irrigation."

The motion was carried.

REGISTRATION GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,08,200 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 Registration."

The motion was carried.

FOREST CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,03,000 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 Forest Capital Expenditure."

The motion was carried.

FORESTS GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,73,700 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 Forests."

The motion was carried.

STAMPS GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,37,400 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 Stamps."

The motion was carried.

EXCISE GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,42,000 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 Excise."

The motion was carried.

LAND REVENUE GRANT.

Mr. President : The question is :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 40,44,200 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 Land Revenue."

The motion was carried.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

RE PUNJAB TEXT BOOK COMMITTEE.

Mr. President : I may point out to the honourable members that no speech during the debate of the adjournment motion shall exceed fifteen minutes.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadian), Rural] : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing the following definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the recommendation of the Punjab Text Book Committee regarding the contract for the printing and publishing of text-books for schools in the Province during the next five years, whereby a loss of nearly Rs. 11,000 per annum during the next five years is likely to be occasioned to the public and the action taken thereon by Government (Ministry of Education)."

Sir, as has been pointed out by the Minister for Education the question stands thus. No recommendation is made by the Punjab Text Book Committee with regard to this contract. As a matter of fact, as it has been explained to the House the offer of one of the firms who put in their tenders in respect of this contract has been accepted, and either the contract has been given for the next five years or it is proposed that it shall be given to that firm, whatever the legal position may be.

This matter touches a question which is purely of general public interest. There is no question either of community or of caste about it; there is no question even of party about this question. The very brief facts as I have been able to ascertain them are as follows.

The Punjab Text Book Committee which, as has been described earlier in the afternoon to the House, is a registered body which gives a contract for the printing and publishing of text-books for schools in the province during a period of five years to a selected and approved firm of printers and publishers. The last contract, as I understand it, is about to expire on the

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.]

31st of this month. It therefore became necessary to ask for fresh tenders for the period of the next five years to commence from the 1st April next. Tenders were invited and I understand that three firms of printers and publishers in Lahore sent up their tenders in respect of this contract, specifying the amount of royalty which they were prepared to pay every year for the period of five years commencing from the 1st of April next to the Text-Book Committee for the privilege of printing and publishing these books. These tenders were opened and it was found that the firm which already held this contract had offered a sum which was less by about Rs. 11,000 than the sum offered by another firm as royalty to the Punjab Text Book Committee. But the old firm which holds the contract also intimated that although their tender stood at a certain definite figure, they were prepared to pay any royalty equal to the highest amount which any other firm had tendered. It amounted to this that our tender is for Rs. 54,000, but if anybody else has offered more than this, we are prepared to pay that much. In fact, it amounted to this, that though our tender is for Rs. 54,000, inasmuch as there is another firm which has offered Rs. 65,000, we are prepared to pay you Rs. 65,000. I do not want to raise any question with regard to firm A, B or C as to which of them was suitable. As a matter of fact, I understand that expert opinion was called for and obtained with regard to the suitability of these firms and their capacity as to the carrying out of this contract, and it was to the effect that every one of these firms would be able to carry out the contract suitably and properly. The point is not whether this firm should have been given the contract or whether that firm should have been given it. My specific objection is that there being from a certain firm an offer of Rs. 65,000 the contract should have been given to that firm for that sum and not for a less sum. But what is the position? Here are two firms. One has offered a royalty of Rs. 65,000. The second one says: in case you give the contract to us, our offer should be taken to be Rs. 65,000. So both the firms are willing to pay Rs. 65,000 in royalties for this contract. It was for the Text-Book Committee who selected the firm which held the contract and for reasons which if disclosed to us may be regarded as good, bad or indifferent, but which appealed to the Text Book Committee.....

Sardar Ujjal Singh : What was the offer made by the third firm?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I believe it was less than Rs. 54,000, between Rs. 53,000 and Rs. 54,000. The third firm is not concerned at all. The position is this, that when this particular firm which held the contract says, they are willing to pay Rs. 65,000 the Committee comes to the conclusion by a very curious process of reasoning, that they would give the contract to the firm but would accept only Rs. 54,000 as royalty. They say they are not willing to accept Rs. 65,000. One honourable member has raised a question that one firm may be more suitable and the other less suitable and how are the members going to judge which is more suitable. I admit that members are not in a position to judge the suitability of the firms. Upon that point honourable members would be willing to accept the decision of the Committee itself. Taking for granted that the firm that has been selected is suitable, the point on which I hope an explanation would be forthcoming is that the Text Book Committee have caused a loss of Rs. 11,000 per annum

to the public inasmuch as the revenues of the Punjab Text Book Committee are devoted to the service of the public in the promotion of education in this province. They have accepted a tender which stood at Rs. 54,000, a figure much lower than that which this very firm had itself subsequently offered. If, therefore, the facts are as I have stated, there are the gravest objections both to the procedure and to the result. When one cannot find the reasons on the surface of what has happened justifying the action, then one is left to the realm of conjecture. All that I suggest is that something has happened in the course of the giving of this contract with regard to which so far, at any rate, neither the House nor anybody else has been taken into confidence. If this thing is not satisfactorily explained, it means that the procedure adopted and the conclusion arrived at by the Punjab Text Book Committee are open to the gravest censure. So far as the personnel of the Committee is concerned, 16 out of 25 members are officials of the Education Department. The responsibility rests with the Honourable Minister of explaining as to how it was possible that with a Committee the personnel of which contains 16 members of this Department out of 25, such a very curious result was possible, that a person offers to pay you Rs. 65,000 but you are so very gracious that you say: we accept you as a contractor but we will not take Rs. 65,000 from you. If any satisfactory explanation is forthcoming, I have no doubt that myself and other honourable members also who hold the same opinion as I do with regard to this curious procedure will accept that explanation, but in the absence of that we must record our protest that the Punjab Text Book Committee has behaved in a most inexplicable manner and its conduct calls for the interference of the Honourable Minister at least in one of two ways, either that the Punjab Text Book Committee having forfeited the confidence which had been placed in it should be dissolved altogether and some other arrangements made in regard to the printing of school text-books or that the matter may be left free for any one who wants to take it up or that its constitution and composition should be so radically changed that the Government or this House should have enough power to intervene in future in case anything similar is contemplated before the mischief is done. With these remarks I move the adjournment of the business of the House.

Mr. R. Sanderson (Director of Public Instruction): Sir, I am in a somewhat difficult position in this matter. I am the chairman of the Text Book Committee and I was also the chairman of the sub-committee which advised the committee in this matter of the contract. In a sense I am the accused in this case. I cannot reveal the proceedings of the sub-committee and I cannot reveal the arguments in the main Committee since I myself asked the members of the Committee to observe secrecy about the discussion. I cannot, therefore, understand how the honourable mover of this motion has managed to tap the source of information. In the sub-committee there was absolute unanimity until the letter which the honourable member has mentioned came in. I presume the personnel of the sub-committee is fairly well known. When the previous recommendations of the sub-committee had been announced to the main committee, there was not a dissentient voice and every point that we discussed was accepted unanimously by that committee until the unfortunate letter was laid before it. Then we were not unanimous on the treatment of the situation that was

[Mr. Sanderson.]

created by this fresh offer; but I wished to achieve unanimity since it was a matter of great importance and I knew that, whatever the decision one way or the other might be, there would be much argument and discussion on our motives. With the consent of my fellow members of the sub-committee I took that letter before the main committee and asked them to give us their instructions as to whether it should be considered or not. I can say this much that though it was considered legally possible to consider such letter, it was considered unwise (A voice: What letter is being referred to?) I understand the honourable mover referred to a letter from the firm offering a further advance of royalty.

Mr. President: That is what the mover said.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: I did not use the expression letter. What I said was that an offer was made.

Mr. Sanderson: It was considered that though it might be possible to argue the legality of our considering this letter, it was considered neither wise nor fair to the other publishers to take up this letter. There were two alternatives for us. One was the washing out of the whole of the existing tenders and calling for new ones, the other was the consideration of the new offer contained in that letter. Both alternatives were rejected, and the sub-committee withdrew to consider the acceptance of the tender. With very little argument we came before the main committee and laid our recommendation before it. There was little discussion on the subject. The committee accepted the sub-committee's recommendation with 3 dissentient voices. That is all that I can tell this House of the proceedings of that committee. It was a very difficult question indeed.....

(An honourable member: May I ask one question from the Director of Public Instruction? He stated that the letter was not considered because it was not thought fair to the other publishers. May I ask whether the sub-committee has already decided in favour of one or the other of the tenderers before they considered that letter?) We decided to lay this letter before the committee before we came to any final decision between the various publishers, because we thought if we considered that letter and acted upon it, that would be a gross injustice. I think, Sir, the honourable members are aware of the great expansion there has been in the enrolment of children in schools in the last ten years. If you examine the Text Book Committee figures you will find that we have been almost unfair to ourselves in encouraging other publishers. We have constantly placed on the list of recognized books text-books produced by the various firms who compete for this contract. I, therefore hope that it will be conceded that we are doing our best to help other firms and their prosperity. I think it is an indication of our will to be just and possibly generous to others.

Dr. Gukul Chand, Narang [North-West Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban]: Sir, it is not really a pleasant duty for me to speak on this motion, because one is liable to give offence either to one party or the other. I do not mean parties in the Council here but I mean parties concerned in this transaction which forms the subject matter of this motion before the House. The facts so far as I have been able to gather from the speeches already made

seem to be these. That a contract for the printing of text-books had to be given to some printers' firm in this province, and I understand that some 3 firms, as was pointed out by the honourable mover of this motion, tendered for this business and the firm that has got the contract was not the firm that had tendered to pay the highest amount to the Text Book Committee by way of royalty, and when this fact came to be known that some other firm had offered to pay a higher amount, I understand, that the firm that has now got the contract made an offer to pay something more, so as to make the sum already offered equal to the amount offered by another firm, and notwithstanding this it was the tender of this firm that was accepted and not only was that tender accepted but it was accepted at the original terms. This I take is the gravamen of the charge that has now been brought against the Text Book Committee and through the Text Book Committee or on account of the Text Book Committee against the Minister and the Head of the Education Department. Now, Sir, I am not here to question the right of such a motion being made. You have done that and the motion is before the House and I have to bow to your ruling. This is a constitutional matter which is no longer open to debate, but admitting that this is a motion which is properly before the House, I would still beg permission to submit that it had much better been eschewed because it opens up the way to greater mischief in future.

Hundreds of contracts are given by various departments of Government and acting upon this precedent it would be open to twenty honourable members of this House to get up and ask for a motion for adjournment to be moved to censure the conduct of any particular department in giving any particular contract to one of the contending contractors. That would not be a very desirable state of affairs because the Government would then be placed in a most difficult position. I may have absolutely no mercy or pity for the Government, but I cannot help having some sort of feeling for those people who may be concerned in the contracts. So far as this particular matter is concerned, I would make two or three points. Again, I would preface my remarks by saying that I have absolutely no grudge against any of the competing firms nor any interest in the firm that has been successful in getting this contract. Nor would it be proper to institute any comparison between the merits of the contending firms because I may be unconsciously and unintentionally doing some harm to any one of the firms or any two of the firms by making any comparison. Therefore, I will not try to compare the merits of the various firms and will confine myself to the general arguments which suggest themselves to me against the propriety of the motion before the House now.

The first thing to which I wish to draw the attention of the House is this, that this was a matter which came before the Text Book Committee and it was decided there by a majority of 21 votes against 3 which means a sevenfold majority. If it were anybody like say, a district board, in which I might say uneducated, and sometimes illiterate persons are members—I do not mean any disrespect—one might say that these people were not competent enough to exercise their judgment properly. But this is a body which is composed of, if I may so put it, the cream of the educated society in this province. I would beg permission to draw the attention of the House to the names of the members who constitute this Committee so that

[Dr. Narang.]

honourable members may be in a position to judge whether the members of the Committee that decided this question were competent or not to decide it on its merits and whether they were carried away by any partiality or by any jobbery. There are 25 members on this Committee. One probably, so far as I am aware, was absent at the time this question came up before it and with regard to the others, I do not know who voted for and who against, but I know only the proportion of votes when the question was decided. So, Sir, one was absent and 24 were present, out of this number 21 voted in favour of this firm and 3 against it. I again speak subject to correction even on this point. The members who compose the Committee are:—

1. R. SANDERSON, Esq., M.A., M.L.C., Off. Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, *Ex-Officio, President*
2. D. KENNEL, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.
3. Miss L. M. STRATTON, B.A., Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, Punjab.
4. J. E. PARKINSON, Esq., M.A., Principal, Central Training College, Lahore.
5. H. V. LANGRISH, Esq., M.A., Professor, Government College, Lahore.
6. W. H. F. ARMSTRONG, Esq., M.A., Vice-Principal, Central Training College, Lahore.
7. J. G. COWIE, Esq., Inspector of Industrial Schools, Punjab, Lahore.
8. The Revd. Dr. E. D. LUDG, M.A., D.D., Principal, Forman Christian College, Lahore.
9. E. SMITH, Esq., Head Master, Central Model School, Lahore, *Secretary*.
10. G. C. CHATURVEDI, Esq., M.A., Professor, Government College, Lahore.
11. P. D. BHANOT, Esq., B.A., B.T., Head Master, Government High School, Amritsar.
12. Khan Bahadur Sir ABUL QADIR, B.A., Kt., M.L.C., Bar-at-Law, Lahore.
13. The Honourable Mr. Justice AGHA HAIDER, Judge High Court, Punjab.
14. Khan Bahadur Nawab MUZAFFAR KHAN, M.L.C., Director of Information Bureau, Punjab, Lahore.
15. Khan Bahadur Shaikh AMIR ALI, B.A., Retired District and Sessions Judge, Changer Mohalla, Lahore.
16. Shaikh SIYAS-UD-DIN, AZHAR, M.A., M.O.L., Lecturer, Government Intermediate College, Faisalpur.
17. M. MUHAMMAD MUNIR, M.A., B.T., Lecturer, Central Training College, Lahore.
18. Dr. MUHAMMAD SADE-UD-DIN, M.A., D.Litt., Lecturer, Government College, Lahore.
19. The Honourable Mr. Justice BAKHSI TEK CHAND, M.A., LL.B., Judge, High Court Punjab.
20. MAJ. MOHAN, Esq., M.A., Inspector of Schools, Jullundur Division, Jullundur.
21. Lala BAGHUBAR DAYAL, Shastri, M.A., M.O.L., Principal, Sanatana Dharma College, Lahore.
22. Lala BHAKI LAL, Bhatia, M.Sc., Principal, Government Intermediate College, Hoshiarpur.
23. Lala RANG BHAKI LAL, B.A., B.T., Reporter on Books, Education Department, Punjab, Lahore.
24. Sardar JODH SINGH, M.A., Professor, Khalsa College, Amritsar.
25. Bawa UDHAN SINGH, B.Sc., B.T., Head Master, Khalsa High School, Lahore.

This list would show you that the Committee consists of representatives of various communities, representatives of various educational institutions, and includes on its list two honourable Judges of the High Court, namely Mr. Justice Agha Haider and Mr. Justice Tek Chand. This Committee

I submit is one of the best that could be constituted, I do not say that that is the very best, but certainly with the heads of various colleges, with the representatives of various communities, with the bench and the bar combined as it were in its ranks and with the talent of every description concentrated there, one cannot say that there has been a lack of competence or a very serious error of judgment in this affair.

Then the question will be whether these gentlemen have not acted honestly. I do not suppose that the honourable the mover in any way wants to insinuate against the honesty of these gentlemen. If their honesty is to be impeached then it would be impossible for us to select a number of men from this province who could be entrusted with any important duty, and all talk of Swaraj, self-determination, autonomy and the like would be nothing but tall talk without any meaning behind it. When we have got these men possessed of more than ordinary talent and of unimpeachable honesty I would submit that it would really require very great courage to question the *bona fides* or competency of the Committee. I do not maintain for a moment that Committees just as individuals are above error and that they can never make a mistake. But the question is whether it is possible to have any other means when you have some of the best men in the Province sitting on this Committee. One of the points raised was that some 16, I do not know how many, members of this Committee were officials of the Education Department. I do not know whether my honourable friend means to say that the members of the Education Department are either lacking in judgment or in intelligence or that they are, more than members of any other department, devoid of honesty. There can be only two views, either they were fools or they were knaves. I am not prepared to accept either and there is no other alternative which, if the arguments of my learned friend are to be accepted, is left for our consideration. I am not prepared to accept either that the members of the Education Department are lacking in sense or that they are lacking in honesty. The insinuation perhaps was that some one in the Education Department, high in the rank, either the departmental head or the Minister perhaps,—I was going to use some other expression, but I must be careful—put an undue influence upon the members and made them vote the way he liked. If that is so it would mean casting a reflection upon the intelligence and also upon the honesty of the members. Only one of two things can be assumed, either that they were lacking in judgment and therefore they were guided by the persuasive eloquence of the Director or of the Minister and voted the way they did....

Mr. President : The honourable member's time is up.

Mr. R. Sanderson : I may be permitted to make a personal explanation. I have never exercised any influence or used any persuasive eloquence in any way in my capacity as the Chairman of the Committee except to control the procedure at its meetings.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam [West Punjab Towns (Muhammadan), Urban], (Urdu) : Sir, in my opinion a spade must be called a spade. It is neither fair nor desirable to express oneself in ambiguous and uncertain terms and leave things half said. The Director of Public Instruction has been pleased to remark that he stands accused before this House and the judgment is to be delivered to-day. But I want to let him know that he is

[Dr. Muhammad Alam.]

not the only accused in this case, but the Honourable Minister and the members of the Punjab Text Book Committee are equal sharers in his lot. Let the House make it absolutely clear that all these gentlemen stand accused in our eyes and also that their guilt is all but proved. The honourable mover has stated the case very clearly. He has told us how tenders for the contract in question were submitted by three firms of publishers and printers and how the contract was awarded not to the highest bidder, but to a firm which is fortunate in the enjoyment of the favour and goodwill of the higher authorities. It has also been made clear that in the opinion of the experts all the three firms were fully capable of doing the work to the entire satisfaction of all concerned and, therefore, the question of the suitability or otherwise of any particular tenderer did not arise at all. But let me tell you Sir, that so far we have no quarrel with those responsible for this extraordinary transaction. Had this been all we would not have questioned the advisability of not awarding the contract to the highest bidder. But there is another aspect of the matter which, it must be admitted, is beyond the comprehension of any human being excepting these 20 or 25 gentlemen, and that is the reason why we take objection to the action of these worthy people. Now let me tell the House what that strange aspect of the matter is. It is this, that when the tenders had been opened and the matter all but decided the firm that has been awarded the contract, somehow or other, got the information that another firm had offered a greater sum as royalty than that offered by itself. Thereupon it wrote to the Text Book Committee that it was prepared to offer the highest sum that any rival firm might offer. But do you know what was the reply given to it by the presiding angels? Those worthies were greatly upset at the trouble that their beloved firm had taken in writing that letter, and at once began to soothe its disturbed feelings with such words as, "O dear! you need not bother your little head about these petty considerations. You have been doing the work for so many years and now, so long as we are presiding over the affairs of the Text Book Committee we cannot bear to see you bother about such a foolish thing as royalty. After all money is not everything in the world. Now, damn it, you will not be allowed to pay a single pice more than what you have offered in your original tender." Thus under the influence of a strange freak of mind, these gentlemen have deprived the public of no less than thirteen thousand rupees. This Sir, is the accusation brought against them, and you will admit that such revelations are not made every day. Therefore, if those responsible for this strange transaction do not come forward with a satisfactory explanation we can come to no other conclusion than that they have nothing to support their conduct.

Now let us direct our attention to another view of the situation. Every honourable member is aware of the attitude taken up by the Honourable Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction when leave to move for adjournment of the Council was asked. They raised thousands of objections against it and tried every method at their command to avoid this awkward situation. Now I submit, Sir, that had they been in the right they would not have cared even to think of adopting such undignified methods. On the contrary they would have manfully accepted the challenge and asked the honourable mover to come forward with his allegations and

get them explained away. This cowardice on the part of these worthy gentlemen was sufficient to show that there was really something black in the matter. And now that that something has been pointed out by the honourable member and the Opposition benches, the other party instead of giving any direct explanation has tried to put us off with some evasive and irrelevant answers. They have told us that the matter is not primarily the concern of the Government because the Text Book Committee is left free to act according to its own will with regard to such matters. They have very kindly informed the House that it was on the recommendation of the Sub-committee that the contract was awarded to this particular firm, and further, that the sub-committee had based its recommendations on this consideration and that. But when after wandering hither and thither they were expected to come to the point, they at once got rid of us by remarking that the further proceedings were to be considered official secrets and, therefore, they could not divulge them. The conduct of these gentlemen reminds me of the following couplet--:

داستان میں تو الہین یاد رہی حرف بحرف
صرف مطلب یہ جو آئے تو کہا بھول گئے

Now, I come to what my honourable friend Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang had to say with regard to the matter. I must admit at the very outset Sir, that it is very seldom that I am able to make out anything from his speech. Although he is a human being still whenever he wants an analogy to offer in support of the Government his imagination at once directs its steps towards the animal kingdom. He always falls a prey to the fallacy of *ignotum per ignotia* and instead of expressing himself in clear and unambiguous terms begins to count the hoofs or the hair on the tail of a pony. Then, Sir, he wants us to believe that he is neither the friend nor the enemy of any one of the transacting parties. But in spite of that he is only too anxious to lend his support to the Government. He has made us swallow a lecture on Swaraj, and then appealed to the House in many other ways. But when all those devices failed to convince the House he suddenly jumped upon our head with the names of twenty-five great men who happen to be the members of the Text Book Committee. Sir, some of these gentlemen are very good friends of many members of this House and it is not fair on the part of my honourable friend to take advantage of our personal relations with them. Let him remember that to mention the names of some great men like Mr. Justice Agha Haider, Nawab Muzaffar Khan and Mr. Justice Tek Chand and then ask the House to shut its eyes to the conduct of the Text Book Committee because it consists of such big personalities is anything but fair play. I want to make it clear to the honourable member that although we have a great personal regard for these gentlemen still we must condemn this decision of theirs. We cannot afford to soil the fair name of this honourable House by being carried away by personal considerations.

Then Sir, let us look at the constitution of the Text Book Committee and see how this remarkable decision was arrived at. There are 25 members of the Text Book Committee out of whom 19 are Government servants. Then one of the non-official members was absent. This leaves us with 5 non-official members out of whom only 3 voted against this decision (*Laughter*). Let it be remembered Sir, that in spite of the evasive answers vouchsafed

[Dr. Muhammad Alam.]

by the Government to the various questions put by the Opposition and notwithstanding that my honourable friend Dr. Gokul Chand Narang is always there to support the Government through thick and thin, there are certain persons here who are endowed with an eye-sight sufficiently keen to see what is going on behind the scenes. I put a question to the Honourable Minister for Education through the Chair whether any such transaction was ever concluded under his instructions, and he replied in the negative. But here we have a committee presided over by his right-hand man, the Director of Public Instruction, which has been indulging in bad bargains of this kind for a considerably long time. I beg to submit, Sir, that it has never been possible to conceal the true state of affairs by any number of metaphors and evasive answers. Even the Government members are feeling that a blunder has been committed and they have nothing to say by way of justification. They know that it is absolutely impossible to justify their conduct. But it is a pity that they have not got the courage to admit it. Even my honourable friend Dr. Gokul Chand has not been able to find out a single argument to support this action of his beloved clients. I have already pointed out that his arguments and analogies are always far from convincing. While speaking on a previous motion he treated us with the exquisite analogy of the hoofs and tail of a pony. Then he began to say that it did not matter whether or not a certain candidate seeking appointment on the inspecting staff was an M.A. or a B.T. and, similarly, that this or that qualification was of no consequence. Thus he went on eliminating one qualification after another until I began to feel that even if a candidate had no qualification at all my honourable friend would not mind it. The same was the case with his speech on the present motion. But in spite of all the metaphors and other devices which my learned friend was pleased to employ, no person to whatever party or community he may belong, will be prepared to concede that the Doctor Sahib has succeeded in justifying the conduct of the Government.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Sir, has the honourable member said at least one word on the merits of the motion up to this time?

Mr. President : Yes, he has said as many words on the merits of the motion as the honourable member himself has. (Laughter).

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Sir, I have said much more to the motion than my honourable friend can boast of. You have heard and understood what I have said. But my learned friend will never understand me because he does not want to. Now, Sir, the time at my disposal is, unfortunately about to come to an end. Fifteen minutes is too short a time for discussing official secrets. The situation which I have to face now is very well described by a poet in the following couplet :—

خاک تسکین حال زار کر دن ؟
اب وصیت کر دن کہ پیار کر دن ؟

Under these circumstances I will finish my speech with the remarks that now that we have caught the official members red-handed it is the moral duty of every honourable member of this House to condemn their action in the most unambiguous terms.

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh, Urban): Sir, it is a pity that the House should take up the discussion of individual contracts. The Honourable Minister for Education is being censured for the disposal of a contract by the Text Book Committee. Every day municipalities and local bodies are giving contracts of one kind or another. They are not always given to the lowest tenderer. In this case royalty is given to the Text Book Committee. Supposing motions of this kind are brought forward regarding contracts in the local bodies how will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be able to save his skin?

Mr. President: The honourable member should speak only on the merits of the motion and not on the desirability or admissibility of the motion after its admission.

Sardar Ujjal Singh: I was just pointing out that this motion which has just been brought forward to censure the Honourable Minister for Education has no merit in it. The disposal of contract always depends on the quality of the work expected, not merely on the lowest tender. The honourable mover of the motion said that he was not personally interested in this particular contract and that he brought forward this motion only in the public interests. He said that so much money, say, Rs. 11,000 per annum was lost to the Government by this contract and he brought forward this motion to draw the attention of the House to this matter. May I know whether the honourable member has brought forward any motion of this type any time before if he was interested in saving public money? We know that many contracts are being disposed of every day in the Public Works Department by one Executive Engineer or another and by Superintending Engineers, but still the honourable member has not even once brought forward a motion of a similar type in this House.

Mr. Din Muhammad: The honourable member is repeating the arguments of Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang. (*A voice:* Order, order). Who are you to call me to order? (*Another voice:* shut up) You shut up.

Mr. President: Will the honourable members behave like gentlemen?

Sardar Ujjal Singh: My honourable friend Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang never touched this point. The honourable mover's point of view was that he had moved this motion only in public interest, but everybody knows and I think many of the members in this House know that this motion had been moved:.....

Mr. President: I have requested the honourable gentlemen not to attribute motives to one another. The honourable gentleman is now attributing a motive to the mover of the resolution which he should not do. He may discuss his arguments and meet them if he can; but he has not touched them up till now.

Sardar Ujjal Singh: Sir, I was just referring to it because the honourable mover said that he was only interested in this motion because....

Mr. President: If he said so, the honourable member should accept his statement.

Sardar Ujjal Singh: I take it at that, but no sooner a motion of that kind is made:.....

Mr. President : The honourable member is now repeating his own argument.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Sir, the second point that the honourable member put forward was this, that the offer accepted by the Text Book Committee from the firm was Rs. 54,000 whereas the tenderer himself in a letter said that he was prepared to pay Rs. 65,000. Sir, I do not know and I am not in possession of the information which the honourable mover has, no have I any means of finding out the secrets of the working of the Text Book Committee, but it is rather doubtful how a tenderer when he offers a tender for Rs. 54,000, is in possession of the fact that the other tenderer is going to offer Rs. 65,000.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : He said, whatever the highest tender may be, I am prepared to go up to that. (*A voice : Where was the bidding to stop?*)

Sardar Ujjal Singh : The question is this that even if I take it that the tenderer said that he was prepared to accept the highest offer, some times we know in contracts, the contractors who are not in the line and who want to oust another contractor, tender a figure on which it does not pay any contractor to work. It was possible that the unsuccessful tenderer might have offered an amount which would not have paid the contractor who was already working for the Text Book Committee and the Text Book Committee was within its rights to accept the tender which the successful firm had offered. As I have already stated it depends on the quality of the work, and if the honourable members are not satisfied with the decision, they are certainly casting a reflection on the members of the Text Book Committee, and it should be beneath the dignity of the House to cast a reflection upon a committee composed of such honourable members.

Pir Akbar Ali : Sir, I want to ask some questions. My first question is whether any honourable member has ever accepted Rs. 54, as the price of any article belonging to himself for which he was offered Rs. 65. Next, Sir,.....

Mr. President : Order, order. The honourable member is making a speech which he is not allowed to do.

Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir (Non-official, nominated) : Sir, it is not without some reluctance that I rise to speak in connection with this motion, because I happen to be one of the twenty five men whose names were given to the House by my honourable friend Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang. (*A voice : Can you let out secrets of the Committee?*) There is no bar to my speaking on this subject in the present circumstances. I say I am reluctant to intervene but I have felt the necessity of intervening by the speech made by the honourable member, Dr. Narang. He tried to advocate the case as an experienced counsel would do, if he is entrusted with a weak case. He has to make the best of it and my honourable friend has tried to do so, but in that connection he has thrown out certain challenges and very undesirable challenges. He wanted members of this House to characterise the members of the Text Book Committee or some of them, for whom I have the greatest respect, as fools or knaves.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : No, Sir.

Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir : When a challenge is thrown to the House like the one thrown by Dr. Narang, the natural inference is that he wants some members to be provoked to adopt either one or the other course and to get into difficulties. He forgets that there can be people who are neither fools nor knaves. The whole world is not populated by fools and knaves alone. There is a class which belongs to neither category and who can commit a mistake of the kind which has been, I think, committed by the majority of the Text Book Committee. I want, first of all, to draw the attention of the House to the composition of the Committee, on which my learned friend representing the Rawalpindi non-Muhammadan constituency laid stress. In my opinion it is that composition which is the cause of the present distress. (*Hear, hear*). It has been brought out now before this House that out of 25 members as many as 16 are in the service of the Education Department. My honourable friend in referring to this fact and to the criticism of it on the part of the public said that it does not mean that the Education Department officials are not honest. Nobody says that. The only thing that is said, with a good deal of justice, is that they cannot be expected to be independent, especially if they know which way the wind is blowing in higher circles in the department. If the Text Book Committee is to be what my honourable friend the Minister for Education characterised it in the beginning of the preliminary arguments that preceded this motion this morning, that is, a private body to which Government has entrusted its powers as to publication of text-books, and a body which is now practically autonomous, it can only be by the introduction of members independent of the Education Department. That would help us very much and the whole problem would be solved. Make it such a private body, in reality and not in name, make it an autonomous body, make it a body of people who feel at liberty to exercise their independent vote, and who can, in the nature of things, be expected to exercise their independent vote, and then we shall have no complaints and we shall have no trouble. We are discussing the question of principle here; we are not discussing the question of the particular contract. The particular contract has now been conferred on a firm, a firm which has otherwise the sympathy and admiration in many respects of many of us for the work that it has done in the past. All the same, as a matter of principle we should see that things should not be allowed to go on in the way they have been going on. The contract has for one reason or other been given by the Text Book Committee to this particular firm, repeatedly for nine terms successively in spite of repeated public protests and in spite of repeated public promises on the part of some of the members of the Committee that if there is a really good firm in the field, if there is some other firm which can be expected to undertake the contract to the satisfaction of the Committee, then the claims of such firm will be really considered. All those assurances have gone in vain. That being the position, there was a good deal of stir this time and the public and the press were agitated before the decision as to the contract was arrived at. Among the things that were pointed out to the Text Book Committee, both outside the committee, and inside it, it was suggested that in view of the volume of printing that has now to be done, in view of the new interests that have arisen, you may divide the contract into lots, and take steps that if there are three or four good printing firms, each one may get a share of the contract and there may be no heart-burning. But that suggestion was not accepted.

[Sir Abdul Qadir.]

It has been said that a very representative and very respectable sub-committee was appointed and that it was on the recommendation of that sub-committee that this decision was arrived at by the majority of the general committee. That is true, but how was that sub-committee constituted? My honourable friend the Director of Public Instruction said this morning that the proceedings of the Text Book Committee are published and that what happened in it was public property on the day following it. Therefore I would be revealing no secret when I mention that this sub-committee was appointed in a way to which constitutionally speaking, though not technically exception can be taken. I, for one, think that the way this committee was appointed was open to serious objection. The Chairman of the Text Book Committee, who happens to be the Under-Secretary to Government and the head of the department of Public Instruction, and as one of the honourable members pointed out, the right-hand man of the Minister, thought it necessary to become that day the dictator of the committee. He came in and before any motion for the appointment of any sub-committee was made by any member and before any suggestions as to names were given, he gave a list of five names and asked the members, 'Are you agreed?', and they said, 'yes'.

Now Sir, that is the way how nominations were made by a person not only in the official position that he held but also in the position he held in that committee. Nobody would oppose a suggestion coming from the chair, unless he is prepared to take the invidiousness of opposing the chairman and opposing the names of very respectable and honourable people. Ordinarily in such a case they were all bound, whether they liked that sub-committee or not, to say 'yes'.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: Did you protest?

Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir: I am going to tell my honourable friend why I did not protest.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Lack of courage and boldness.

Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir: In those circumstances unless a man wants to make himself objectionable, how can he protest against individuals present there, and against whom he has no personal objection. (*A voice: Duty is duty.*) These interruptions are no good. I hope my honourable friend the Director of Public Instruction will bear me out that it was in that way the sub-committee was appointed. When the sub-committee went to work and when it came forward with the recommendation, that the contract was not to be divided into lots, but was to be given to one firm, that was accepted by the majority of the House. I do not remember whether it was accepted by the whole House. When the time came, when the committee received the tenders, it had to sit very long deliberating on them and then the whole House was called before, they could come to a decision and the matter was placed before them that one firm was offering Rs. 54,000 and another Rs. 58,000 and another Rs. 65,000. It was added that if that had been all it would have been plain sailing, but the difficulty was that the firm which had the contract had now sent in an additional letter saying that it was prepared to give what the highest bidder might offer. There were some members who took conscientious objection to this being permitted and said that it would be unfair not only to the tenderers, but it would be very

awkward for the committee to take the position that after inviting tenders it would give one of the tenderers an opportunity to raise his bid. It was decided, therefore that that letter might be excluded from consideration. It was recognised by some members that the committee would be technically within its rights in saying that it might accept a lower tender in preference to a higher one because under the terms of its advertisement the committee had left to itself that power. But it was explained by some members who took the opposite view that though technically you have the right to accept a lower tender and you are not bound to give reason to the outside public your action should be reasonable and the discretion which is vested in you should be judiciously exercised. It was made plain to them that unless they were in a position to say that the highest bidder was undesirable or incapable of executing the contract or inferior to that firm that held the contract, it would be plainly their duty to accept the ordinary rule of giving the contract to the highest bidder. (*Hear, hear*). That was made plain in the discussion and we were surprised to find that the sub-committee which had laid the matter before the general committee, when it was face to face with the difficulty as to admitting the said letter, expressed the desire to withdraw it from the general committee when it found that they were not willing to admit the letter. Instead of leaving the decision to the general committee they said they wanted time for consideration. (*A voice: Who made that suggestion?*) The sub-committee was responsible for that and I am not going to tell, who was responsible for that suggestion. They said they wanted time to consider their recommendation in the light of the decision that the committee had taken with regard to the exclusion of that letter. To my mind this was not justified. The whole committee had to make the final decision. The facts and figures were before them and the only thing that remained for which time was required was that something might happen in between. When the next date came it was found to our surprise that the thing that we regarded as awkward and unconscientious, namely that if one firm was offering Rs. 55,000, and the other Rs. 54,000, the contract might be given to the firm with the lower bid on its making up the higher figure, was considered justifiable even on payment of the lower figure. One of the members suggested that if the committee was going to disregard the rule of the highest bidder and if they were reconsidering the position and re-opening the question, the contract might be given to the third firm which happened to be a Muhammadan firm and the difference between its offer and that of the present contractors was only one thousand. It was pointed out that it was a long standing grievance of the Muhammadan community in the matter of this contract, that no Muhammadan firm had been given a share of the contract.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: That is your real grievance.

Mr. President: The honourable member has already taken more than 15 minutes.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: I wanted to make a personal explanation. Shaikh Sahib has to-day spoken rather a little excitedly against his usual habit and he took exception to the words that I used. The two alternatives which I stated could be drawn from the speeches that had been made. I never asked this House either to determine one or the other as the

[Dr. Narang.]

suitable title to be given to the members of the Text Book Committee. I never said for a moment that they would either fall into one category or the other. I stated this that an error like this should not be made the subject matter of a motion for adjournment.

Mr. R. Sanderson : I may possibly be allowed to explain what happened at the sub-committee when that letter arrived. It came before the sub-committee casually and the sub-committee could not come to any agreement on the question and the letter was, therefore, placed before the full committee.

Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan [Director, Information Bureau, Punjab] (Urdu) : Sir, Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang has read before the House a list of the members of the Punjab Text Book Committee, and Dr. Muhammad Alam has accused them all of partiality. As my name also appears among the accused mentioned, I wish to say a few words in defence.

Before I proceed to do so, I would request the House through you, Sir, not to be carried away by the eloquence of Dr. Muhammad Alam and Sir Abdul Qadir. It is a historic fact, Sir, that when Burke accused Warren Hastings of misdeemeanour, he delivered a very eloquent speech but the judges fearing that they might be carried away by the irresistible influence of Burke's eloquence decided not to give their verdict until the effect of the eloquence had disappeared and they were able to consider the facts dispassionately. Similarly I would appeal to the House, Sir, that they should judge the facts calmly and not be carried away by the eloquence of the two members who have preceded me.

I now revert to the question of contract, Sir. The facts appear to be simple. I had no intention to state what had actually happened in the Text Book Committee but since Sir Abdul Qadir has taken the lead in this matter, I would also follow in his foot-prints. When the Committee took up the question, the point really at issue in this first meeting was whether a letter received after the time fixed for the tenders should be taken into consideration or not. One of the firms finding that another firm had offered Rs. 65,000 as against their Rs. 54,000 wrote a letter saying that they too were ready to pay a sum equal to the highest bid. The Text Book Committee after a good deal of discussion decided and very rightly so that the letter could not be taken into consideration as it had been received after the expiry of the time limit. The question whether the contract should be given to the highest bidder or to any other firm was not taken up at this meeting. It was at the next meeting that the question was taken up as to which of the three firms the contract should be given. The general committee agreed with the majority decision of the sub-committee to give the contract to the firm which had offered Rs. 54,000 (*A voice :* What was the special reason for not accepting the tender of Rs. 65,000 ?) Because it was considered that the firm to which the contract was given, was the best firm and further that if the highest bid were accepted the burden in the long run will fall on the poor consumers who will have to buy books at high prices. Then there was also the question of the *bona fides* of the highest bidder. You will thus see Sir, that it was not the question of money alone but the Committee had to take into consideration various other points and I assure the House Sir, that the

decision was arrived at after careful consideration of the various aspects of the matter. With these words I oppose the motion and resume my seat.

Mr. President : The question is —

"That the question be now put."

The motion was carried.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan *rising to speak.*

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Has the honourable member a right of reply, Sir?

Mr. President : Is the Honourable Minister making an enquiry from the Chair or is he raising a point of order?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : No, Sir. I am just asking the Chair.

Mr. President : I think he has a right of reply.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : It does not appear so.

Mr. President : Is the Honourable Member quite sure of his position?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : No, I am not. That is why I am putting it to the Chair.

Mr. President : He may take it that the mover of the motion has a right of reply. He may please refer to page 314, paragraph 2, of Sir Eskine May's Parliamentary Practice. An adjournment motion is a substantial motion and a right of reply is given by rules to the mover of a substantial motion.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadan) Rural], (Urdu) : Sir, on the discussion of the matter in hand we have already spent an hour or so. The question was a very simple one and so far no one has tried to answer it. Neither any member of the Education Department, nor any other Government member has tried to meet our objection. An honourable member has repeatedly said that everything depends upon the nature of the work to be executed. As my objection is not as to why the contract was given to the present contractors, there arises no question as to the nature of the work to be done. The question is simply this, that when the same firm was ready to pay Rs. 65,000 why was the lesser sum of Rs. 54,000 accepted?

Another honourable member has asked me as to why I have never objected to the numerous contracts, that are being given every day by the Public Works Department for constructing roads and building houses. I request the honourable member to bring such a flagrant case to my notice in which a sum lesser than the sum offered has been accepted, and I will readily bring it to the notice of the House. Sir, I have listened with attention to the speeches delivered in opposition to the motion expecting all the time that perhaps some honourable member may deem it fit to answer my question. But no one with the exception of Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan cared or I may say dared to answer it. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan did try to meet my objection, but his answer was far from being satisfactory.

The honourable member from Rawalpindi instead of answering my question read a long list of 25 members of the Punjab Text Book Committee and continued to beat about the bush until his fifteen minutes were over.

[Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan]

He did not come to the real point at issue and it was plain that he did not wish to offend the Government benches. He even himself in so many words admitted that if he tried to give out the real facts as they stood he was sure to draw upon himself the displeasure of this or that party.

Mr. President : Order, order. The honourable member is attributing in an indirect manner a motive to another honourable member of this House.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : You will allow me to say, Sir, that my complaint was that my time expired and I did not notice it. Otherwise, I would have gone into the matter further. If I am allowed five minutes now, I shall answer all the points raised by my honourable friend.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : The Honourable the President had beforehand acquainted the House with the time limit.

To come to the point, Sir, the honourable member's argument rather sounded like an appeal *ad misericordiam*. He said that all the members of the Punjab Text Book Committee are honourable and trustworthy gentlemen and they can not be suspected of interested motives. They are above prejudice and partiality. I entirely agree with him and believe them to be such gentlemen, but I may observe, Sir, that the honourable member has never advanced that argument at any time in defence of the honourable Government members, whom we go on criticising every now and then. Are they less honourable or less trustworthy than the members of the Text Book Committee? Sir, my contention is only this that when the same firm was ready to pay the higher sum of Rs. 65,000 why was the lesser sum of Rs. 54,000 accepted from it? What were the special reasons for showing it so much indulgence? We are at a loss to understand it; let any Government member stand up and satisfy us, and then we would be quite prepared to withdraw the motion.

Again, Sir, the argument was advanced that if the higher bid had been accepted the burden would have fallen on the consumers. This sounds a bit more plausible, and very possibly if this consideration was present at that time in the minds of the members that constituted the Punjab Text Book Committee, it might have influenced them a great deal in arriving at their decision. But instead of strengthening their position this argument goes against them. It simply shows the incapability of the Text Book Committee to understand business matters. The Committee ought to have remembered that the prices of the books are fixed beforehand by it, and the different firms submit their tenders with full previous knowledge of their prices. Therefore this argument is quite unfounded, but if for the time being we admit that the Committee has got a great regard for the interest of the consumers then I would suggest that it would be better to do away with the royalty altogether and not to give any contract in future on the basis of a royalty. If my suggestion is accepted and put into practice, the printers and publishers of books will reduce the prices of books to a very great extent, and it will be more in the interests of the consumers. If really the good of the consumers is to be kept in view then accept my suggestion and let them be benefited by it. All this shows that the members of the Committee are not aware even of elementary facts about this contract.

Now regarding the present contract I may observe that my honourable friend the Director of Public Instruction is the Chairman of the Punjab Text Book Committee, while there are fifteen other members of the same Committee who are his subordinates, and are naturally under his influence. Therefore, it is certain that these fifteen members will always vote with him. Now it appears that the Honourable the Director of Public Instruction was anyhow in favour of giving the contract to the firm that submitted the tender for Rs. 54,000. He insisted upon it and the other fifteen members were with him. There are 25 members on the committee in all. Out of these including the honourable Director himself as many as sixteen were already in favour and out of the remaining six three voted for and two against it, while the sixth was absent. Hence the contest was only between three on the one side and two on the other.

Again, Sir, we know the members are honourable, and we believe them to be honest, and I am sure they are not moved by ulterior motives, but the refusal to explain the matter as it stands strengthens our suspicions and that is why we request the honourable Government members to reveal the real state of things.

It is a doctrine of law, Sir, that if any person is in possession of any information or document which he fails to produce in Court, the Court will presume that that information or document if produced before it, will go against the person in possession thereof. Similarly as Government members have refused to lay before the House the true facts concerning this matter, the presumption goes against them. Hence our suspicion has taken the form of conviction and we believe that things are not what we are told, they are

کوئی معشوق ہے اس پر وہ زنگری میں

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal (Minister for Education): Sir, the honourable member who has just sat down referred to the question of prices. That is a matter which I may dispose of at once. I have been scanning the tender forms on which the contract is based and he is undoubtedly in the right in saying what he has said regarding the price of text-books being fixed. Three honourable members of this House who happened also to be members of the Punjab Text Book Committee have already spoken, Sir Abdul Qadir, the Director of Public Instruction and Nawab Musaffar Khan. They are undoubtedly in a position so far as the proceedings of that body are concerned, to disclose what took place. I am here to say and, rise to say this that responsible as I am for the nominations to the Committee I lay claim to this, that this is as good a committee as we could possibly constitute, and if I rise, I rise now because a definite and direct censure is directed against this Committee so strongly constituted. The honourable member who has made himself responsible for this motion for adjournment has expressed himself with calmness and restraint. Other honourable members have not done so, but that is not what I am going to refer to. What is obvious is that while it is a decision of the Text Book Committee where 24 members were present and there were only 3 dissentients, as I gather from what the Director of Public Instruction has said, as against the recommendation of the sub-committee, I am in a position to say that the sub-committee,

[Honble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

as I ascertain it from the Director of Public Instruction, arrived by a large majority at their decision after having viewed the matter on its merits. It is not possible for me who is not a member of the Committee to scan the reasons which influenced individual members among the 21 who came to this decision. But I have been at some pains to find what may have possibly influenced them and I place before the House some of the circumstances that might well have had any influence with these gentlemen in coming to that decision.

The tender then accepted stood at Rs. 86,000. The tender accepted this time stands at Rs. 54,000, a considerable advance on the tender before. An effort has been made to discover the totality of the business done by the publishers on behalf of the Text Book Committee. The Director of Public Instruction found out that while the total number of books actually being used in the Province has increased it has not to any substantial extent increased the profits of the publishers. The total business ranges near between 2½ or 3 lakhs of rupees, nearer the lower figure than the higher figure. It may be that the members of the Committee thought that a tender for Rs. 54,000 representing something like 20 to 25 per cent. of royalty was a fair offer by a firm about which they knew and about whose quality of work they had no doubt. That may be the idea which made them give the contract to this firm. I am not in a position to say so definitely; because one cannot scan into what exactly the various persons constituting the Committee had in their minds. I understand from the Director of Public Instruction that the discussion on this subject was not lengthy in the general committee and that the whole matter was thrashed out only in the sub-committee at greater length. I think the decision in the general committee was arrived at on the basis of viewing the whole question on its merits.

Coming to the actual motion now before the House it is directed to censuring a Committee which was so strongly constituted.....

Mr. President: The Honourable Minister is repeating his argument.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: No, Sir.

Mr. President: I have heard the Honourable Minister repeat this argument twice.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: I was completing my sentence and this would have been my last sentence.

I said that this motion was directed against this Committee so strongly constituted, and regarding a matter lying entirely in its discretion. It is not possible for me to give the reasons which led to the Committee's decision. I can only say that this House will have to reflect deeply before it makes such an accusation against these 24 gentlemen constituting the Committee.

Dr. Gokal Chand, Narang: May I put a question to the Honourable Minister? If this offer of Rs. 54,000 is not accepted is it now open to the Committee to accept an offer of Rs. 74,000 and so on?

Mr. President: How can he say?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : He may say that if he has personal knowledge of the matter.

Mr. President : The honourable member is asking a question about a matter of which the Honourable Minister has probably no personal knowledge.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : If he has no personal knowledge how can he be censured?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I have no personal knowledge of these things. The Director of Public Instruction is a member of the Committee and ex-officio chairman of it. The Committee consisted of 25 gentlemen and we cannot say what were the factors which influenced these gentlemen in coming to their decision.

Mr. Din Muhammad : May I put one question to the Honourable Minister? May I know whether the number of pupils in the schools has not increased?

Mr. President : I am not prepared to allow any more questions.

Rana Firoz ud-Din Khan : May I put only one question, Sir?

Mr. President : No. The question is—

"That the Council do now adjourn."

The motion was declared carried.

The Honourable Minister demanded a poll.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The Honourable Minister did not stand up and ask for a poll.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I said, The No. have it. And that is quite enough.

Mr. President : Yes, many voices asked for a division. Perhaps the Honourable Minister should have stood up to ask for a division, but as many other voices also asked for a Division the point need not be discussed further.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : No, Sir, only the Honourable Minister asked for a poll. And as he was sitting down while he asked for a division, division should not be taken.

Pandit Nanak Chand : I also called for a division.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : He also did not stand up.

Mr. President : Did not the honourable member himself ask for a division?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : That was before the result was announced.

Mr. President : Not after the announcement of the result?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : No, Sir.

Mr. President : I think it is a very trivial irregularity. So I allow the division to proceed.

The question is—

"That the Council do now adjourn."

The House divided: Ayes 24; Noes 42.

Ayes 24:

Khan Bahadur Shaikh Sir Abdul Qadir.
Khan Bahadur Captain Sardar Sikander Hyat Khan.
Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana.
Sayad Mubark Ali Shah.
Khan Sahib Khan Muhammad Saifullah Khan.
Mr. Din Muhammad.
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.
Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan.
Maulvi Sir Rahim Baksh.
Malik Nawab Major Talib Mehdi Khan.
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.
Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat, Qureshi.
Chaudhri Umar Hayat.
Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan.
Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam.
Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.
Chaudhri Atzal Haq.

Noes 42.

Colonel C. A. Gill.
Mr. H. D. Craik.
Mr. C. A. H. Townsend.
The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.
Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan.
Mr. W. B. Wilson.
Mr. R. Sanderson.
Mr. A. B. Astbury.
Mr. J. B. G. Smith.
The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal.
The Honourable Sardar Jogendra Singh.
The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow.
The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.
Mr. J. G. Beazley.
Mr. J. D. Penny.
Mr. H. M. Cowan.
Mr. A. Mitchell.
Dr. (Mrs.) M. G. Shave.
Mr. S. L. Sale.
Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath.
Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang.

Mr. Labh Singh.
Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram.
Chaudhri Ram Singh.
Chaudhri Kesar Singh.
Pandit Nanak Chand.
Chaudhri Baldev Singh.
Rao Bahadur Captain Rao Balbir Singh.
Rai Bahadur Pandit Daulat Ram, Kalra.
Lala Gopal Das.
Lala Jyoti Prasad.
Rai Bahadur Lala Bhattar Chand.
Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri.
Pandit Mehr Chand.
Sardar Narain Singh.
Sardar Ujjal Singh.
Lieutenant Sardar Raghubir Singh.
Sardar Bahadur Captain Dalpat Singh.
Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sheo Narain Singh.
Sardar Bishen Singh.
Sardar Sahib Sardar Futeh Singh.
Sardar Mohinder Singh.

The motion was lost.

The Council then adjourned till 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 28th March 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 28th March 1929.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at two of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.

OATH OF OFFICE.

The following member was sworn in :—

Mr. H. Calvert (Financial Commissioner, Development).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

*2192. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that after the steps promised in reply to unstarred question No. 805, dated 30th November 1928, were devised by him, seniority was again ignored and promotion given below the number fixed by him ;
- (b) what steps, if any, have been or are intended to be taken against the officer or officers who are responsible ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No promotions contravening the position stated in answer to unstarred Council Question No. 805 have been made.

(b) Does not arise, but the honourable member may wish to know that the Director of Public Instruction makes appointments and promotions in the Subordinate Educational Service under authority duly delegated to him.

PROVINCIAL AND SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

*2193. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) how many untrained men were employed in the Provincial Educational Service and the Subordinate Educational Service (Anglo-Vernacular section) during the years 1927-28, and how many of them were given promotions in supersession of senior trained men already in the department ?
- (b) how many B.A.'s., (i) trained, (ii) untrained, have superseded trained M.A.'s. in English and Mathematics already in the department ?

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

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO HEADMASTERS, DISTRICT INSPECTORS, ETC.

***2194. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in giving promotions, head masters, district inspectors and intermediate college teachers are shown a preferential treatment;
- (b) whether it is a fact that certain individuals are first appointed to these posts and then given promotions over the heads of scores of seniors;
- (c) whether it is a fact that they are so appointed only for giving them promotion;
- (d) why senior men on the list are not appointed to the posts carrying with them such preferential rights to promotion?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a), (b) and (c) Officers who have been selected for the more responsible posts mentioned by the honourable member are naturally considered favourably when opportunities of grade promotion arise.

- (d) Appointment to these posts is a matter of selection.

RESPONSIBLE POSTS IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

***2195. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) how many responsible posts of head masters, district inspectors and lecturers in intermediate colleges were filled during the year 1927-28 :
 - (i) from men in the subordinate service ;
 - (ii) from out-siders ;
- (b) what were the serial numbers in the graded list (register) of those who were appointed to these posts from the members of the service ;
- (c) what were their special qualifications for these posts ;
- (d) how many seniors have become juniors by this process ;
- (e) is the Honourable Minister consulted in filling these posts ;
- (f) what steps does he propose to take—
 - (i) to right the wrong done in the past ;
 - (ii) to protect the rights of the senior and qualified members of the service in future ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: (a) (i) and (ii).—

	Appointed by direct recruitment during the year 1927-28.	Appointed by promotion from the Subordinate Educational Service or by transfer.
Head Masters	1	11
District Inspectors of Schools .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .
Lecturers	6	2

Rs. 200/250	Rs. 140/190	Rs. 110/195.
(b) 19, 20, 38, 40	1, 63, 175	75, 175, 57, 79, 175 and 142.

(c) General suitability for the work involved.

(d) None.

(e) Appointments in the Provincial Educational Service are made by Government; those in the Subordinate Educational Service rest with the Director of Public Instruction.

(f) (i) Does not arise.

(ii) Does not arise.

DISTRICT COURT CLERKS, AMRITSAR.

*2196. Chaudhri Afzal Haq: Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of special grade clerks communitywise in the district court, Amritsar;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no Muhammadan clerk in this grade? If so, what steps Government intends to take to increase the representation of Muslims in this office?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Enquiries have been made. Information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is received.

READERS IN DISTRICT COURTS.

*2197. Chaudhri Afzal Haq: Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 1906, Mr. E. A. Casson, then District Magistrate in Amritsar, in his order regarding the

[Chaudhri Afzal Haq.]

appointment of Taj-ud-Din, Reader, expressly laid down that readers in district court should be appointed according to the strength of communities in the district;

- (b) whether it is a fact that no attempt has been made to make good the number of Muslim readers?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Enquiries have been made. Information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is received.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, AMRITSAR.

***2198. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a clerk who is working as typist of the Public Prosecutor of Amritsar has been given permanent Post of Rs. 40-2-90 grade in the Deputy Commissioner's office over and above other clerks who are senior and permanent hands;
- (b) whether this typist clerk is in any way related to the superintendent, Deputy Commissioner's office;
- (c) to what community the typist belongs and to what community other clerks who applied for the post and who are also senior and permanent belonged?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Enquiries have been made. Information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is received.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, AMRITSAR.

***2199. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to say—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the senior-most candidate clerk of Deputy Commissioner's office, Amritsar, has been ignored and three junior candidates have been given permanent appointments;
- (b) to which community the senior-most candidate whose claims have been ignored belonged and to what community the other three junior candidates who are given permanent appointments belong?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Enquiries have been made. Information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is received.

READERS AND AHLMAHS OF AMRITSAR.

***2200. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of such readers and ahlmahs of all the magistrates and honorary magistrates of Amritsar who have not been transferred even after 10 years?

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a standing order of the Deputy Commissioner that ahmads and readers should not be posted in one place for more than three years ;

(c) if so, why this standing order has been ignored in respect of some of the ahmads and readers ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Enquiries have been made. Information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is received.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, AMRITSAR.

***2201. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Superintendent of Deputy Commissioner's office, Amritsar, has been given extension of service for the last four years ;

(b) whether it is the expressed policy of the Punjab Government to discourage extension ;

(c) if so, why the Government orders have been ignored in this case ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Enquiries have been made. Information will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is received.

DEPUTATION OF MIRASIS.

***2202. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a deputation of Mirasis called Qureshi waited upon His Excellency the Governor on 29th November 1928 ;

(b) whether they prayed for the grant of Crown land as compensation for their lands which has been water-logged in Gujranwala district ;

(c) if so, what Government proposes to do to meet the wishes of the deputation ?

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

(b) No such request was made in the address presented to His Excellency the Governor by the deputation on 29th November 1928.

(c) Does not arise.

DEPUTATION OF MIRASIS.

***2203. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether on 29th November 1928 a deputation of Mirasis (Qureshis) waited upon His Excellency the Governor ;

(b) whether they prayed for their community being treated as backward community ;

Chaudhri Afzal Haq.]

(c) whether the deputationists prayed for the grant of Government land;

(d) if so, what has so far been done to meet the wishes of the deputation?

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

(d) No particular action has been taken.

EXCLUSION OF MIRASIS FROM POLICE AND MILITARY SERVICE.

***2204. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any order of the Government by which the Mirasi (Qureshi) as a community are excluded from police and military service.

(b) whether, some police head constables were dismissed from service in Lahore for the sole reason of their being Mirasis?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) As regards the police service, no. As regards military service, recruitment for the army is a matter for the Central Government and no reply can be given.

(b) No.

TOURING OF TAHSILDARS AND NAIB-TAHSILDARS.

***2205. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the end of November 1928, a circular letter was issued by the Junior Secretary to the Financial Commissioners, Punjab, in connection with touring of tahsildars and naib-tahsildars;

(b) whether it is a fact that by that letter tahsildars and naib-tahsildars are required to spend five nights away from headquarters?

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

(b) No.

POLICE STATION, SANGHAUR, KARNAL DISTRICT.

***2206. Chaudhri Duli Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) whether the police station of Sanghaur in the Karnal District has been brought under reduction;

(b) how have the villages in the police station been allocated?

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

(b) Villages in that police station were transferred to the local areas of police stations Ladwa and Radaur in the same district.

METALLED ROADS, KARNAL.

***2207. Chaudhri Dali Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) what is the mileage of the metalled roads under the District Board, Karnal;
- (b) how this mileage is distributed among the four tahsils of the district;
- (c) what Government has done or intends to do to improve district roads in the Karnal district?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : A report has been called for and the information required by the honourable member will be communicated to him in due course.

CIVIL JAIL PRISONERS IN KARNAL DISTRICT.

***2208. Chaudhri Dali Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the number of persons committed to civil jails in execution of money decrees in Karnal district during each of the last five years;
- (b) if there is a considerable decrease, what are the reasons?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow :

(a) 1924	90
1925	67
1926	80
1927	143
1928	120

- (b) Does not arise.

PUNITIVE POLICE POST.

***2209. Chaudhri Dali Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the names of villages of district Karnal in which punitive police is posted now;
- (b) the amount of punitive tax imposed on each of these villages;
- (c) the amount of land revenue paid by each of these villages;
- (d) the reasons for posting punitive police in each of these villages; and
- (e) whether proposals have been received from district authorities to post punitive police in more villages?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) None.

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

(e) No.

MURDER OF MR. SAUNDERS.

*2210. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on the day of the murder of Mr. Saunders at Lahore, a C. I. D. Police official was working in the office of the 'Partap' Lahore;
- (b) whether it is a fact that he submitted his report in connection with the said murder to the police or to any other local authority;
- (c) whether any man was arrested on the basis of the said gentleman's report;
- (d) will the Honourable Member please lay on the table a copy of his report?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The honourable member can hardly expect to be furnished with the information asked for in this or any other similar case, more especially when the investigation is not yet completed.

MURDER OF MR. SAUNDERS.

*2211. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) the names of the persons arrested in connection with the murder of Mr. Saunders, a police official at Lahore;
- (b) for how many days were they kept in confinement;
- (c) on whose reports were they arrested and kept in the lock-up;
- (d) will the Honourable Member please lay on the table the copies of reports referred to in (c);
- (e) has the investigation been completed and with what result;
- (f) has the police made its final report to the magistrate in charge of the laqa; what is that report?

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

(c), and (d). The honourable member is referred to the (e) and (f) of reply just given to Council question No. 2210.

STATEMENT.

Serial No.	Names of persons arrested.	Date of arrest.	Date of release.	Total No. of days in confinement.
1	Hard Ram, son of Lala Mool Chand, Sethi, Rawalpindi.	17-12-28	2-1-29	16 days.
2	Ahmed Din, son of Nizam Din, Sheikh, Amritsar.	18-12-28	24-12-28	6 days.

Serial No.	Names of persons arrested.	Date of arrest.	Date of release.	Total No. of days in confinement.
3	Amolak Ram, son of Talai Ram, Brahman, Lahore.	17-12-28	28-12-28	11 days.
4	Sant Ram, Pandha, son of Bhagat Ram of Lahore.	19-12-28	21-12-28	4 days.
5	Hansa Raj, son of Gurendhar, Khatri of Lahore.	17-12-28	2-1-29	16 days.
6	Kidar Nath, son of Bhag Mal, Khatri of Lahore.	18-12-28	28-12-28	Sent to Hospital in connection with case No. 124-A.
7	Kashab Bandu, son of Keshab Kaul, Brahman of Lahore.	17-12-28	28-12-28	11 days.
8	Dhanwanthi, son of Durga Datta, Brahman of Lahore.	17-12-28	28-12-28	11 days.
9	Dharam Yash, son of Khan Ghans, Khatri of Lahore.	17-12-28	21-12-28	4 days.
10	M. Majid, son of Fazl Baksh, Kashmiri of Lahore.	18-12-28	21-12-28	3 days.
11	Raj Kishore, son of Raj Sarfati Rajput, Ayurvedic Boarding House, Lahore.	17-12-28	2-1-29	Sent to judicial lock-up.
12	Mohammad Afzal, son of Khan Din, Kashmiri of Lahore.	18-12-28	28-12-28	10 days.
13	Abanor Chandra, son of Drwan Chand, Brahman of Lahore.	18-12-28	2-1-29	15 days.
14	Lalita Ram, alias Sant Ram, son of Datta Mal, Brahman of Bawa Singha, District Gurdaspur.	18-12-28	2-1-29	15 days.
15	Vin Index, son of Mohasha Krishna, of Lahore.	17-12-28	2-1-29	16 days.
16	Sant Ram, son of Hansa Raj, Chadda of Lahore.	18-12-28	2-1-29	15 days.
17	Nand Kishore, son of Radha Kishan Malha of Lahore.	18-12-28	21-12-28	2 days.
18	Ram Chand, son of Kirpa Ram, Khatri of Nurpur, District Kangra, at present of Lahore.	18-12-28	20-12-28	2 days.
19	Kashab Lal, son of Mathura Das, Khatri of Fashawar.	20-12-28	27-12-28	7 days.

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

Serial No.	Names of persons arrested.	Date of arrest.	Date of release.	Total No. of days in confinement.
20	Kidar Nath, son of Lahori Mal, Khatri of Peshawar.	20-12-28	27-12-28	7 days.
21	Aschraj Ram, son of Hari Chand, of Peshawar.	20-12-28	27-12-28	7 days.
22	Jagdish Narain, son of Mela Ram, Arora of Wazirabad.	22-12-28	27-12-28	5 days.
23	Ranbir Singh, son of Sher Singh, Brahmin of Khohar, district Gujrat.	5-1-29	19-1-29	14 days.

BAHAWALPUR DISTRIBUTARY.

*2212. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) if any objection note was recorded by the auditor Mr. N. K. Sain, in regard to an assistant executive engineer of the Bahawalpur sub-division in 2nd Bahawalpur Circle, making an overpayment of 1,30,000 c.ft., of earth work to a contractor in the excavation of Bahawalpur distributary in the year 1928 ;
- (b) if so, what action was taken on the said report against the persons concerned ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No such objection note was recorded by the Audit Officer, Mr. N. K. Sain, in regard to the assistant executive engineer, for making the alleged overpayment.

(b) Does not arise.

CONTRACT RATES REGARDING BOHARWALA BUILDINGS.

*2213. **Lala Bodh Raj** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the immediate successor of Mr. Chuni Lal Katar Mal, temporary Engineer, Dera Bhoka sub-division in Bahawalpur division, gave higher rates to the contractor for Boharwala buildings in the year 1928 than those given by the said Mr. Chuni Lal ;
- (b) if so, what were the reasons for giving the higher rates ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The honourable member appears to have been misinformed.

(b) Does not arise.

SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER, LAL SOHANRA.

***2214. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the sub-divisional officer, Lal Sohanra, sub-division in 2nd Bahawalpur Circle, charged the travelling allowance showing his headquarters at Lal Sohanra State Rest House while he was actually residing at Lal Sohanra S. V. P. rest-houses from July 1928 up to the end of the year 1927 or so;
- (b) if so, was any action taken against him by the Executive Engineer, Bahawalpur division, if not, why?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I regret the answer to this question is not yet complete. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

MR. CHUNI LAL KATAR MAL, TEMPORARY ENGINEER.

***2215. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Chuni Lal Katar Mal, Temporary Engineer, on his taking over the charge of Dera Bakha sub-division, 2nd Bahawalpur Circle, reported to the Executive Engineer, Bahawalpur division, in 1927 that his predecessor from whom he had taken over the charge had overmeasured about 6 lakhs cubic feet of earthwork in reach 164 to 168 of Desert Branch;
- (b) was any enquiry made into the said report and if so, how long after the date of the report? What was the result of the enquiry?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) Yes, in March 1928.

(b) An enquiry was made immediately by Executive Engineer, Bahawalpur division, who arranged for Mr. Chuni Lal and his predecessor to meet and explain the discrepancy.

As a result of check measurements by two independent officers it was found there had been no over-measurement.

Is the honourable member quite sure that it is in public interest to put this and similar questions?

MR. RAM CHAND, BAHL, OVERSEER.

***2216. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Chuni Lal Katar Mal, Temporary Engineer, Dera Bakha sub-division in 2nd Bahawalpur Circle, reported to the Executive Engineer, Bahawalpur Division, against Mr. Ram Chand Bahl, Overseer, for making an excess payment;
- (b) what action was taken on the said report?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, for excess measurements in a running bill.

(b) As the result of enquiry increment was stopped for one year, the stoppage to affect future increments.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, DERA NAWAB DIVISION.

***2217. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer, Dera Nawab division, was called upon by higher authorities to tender explanation regarding his deposit of Rs. 10,000, in the Peoples Bank, Bahawalpur, in one day in the year 1927;

(b) will the honourable member please lay on the table a copy of the explanation tendered by him;

(c) what action was taken by the Government on the said explanation?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It does not appear that any useful purpose can be served by going into individual cases of officers. Every effort is made to discover the corrupt and protect the honest officer.

Lala Bodh Raj : How was this individual officer dealt with?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I cannot say.

SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER, JALALABAD.

***2218. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Accountant-General took objection in the year 1928, to the double payment made by the sub-divisional officer, Jalalabad sub-division, Eastern Division, 1st British Circle, for the reach 87,600 to 88,000 Jalalabad branch;

(b) if so, what action was taken against the person responsible for making the second payment?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No, nor was any double payment made. The honourable member seems to have been misinformed.

(b) Does not arise.

ESTIMATES OF SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

***2219. Lala Bodh Raj :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please lay on the table the original estimates as well as the estimates revised from time to time of the Sutlej Valley Project;

(b) who were the officers engaged in revising the estimates from time to time?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Copies of the original sanctioned estimates of 1920 and the sanctioned revised estimate of 1926 are laid on the table.

(b) The 1920 estimate was prepared by Mr. Ives, assisted by Mr. Nicholson. The 1928 estimate was prepared by Mr. Hadow, on the material supplied by the officers working on the project at the time.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the Secretary of State made a remark on the revised estimates that had he known the facts, he would not have sanctioned the project at all?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I have not the Secretary of State's letter by me.

Post Mortem EXAMINATION OF THE DEAD BODIES OF FEMALES.

*2220. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether there are any arrangements for the holding of *post mortem* examination of the dead bodies of the females by a lady Civil Surgeon or lady Assistant Surgeon;
- (b) in which districts of the province such arrangements have been made;
- (c) what are the reasons for not making such arrangements in the rest of the districts?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No.

(b) None.

(c) Does not arise.

REMISSIONS.

*2221. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) what remissions have been made on account of revenue or abiana to the zamindars and tenants of several districts in Multan Division on account of the failure of last cotton crops as well as the wheat crops;
- (b) what further remissions the Government intends to make on that account?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Figures by districts are not available. A statement giving the figures for the whole of the Multan division is laid on the table.

(b) None.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

COMPLAINT AGAINST WATER SUPPLY.

1121. **Sayad Mabarik Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact, that there is always a complaint against the water supply to the chaks and villages of the old *abad* beginning from the Canal Rest House of Husain (on the Naurang minor of Lower Jhelum Canal) down to the tail of the said minor which terminates in Simara village of Jhang district;

[Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah.]

(b) whether the zamindars of that *ilaga* have on several occasions brought this fact to the notice of the local Canal authorities—verbally and in writing;

(c) whether it is a fact that no substantial improvement has been made in this direction as yet;

(d) what steps does the Government intend to take to remove this long-standing grievances of the poor zamindars of that *ilaga*.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It is regretted that the answer to this question is not yet complete. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

SENIOR SUB-JUDGES AT JHANG.

1122. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah : Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state—

(a) the total number of the Senior Sub-Judges posted at Jhang during the last fifteen years;

(b) the number and percentage of Muslim and non-Muslim Senior Sub-Judges posted there during the said period;

(c) if the percentage of Muslim Senior Sub-Judges does not exceed 25 per cent., will the Honourable Member please state the reasons for this serious disparity in this very important matter;

(d) and what does the Government intend to do to remove this disparity?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) Government is not prepared to undertake the labour of examining the postings of Sub-Judges to the Jhang district for the last fifteen years.

(c) and (d) If the proportion of Muslim Sub-Judges has been small, this must be due to the fact that the proportion of Muslims in the whole cadre has been small, an inequality which will in course of time be rectified by the new arrangements for the appointment of Sub-Judges.

CIVIL JUDGES IN JHANG DISTRICT.

1123. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of Subordinate Judges posted in Jhang district during the last fifteen years;

(b) the number of Muslim and non-Muslim Civil Judges posted there during the said period?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) Government is not prepared to undertake the labour of examining the postings of Sub-Judges to the Jhang district for the last fifteen years.

STATUTORY AGRICULTURIST MUSLIMS AS SUB-JUDGES.

1124. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah : Will the Chief Secretary please state—

- (a) the total number of statutory agriculturist Muslims appointed as Sub-Judges from the Jhang district during the last twenty years;
- (b) their names and the place where they are posted at present;
- (c) if the number of such sub-judges does not exceed one only, what special steps Government intends to take to recognise the claims of statutory agriculturist Muslims of the Jhang district for these posts?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Government cannot undertake the labour of examining the records over a period of twenty years in order to obtain the information required by the Honourable member.

(b) There is none at present.

(c) Under the new arrangements made for the appointment of sub-judges it is hoped that agriculturists of all communities will obtain a fair share of appointments, but Government cannot undertake to make any arrangements on a district basis.

MUSLIM HONORARY CIVIL JUDGES.

1125. Sayad Mubarik Ali Shah : Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state—

(A) (a) Whether it is a fact (a) that the Muslim community forms more than 80 per cent. of the total population of the Jhang district; (b) that a Muslim is a party in most of the civil suits;

(ii) Whether it is a fact that there is a very small number of Muslim honorary civil judges there;

(B) If the answer to the above be in the affirmative what steps does the Government intend to take to remove this monopoly of the non-Muslims in the Civil Judicial Department of Jhang district so far as the appointments of civil judges whether paid or honorary are concerned?

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

(b) Government cannot undertake to examine the records of all civil suits over a period of years in order to establish this proposition.

(ii) There is at present no Muslim honorary civil judge in the Jhang district.

B (i) In the normal course of transfers members of different communities represented in the ranks of Sub-Judges are likely, as in the case of other districts, to be posted to Jhang, and Government does not propose to take any action.

(ii) No proposals for the appointment of honorary civil judges in Jhang have reached Government.

DR. CHAND NARSIN, ASSISTANT SURGEON, KABIRWALA.

1126. Makhdomzada Sayad Muhammad Raza Shah, Gilani : Will the Honorable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Dr. Chand Narsin, Assistant Surgeon of Kabirwala, had committed adultery with the daughter of a lambardar of the same place and subsequently kidnapped this girl;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken against him?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

LOWER BARI DOAB CANAL COLONY.

1127. Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that up to 1926 and again in 1928 inferior lands in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony, whether situated in the districts of Montgomery or of Multan, were auctioned on the same set of conditions in both the districts;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the year 1927 lands situated in Multan district were granted on different conditions with respect to period of payment of purchase money as well as interest to be charged as compared with similar grants made in the Montgomery district;

(c) if answer to (b) above be in the affirmative what are the reasons for this differentiation?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) The conditions as regards the number of instalments fixed for the payment of the balance of purchase money and the rate of interest to be charged on lands sold in the Khanewal tahsil of Multan were based on the conditions prescribed for auction sales in the Nili Bar Colony. These conditions were slightly more onerous to the purchaser than the conditions prescribed in 1926. But the conditions of 1926 related to lands of inferior quality, whereas it does not appear that the lands sold in Khanewal were of inferior quality.

MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

1128. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(1) the total number of gazetted staff, above the rank of overseer, on the organization of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme in respect of its—

(a) Construction staff;

(b) Electric Project section;

(c) Hydraulic Project section;

(d) Number of Europeans and Indians in each of the above branches (a), (b) and (c);

- (ii) (a) How many European and how many Indian Engineers of and above the rank of Assistant Engineers are employed in the whole organisation ;
- (b) how many Europeans and how many Indians under (a) mentioned above are apprentice engineers ;
- (c) separate number of each of the permanent and temporary and European and Indian Engineers, employed in the Hydro-Electric Scheme ;
- (2) what are the qualifications of each of the above (ii) (a) and (ii) (b), showing separately the number of holders of European, American, or Indian University degrees, or holders of diploma or a certificate of any college or school of any of those countries ;
- (8) what are the qualifications, length of service and pay of each of the apprentice engineers ;
- (4) is there any European apprentice engineer in this department ;
- (5) how many of the apprentice engineers have British qualifications ;
- (6) is it a fact that the grade of apprentice engineer is Rs. 150 to Rs. 255 with an annual increment of Rs. 7 only, while the annual increment of draftsmen, lower in grade than apprentice engineers, is Rs. 12 ;
- (7) what are future prospects of apprentice engineers, and what is the fixed period of their apprenticeship in the department ;
- (9) whether it is a fact that some of the apprentice engineers have resigned after serving for a year or so, and if so, how many and why ;
- (9) is it a fact that on the creation or vacancy of a post in the Electrical branch, it is advertised, in spite of duly qualified apprentice engineers working in the department ;
- (10) if so, why ; how many, on what pay and with what qualifications, such engineers have been taken ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It is regretted that the answer to the question is not yet ready and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

ASSISTANTS IN CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1129. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Chief Secretary to Government Punjab, please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that very recently in confirming some of the Assistants in the Civil Secretariat and in fixing their position, no regard was paid to the period of service put in, the diversity of duties performed and the educational qualifications possessed by the incumbents ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that some of the clerks are allowed to remain attached to a particular branch of their liking for years together since their entry into the office doing one and the same work and continue receiving promotions while others are required to do harder work (which is also appreciated by officers) in several branches during a short time and are still debarred from promotion ;

[Mr. Ghani.]

- (c) whether it is a fact that orders exist in the Secretariat which cannot allow the state of affairs mentioned in (b) above but are being ignored;
- (d) whether it is a fact that some clerks who have risen from the menial staff and can only read or write very poor English are regularly given promotion while deserving hands and graduates are overlooked;
- (e) if so, what steps Government intends to take to remove these defects?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) to (d) No.

(e) does not arise.

POST OF PASSPORT CLERK IN CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

1130. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the post of the passport clerk in the Civil Secretariat was reduced from the assistant grade to that of a junior clerk some seven or eight years ago;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the post was then held by two junior clerks one of whom was a graduate as in-charge of the branch;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in reply to their prayers for promotion these two clerks were definitely told that the work being of a very inferior and ordinary nature, their request could not be acceded to, even for promotion to the senior grade clerk, till they are tried on noting and drafting work in other branches;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the present passport clerk was put in-charge of the branch while he was only a paid apprentice;
- (e) whether it is a fact that he was confirmed as a junior clerk, then senior clerk in the same capacity and has now been made an assistant for putting in the same quality and quantity of work which was done by his predecessors mentioned above;
- (f) if the reply to the above is in the affirmative, will the Government please state the special reasons which have now necessitated the conversion of the appointment into an A Section post, especially when the post of a superintendent also has been recently created for this branch?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) The Passport section of the Civil Secretariat started with one Section "A" Assistant and two junior clerks, but subsequently the post of Section "A" Assistant was absorbed into the office and this Section was given a permanent senior clerk on Rs. 75-5-150. In the recent re-organization of the office the senior clerk's post has been converted into a Section "A" appointment.

(b) The Passport Section has all along been under the charge of a Superintendent.

(c) No.

- (d) In view of the answer given to (b) this does not arise.
- (e) The honourable member is presumably referring to the senior among the three Passport clerks. If so, the answer is in the affirmative.
- (f) The Senior Clerk's post was converted into a Section "A" appointment on the recommendation of the officer who was placed on special duty in 1927 to consider a re-organization scheme for the secretariat. His recommendation, which was made after a thorough examination of the nature and volume of the work involved, was accepted by Government.

SUPERINTENDENT OF GAZETTE BRANCH.

1131. Mr. M. A. Ghani : Will the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the present Superintendent of the Gazette Branch in the Civil Secretariat was imported from a district office over the heads of a number of Indian and Anglo-Indian senior assistants working in the Secretariat who had already justified their promotion to the rank of a superintendent ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that his name was specially brought on Government Register for the nomination of extra assistant commissioners soon after his appointment in the Secretariat ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a number of his juniors on the list of extra assistant commissioners have already been posted to districts after completing their examinations whereas he has not so far made any attempt to complete the examination ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that he has already expressed a desire not to leave his present appointment even if he is offered a post of extra assistant commissioner in a district ;
- (e) if so, whether the Government is aware of any special reasons underlying his attachment to the present job although in the ordinary course he should have been posted to a district some time ago ;
- (f) whether the Government is also aware that if he is transferred to some other branch of the Secretariat he would prefer to be posted as an extra assistant commissioner at once ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) He was brought into the Secretariat from a district office and appointed Superintendent of the Gazette Branch in preference to Indian and Anglo-Indian senior assistants already in the Secretariat, as he was considered better fitted for the appointment.

(b) Yes, except that he was selected in the ordinary course along with other candidates for what was then Register A-III.

(c) It is a fact that a number of officers junior to him on the list of extra assistant commissioner candidates have been posted out. It is not a fact that he made no attempt to pass the departmental examination, as he passed in one group, but subsequently owing to pressure of work was unable to find time to prepare himself for the remaining groups.

[Mr. Beazley.]

(d) and (e). His name has now been removed from the list of extra assistant commissioner candidates at his own request, as owing to ill-health in his family, it will be difficult for him to take up an appointment which may involve his leaving Lahore and the transfers and touring incidental to Punjab Civil Service.

(f) No.

DISTRICT BOARD, MULTAN.

1132. Sardar Sahib Sardar Fatch Singh: Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly lay a statement on the table showing in tabulated form—

- (1) (a) the number of district board members in Multan, Ludhiana and Ferozepur;
- (b) the number of official, non-official elected and nominated members;
- (c) the number of Hindu, Mussalman, Sikh and other members;
- (2) (a) what is the number of district board voters in Multan, Ludhiana and Ferozepur;
- (b) how many are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others;
- (3) (a) which of the four classes (Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others), predominate among the district board members in Multan, Ludhiana and Ferozepur;
- (b) in cases where any class predominates, have any persons been nominated from that class as well;
- (c) if so, in what district or districts?

The Honourable Malik Feroz Khan Noon: A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

Name of district board.	(1) (a), (b) and (c).										(2) (a) and (b).				(3) (a).	(3) (b) and (c).	Whether any member has been appointed from the class referred to in the question.
	Total number of members.										Number of votes, 1937-38.						
	Elected.										Appointed by name.						
	Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Total.	Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Total.	Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Total.	Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Total.					
Multan	6	22	2	24	5	2	7		12,400	1,000	4,024	17,384	Muslims	Yes			
Lahore	5	7	35	30	3	1	4		5,201	15,904	209	19,384	Hindus	Yes			
Peshawar	3	21	20	37	4	2	6		5,277	12,159	3,977	20,400	Hindus	No			

CO-OPERATIVE BANKS IN FEROZEPUR DISTRICT.

1133. Sardar Sahib Sardar Fateh Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of co-operative banks in Ferozepur district;
- (b) what is the capital of these banks;
- (c) how much of this capital has been subscribed by Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims and others;
- (d) what is the number of Directors of the co-operative credit banks at Ferozepur, Moga and Fazilka;
- (e) how many of these are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) There are 3 Central Banks and 2 Banking Unions in the Ferozepur district;

(b) Their working capital is as follows :—

	Rs.
Central Bank, Ferozepur	10,67,642
Central Bank, Fazilka	6,88,191
Central Bank, Moga	6,58,235
Banking Union, Sikhwal	1,02,066
Banking Union, Jalalabad	88,049

(c), (d) and (e). As regards internal economy, co-operative societies are independent and private institutions. The information asked for is therefore not available.

INSPECTORS AND SUB-INSPECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT
IN FEROZEPUR DISTRICT.

1134. Sardar Sahib Sardar Fateh Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the number of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of the Co-operative Department in the Ferozepur district;
- (b) how many of them are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others;
- (c) how many of these Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors have been dismissed within the last three years;
- (d) how many of them were Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) There are 5 Inspectors of the Co-operative Department in the Ferozepur district. Sub-Inspectors are not Government servants and are employed by the Punjab Co-operative Union, from which it has been ascertained that there are 21 in the Ferozepur district.

(b) Of the Inspectors two are Sikhs, one is a Hindu and two are Mussalmans. It has been ascertained from the Punjab Co-operative Union that of the Sub-Inspectors 14 are Muslims, 6 are Sikhs, and 1 is a Hindu.

(c) All the Inspectors are still in service and none has been dismissed. One Sub-Inspector, it has been ascertained, was dismissed on the 12th September 1925.

(d) Does not arise as regards the Inspectors. The Sub-Inspector, it has been ascertained, was a Hindu."

COLLEGE AT JHELUM.

1135. Nawab Malik Major Talib Mehdi Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether there is any prospect of Jhelum district having a college, and, if so, when?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : When the question of opening more Intermediate colleges is taken up, the desirability of having a college in the Jhelum district will be duly considered.

WATER-LOGGING.

1136. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (1) whether it is a fact that Sardar Kishan Singh, of village Khakh, thana Mangtanwala, tahsil Nankana Sahib, district Sheikhupura, a retired Government military servant, applied on 18th November 1928, to the Financial Commissioner (Revenue) claiming compensation for his estate having been water-logged, on account of the Upper Chenab Canal flowing through it;
- (2) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Sheikhupura held an enquiry into the matter;
- (3) whether it is a fact that as a result of the enquiry it was found that out of 148 acres comprising the estate, 100 acres or 70 per cent. had become affected by water-logging and 48 acres are being affected day by day;
- (4) whether it is a fact that no grant was made to the claimant on the sole ground that no land was available;
- (5) if the reply to the above parts be in the affirmative, what steps Government intends to take to award compensation to the applicant?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (1), (2) and (3) Yes.

(4) It is true that no grant was made.

(5) Government does not admit the liability to compensation, but tries to help those who have suffered from water-logging.

MOTOR VEHICLES.

1137. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state, what was the number of motor vehicles plying for hire during the last financial year?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The number of motor vehicles plying for hire at the beginning of the calendar year 1928 was 8,799.

RADIO SET FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS' CLUB, LAHORE.

1138. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to say, whether it is a fact that the Government is considering the question of furnishing the Council Members' Club, Lahore, with a radio set?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : No. Government has not received any proposal from the Club for the installation of a radio set.

OLD SUTLEJ BRIDGE NEAR FEROZEPUR.

1139. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state, whether it is a fact that the Government is considering the question of retaining the roadway of old Sutlej Bridge near Ferozepur, till such time that it is proved that the new roadway bridge is quite safe and suitable for traffic?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The entire cost approximately 41 lakhs of rupees of the Kaiser-i-Hind combined road and railway bridge, including the roadway and the approaches, was met from railway funds about the year 1890. The Punjab Government cannot claim any ownership in the bridge as against the Railway Administration, nor have the public established an enforceable right of way by user.

The North-Western Railway having provided a new single line of railway over the Ferozepur weir intend to remove forthwith for use elsewhere the steelwork of the original bridge; they intend to retain the alignment of the original bridge for a future second single line of railway but when this comes to be provided it is intended that the length of the bridge shall be reduced approximately to one-half of its former length and stronger girder will be provided to carry the increased train loads.

In the circumstances the retention of the roadway over the original bridge is impracticable.

As to the safety of traffic on the new road bridge over the Ferozepur weir the attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to Council question No. 1062.¹

BRIDGE ON THE SUTLEJ.

1140. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what has been the cost of construction of the combined road and railway bridge and canal weir on the Sutlej near Ferozepur;

(ii) what is the percentage of cost with which the departments concerned have been debited?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The information is being collected and will be furnished as soon as ready.

TROUT IN THE RAVI.

1141. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that trout have been caught in the Ravi;

(b) if so, what is the lowest point where they have been seen?

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

(b) A little below Chambha City.

FISH LADDER, PEROZPUR.

1142. Mr. E. Maya Das :—Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the fish ladder at the new headworks near Perozpur is not yet in working order;

(b) if so, what is the cause of delay and by when may it be expected to be in working order?

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

(b) The ladder is now being altered and is expected to be open about the first week in April.

AUDITORS.

1143. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the strength of the auditors for examination of Local Fund accounts was recently increased;

(b) if so, when and to what extent?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) In March 1928 one senior and one junior auditor were added to the staff of the Local Audit Department for the audit of purely local fund accounts. A post of Assistant Accounts Officer also was created to cope with the increase in the work of the Department as a whole, as the Department is required to audit Government accounts as well as purely Local Fund accounts.

Thilari Patra.

1144. Chaudhri Dali Chand : Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) the names of villages in which *thilari patra* (Village Patrol Act) is in force in the district of Karnal;

(b) the reasons for enforcing this?

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

(b) Because special measures were required to secure the public safety—vide section 8 of the Act.

[Hon. Mr. Stow]

LIST OF VILLAGES IN WHICH *Astragalin* IS IN FORCE

Serial No.	Name of Tahsil	Name of village
1	Karnal	Tasori
2	Do.	Kaisora
3	Do.	Padna
4	Do.	Kanjana
5	Kaithal	Hibana
6	Do.	Kaul
7	Do.	Katchar
8	Do.	Gubna
9	Do.	Pai
10	Do.	Harsula
11	Do.	Karcha
12	Do.	Sivan
13	Do.	Rabri
14	Thanesar	Theska Minraj
15	Do.	Sahant Kadian
16	Do.	Kalsana

ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTORS OF POLICE

1145. **Chaudhri Dali Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) the total number of assistant sub-inspectors of police recruited direct from the Eastern Range;

(b) the number of Hindus among them; and

(c) the number of statutory agriculturists among Hindus?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) None.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

STATUTORY AGRICULTURIST STUDENTS, KARNAL DISTRICT.

1146. Chaudhri Duli Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of students communitywise belonging to statutory agriculturist tribes and reading in the secondary department of Anglo-Vernacular schools in each of the four tahsils of the Karnal district;
- (b) the total number of students communitywise reading in the secondary department of Anglo-Vernacular schools in each of these four tahsils?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is not on record, and on account of the great labour that its collection would involve, it is not proposed to compile the statistics.

PETITION-WRITERS, KARNAL AND ROHTAK.

1147. Chaudhri Duli Chand : Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the total number of petition-writers sanctioned for each of the districts of Karnal and Rohtak;
- (b) the number of vacancies at present in each of these districts;
- (c) the number of applicants;
- (d) the number of statutory agriculturists among these applicants?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a)—

Karnal	48
Rohtak	59

(b), (c) and (d). The information is not immediately available, but enquiry is being made, and the result will be communicated to the honourable member in due course.

RATE OF ABIANA.

1148. Lala Bodh Raj : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please lay on the table a statement showing the rates of abiana for different crops charged in various districts of Multan division—

- (1) during the third settlement;
- (2) during the fourth settlement;
- (3) rates proposed at present?

(b) What is the percentage of the area actually cultivated to the area commanded under cultivation at the times given in (a) above?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The honourable member is referred to the Irrigation Branch. Notifications regarding the rates of abiana published from time to time in the *Government Gazette*.

(b) It is not understood what the honourable member really means.

[Hon. Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

Statement showing remissions on account of land revenue and abiana in the Multan division.

	Rs.
1. Land Revenue remitted in <i>rabi</i> 1928 on account of failure of wheat and gram crops ..	18,09,299
2. Abiana remitted in <i>rabi</i> 1928 on account of failure of wheat and gram crops ..	12,64,536
3. Land revenue remitted in <i>khariif</i> 1928 on account of failure of cotton crop ..	8,59,180
4. Abiana remitted in <i>khariif</i> 1928 on account of failure of cotton crop ..	8,61,862

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

RE REFUSAL BY THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT TO GRANT PASSPORTS TO A MEDICAL MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-*ex-ter*-Ludhiana (Muhammadan), Rural]: Sir, I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the refusal by the Punjab Government to grant passports to a medical mission proposed to be sent to Afghanistan by the Punjab Khilafat Committee.

Mr. President: In the List of Central subjects given at the end of the Government of India Act, item 2 is "External relations."—So I am doubtful whether the grant of passports is primarily the concern of the local Government.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: I invite your attention to the Punjab Constitutional Manual, page 11, rule 7. It says:

"The President may within the period of notice disallow any question on the ground that it relates to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Local Government."

After that I invite your attention to the several questions put by me and other honourable members regarding the refusal of passports. The questions have been admitted by the Honourable President and answered by Government. So I think the subject of passports is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government.

Mr. President: I have tried to follow carefully the trend of the honourable member's argument. I have no doubt as to allowing or disallowing questions relating to passports. But it is not clear whether the granting of passports is primarily the concern of the local Government.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: I submit, Sir, that for the last six years Government have given answers to questions regarding passports, and you, Sir, have admitted those questions which are primarily the concern of the local Government. It is on that understanding that the local Government have been giving answers, and they have never refused to give answers on the ground that passports were not the primary concern of the local Government. In this very session I put a question with regard to the Secretary of the Punjab Khilafat Committee, Ghulam Muhammad, and the

question was admitted by the Honourable President and answered by Government. I do not think, Sir, that this subject is not primarily the concern of the Punjab Government.

Mr. President : What has the representative of the Government to say ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member) : The honourable member's argument, so far as I have been able to follow it, is that under rule 33, the President has been given certain powers to admit or not admit questions. He quoted rule 7. In fact that rule relates to questions, he ought to have quoted rule 22 (1).

In the first place, he refers to questions and not to resolutions or to adjournment motions. In the second place, even with reference to questions the power is discretionary. So far as resolutions are concerned, the term used is "shall." If the honourable member has ever had to take a passport to go anywhere out of India, he would know that the passport is always given on behalf of the Viceroy and the Governor-General. It is obvious that a matter like passports is not allowed to be dealt with by local Governments on their own, and it is dealt with by the Government of India in the sense of not Governor-General in Council but by the Viceroy as the Governor-General. Therefore this matter certainly is not the primary concern of the Punjab Government. In fact, the honourable member knows perfectly well that the reply given to the application he has in mind by the Punjab Government was in the same terms in which it was sent to their parent association, if they still have a parent whom they recognize. The Central Khilafat Committee got their reply from the Foreign Secretary saying that they cannot be given a passport, those orders were communicated to the Punjab Government and in compliance with the said orders the Punjab Government has been as an agent carrying out those orders.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : What I would submit in this concern is that the rule as it stands says what is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government. The word "primarily" does not necessarily denote that it should be the sole concern of the Punjab Government or that the Punjab Government should be solely in charge of the matter. Supposing there is this fact that the Punjab Government could make proper recommendations under the control of the Viceroy in his capacity even as the Governor-General, whether that would be a case within the primary concern of the Punjab Government it is for you to decide. But as to the interpretation of the word "primarily", my submission is that it does not convey that the matter should be the sole concern of the Punjab Government.

Then, Sir, the letter which has been sent—with your permission, I shall read it—by the Home Secretary of the Punjab Government says :

"With reference to your letter dated 6th March 1929, on the subject noted above, I am directed by the Governor in Council to refer to this office letter dated 26th January 1929 and to express regret that no passports could be issued for Afghanistan."

Not only has the Chair been allowing questions with reference to passports to be asked in this Council but has also given rulings on the point

[Dr. Muhammad Alam.]

that it is a question which is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government. This letter is a clear admission on behalf of the Punjab Government which has also been answering questions connected with passports. You will notice in particular that in this letter there is absolutely no reference to the Government of India at all and no reference to the Viceroy in his capacity as the Governor-General. But the whole thing, as the letter shows, seems to have been decided by the Punjab Government.

You will allow me further to submit that even if it is contended that a reply was received from the Viceroy denying passports, still so far as the primary concern of the Punjab Government is concerned in recommending the issue or refusal of these passports, it cannot be denied. It is obvious that the Punjab Government has received the letter from the Khilafat Committee and has addressed the Viceroy on the matter.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I am afraid the honourable member is referring to a letter of Government which I thought he was reading in full but which he has not apparently read in full.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I beg your pardon, Sir. I have not left any single word or syllable in the letter.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Will you kindly give the date of the letter.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : It is dated 22nd March 1929.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The letter which the honourable member has read is not the first of the kind. The first letter which he must have received and which he ought to have read was dated 29th January 1929. It reads as follows :—

"In reply to your letter without number and date on the subject noted above, I am directed to say that for the reasons explained in the telegram of the 28th January 1929 from the Foreign Secretary of the Government of India to the Central Khilafat Committee of which the Provincial Committee has no doubt seen a copy, the Governor in Council regrets that passports cannot be issued."

Here is the actual reference to the Foreign Secretary's letter to the Central Khilafat Secretary. That is exactly what I have said in my speech. That has appeared in the Press and it cannot be ignored. To say that there is an admission on our part after this letter seems to me a curious argument.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Sir, the Honourable the Revenue Member has read to you another letter which he stated I did not read.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No, you did not refer to the letter at all.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Quite so. The reference would come after I had explained the matter and the significance of the letter which I chose to read in the first instance. Now, Sir, this letter, dated the 22nd March 1929, which I have brought to your notice clearly admits that this is a matter in which the Punjab Government is concerned, and concerned primarily. The reference made in this letter is to a prior letter, dated the 29th January 1929.

Mr. J. G. Beazley : May I enquire, Sir, how at this stage the question of the primary concern of the local Government arises? The question is now as to whether the motion is in order under Rule 23 in which no mention is made of the matter being the primary concern of the Provincial Government.

Mr. President : Does the Chief Secretary refer to paragraph 1 of Rule 23?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : Yes, Sir, that read with rule 12.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Let us first finish with this, Sir.

I now come to the letter, dated the 29th January 1929. That letter says :

"In reply to your letter without number and date"

I do not know what really struck the Honourable the Revenue Member in finding out that the letter had no number and date, at any rate, I presume, that could not have been the cause of refusing the passports. The letter then proceeds :

"On the subject noted above, I am directed to say that for the reasons explained in the telegram of the 26th January 1929 from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary, Central Khilafat Committee of which the Provincial Khilafat Committee has no doubt seen a copy, the Governor in Council regrets that passports cannot be issued for the members of the Delegation which the Provincial Committee propose to send to Afghanistan."

I think it will be clear to the Honourable the Revenue Member that that telegram was not concerned and had absolutely nothing to do with the medical mission. The Central Khilafat Committee proposed to send a delegation to Afghanistan. (A voice : What for?) The object of that delegation was to bring about peace between the different contending parties in Afghanistan. So that so far as the medical mission is concerned, the telegram that is referred to in the letter of the 29th January has got nothing to do with it.

The question in the main then is whether it is primarily the concern of this Government or not. It has never been denied by the Government in any letter to the Khilafat Committee. The Government have nowhere said : we are not concerned with this ; we have got nothing to do either with the issue or refusal to issue passports.

Mr. President : Suppose that the subject matter of the motion is a Central subject in fact but that the Punjab Government not only admits but asserts it to be a provincial subject, will such admission or assertion make it a provincial subject? That is the question.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I was just coming to that, Sir. Unless we are told by the Punjab Government that in such matters the Punjab Government has absolutely no hand, not even by way of making recommendations, the Punjab Government have not denied that it is their primary concern.

Mr. President : Let us suppose that the Governor-General has delegated the power of signing passports on his behalf to the honourable member himself. Would, by virtue of such delegation, the question of passports become the primary concern of the honourable member? Would it not still remain the primary concern of the Governor-General?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My submission to that will be two-fold. To start with, if those powers were delegated to the Punjab Government by the Governor-General then it can very well be said that it is not solely the function of the Punjab Government because the powers are delegated. But so far as the question of primary concern goes, it is primarily the concern of the local Government and it is only as a source or origin of their power that the Governor-General comes in. But that source or origin is entirely different from the *factum* whether the Punjab Government is primarily concerned with the matter. So that my submission is, though any such delegation might come in as the source or reason for the exercise of power by the Punjab Government, yet the Punjab Government is decidedly primarily concerned with this question.

Mr. President : Take another illustration. An advocate is entrusted with a case by a client. Does the case become the primary concern of the advocate or does it still remain the primary concern of the client?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : There I would submit that *de facto*, the matter is the primary concern of the party but *de jure* it becomes the primary concern of the advocate also. We have to make a distinction between these two things, *de facto* and *de jure*. *De facto*, it remains the primary concern of the party while *de jure* it becomes the primary concern of the advocate too. In the present case assuming a delegation of powers by the Viceroy to the Punjab Government, if you ask whether the Punjab Government is primarily concerned *de jure* with the matter or not, I would submit, yes. With regard to the position *de facto* I will say that the analogy that the Chair has been pleased to propound does not apply with equal force.

Mr. President : Then, the honourable member admits that though in a way the case becomes the concern of the advocate, yet it remains the primary concern of the party concerned.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I was trying to make a distinction between the position *de jure* and *de facto*. I would submit that the analogy stated from the Chair does not apply in full to the circumstances of the present case. For in the question before us, there is no instance of delegation. In the analogous case cited by the Chair, there is a power of attorney. Here it would be a superior Government allowing by delegation its powers to be used by another Government. Even if by such delegation the Local Government ordinarily under the control of the Supreme Government was allowed to exercise the powers of the latter, even then, my submission is that *ipso facto* it becomes the primary concern of the local Government.

Mr. President : Suppose I authorize the honourable member to sell my house and get the sale deed registered on my behalf. Do the sale and registration become thereby the primary concern of the honourable member or still continue to be my primary concern?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I would submit it will become the primary concern by virtue of the delegation, of the person also to whom the delegation is made. And particularly, you will in the present case keep in view that the different Governments stand in relation to each other as a family of Governments. If then there is such a family of Governments and if there is a delegation by one person to another who is already interested in the affairs of the other, as this Government in regard to the Government

of India, I would submit that it would undoubtedly become the primary concern of the Government to which the delegation is made, in this case the local Government.

Mr. President: Take another illustration. Suppose the Chief Secretary of the Punjab Government signs letters on behalf of the Finance Department of the Government. Will the matters covered by such letters become the primary concern of the Chief Secretary or will they still remain the primary concern of the Finance Department?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: My submission is, so far as this illustration is concerned, with due deference to the Chair, signing letters on another's behalf and delegation of powers are two entirely different things.

Mr. President: Here is the form of a passport. Will the honourable member read it?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Very well, Sir, it reads:

"These are to request and require in the name of the Viceroy and Governor General of India all those whom it may concern to allow the bearer to pass freely without let or hindrance and to afford every assistance and protection of which he may stand in need."

Mr. President: Read further on please.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam:

"Given at _____ this _____ By order of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India."

Mr. President: The signatory is merely the signing authority on behalf of the Governor General. Does he become concerned primarily with the issue of the passport?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Quite so, Sir, I would submit that by reading the subject matter of the passport which you have been kind enough to place in my hands my position has become much more strengthened. What the passport says is this: "By order of the Viceroy and Governor General of India." Therefore though it is issued by order of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, the authority primarily concerned in the issue of the passports may be the Madras Government or the United Provinces Government or the Punjab Government.

Mr. President: How can anyone issue a passport without the authority of the Governor-General? The person who is primarily concerned with this matter is the person who has got the ultimate power to grant or refuse the issue of passports. How can an authority which merely signs by order, become primarily concerned with the issue of the passports?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: Ultimately of course, the decision must rest with you, Sir.

Mr. President: That is not the point. I want to take light from all quarters.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam: My submission is that the Government of India is not moving of its own accord in the matter from the initial stages. The Government of India is moved by some provincial government. If on the motion or the recommendation of the local Government the Viceroy and the Governor-General issues or refuses to issue passports,

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then the authority which moves the Viceroy or the Government of India is the authority which is primarily concerned with the issue of the passports.

Mr. President : May I give an illustration? Suppose I wish to sell my property at Peshawar. A resident of that place writes to me saying that he has found a *bona-fide* buyer who is willing to pay a certain price for the property. If I accept the offer will the sale of the property become primarily a concern of the man who had sent the offer or will it still remain primarily my concern?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My submission is that Governments never sell themselves. Governments may be out of date and be turned out.

Mr. President : Order, order. Please do not distort the illustration?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My submission is that the illustration of a purchaser and seller will not apply to the Government at all.

Mr. President : The question is: If a principal authorises his agent to sign a document on his behalf does the execution of the document become primarily the concern of the agent?

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Thank you very much, Sir. I have now been able to get better light. My submission to you here is that you have to make a distinction between the agent and the principal in this case. You have to consider whether the agent is merely the signing machine or whether it is not really conducting the whole business. You will have to see whether the agent is merely the signing machine or whether it is moving the principal in the interests of the agent himself and not in the interest of the principal to do a certain action.

Mr. President : I would request the honourable member to read again the form of the passport paying special attention to the words, "By order of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India."

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My submission is that this form is absolutely silent on the point whether this is issued on the recommendation of the local Government or not.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : May I now read the telegram to which reference is made here? Reference was made in the Home Secretary's letter to the telegram of the Foreign Secretary to the Central Khilafat Committee. It was published in the papers in English as well as vernacular. It says: "The following telegram sent to-day to the Secretary, Central Khilafat Committee is repeated for *information and guidance*. This is from the principal who, the doctor says is so very innocent as to leave the whole affair to us so that it may become primarily our concern, and only watches from above how this agent is acting. The telegram says that it is being sent for *information and guidance*. It runs as follows:—

"Many thanks for your letter of yesterday. Much regret Government of India are unable to sanction the issue of passports in view of the conditions of civil war now prevailing in Afghanistan, and the impossibility of road and the dangers to life and property which have already obliged the Government of India to take special measures for the evacuation of women and children, British, Indian and foreign....."

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : What is the date of the telegram ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Dated 26th January 1929. Does the honourable member think that the conditions in Afghanistan have improved since then ?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : That is a question to be discussed after the motion has been admitted.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If they want me to read the whole of the telegram I shall do so, Sir.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : What was the request of the Khilafat Committee ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : To give them passports to go to Afghanistan.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Will you kindly read the telegram of the Central Khilafat Committee ? You only read the reply of the Government of India. We do not know what they asked for. They might have asked to go and fight there in the country. They might have asked to export ammunitions to the country.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The reply of the Government of India was that they would not issue passports to these persons.

Mr. President : I think that aspect of the question has been fully discussed. There is another aspect which I would like to be discussed.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, you were pleased to observe that you would be glad to get light from all quarters of the House and if you permit me, I have got one or two observations to make with regard to this matter as to whether it is primarily the concern of the local Government or not. In the first place, it may be that passports are a central subject, but the question we have to discuss is whether the matter to which reference is made is one which is primarily the concern of the local Government or not. The question is not whether it is a provincial subject or a central subject. You gave the illustration of the relations existing between a principal and an agent. But I venture to submit that so far as that illustration goes, it rather favours the contention that has been put forward, namely, that this is a matter which is primarily the concern of the local Government. But before I go further I should like to make sure of the premises which I believe are as follows. In the matter of the issue of passports application is in the first instance made to the local Government. If the local Government thinks that the applicant is a desirable person to whom a passport may be granted, I understand that normally no reference whatsoever is made to the Government of India and the passport is as a matter of course issued. On the other hand, if the local Government is of opinion that the applicant is not a desirable person and that a passport should not be granted to him, then as a matter of course the passport is refused. That being so, the refusal or the sanctioning of a passport is a matter which is primarily the concern of the local Government, although their action would be in conformity with the general rules and instructions given by the Government of India. But after all this it is primarily the concern of the local Government. It is for them to grant or refuse a passport.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : However interesting an academic discussion may be as to central subjects and passports in general, what we are discussing now is the question of passports to Afghanistan in the month of March 1929 after the unfortunate occurrences there to which reference is made already. There is a portion of the telegram which really concludes the matter. With your permission I shall read it to the House. "In view moreover of the anxiety for the scrupulous observance of non-intervention in Afghan internal affairs the Government of India have been compelled to suspend the issue of passports to Afghanistan generally and to withhold permits to cross the Indian frontier from all but Afghan subjects." Here is the general order which concludes the matter so far as the point in controversy is concerned.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : What will happen to those who have already got passports?

Mr. President : That is not the question now before the House.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : That question will be gone into by the authorities concerned.

Mr. President : The latter portion of the telegram shows that the Government of India have left no option to the local Government.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : My submission is that all these points should be discussed only after the adjournment motion has been admitted.

Mr. President : I invited discussion to form opinion as to whether the motion is in order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Certainly it is in your power, Sir.

Mr. President : I wish to exercise my powers judicially. Therefore, I invited discussion. The latter portion of the telegram, read to the House by the Honourable the Leader of the House, has rendered the matter quite clear.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Telegrams which have been read by the Honourable Member are different from what we have requested. The question arose when some gentlemen wanted to go to Afghanistan not as members of the Red Crescent Society but for peace making only.

Mr. President : The telegram which has been read to the House leaves no such loop-hole. According to it no passports are to be issued for Afghanistan and no Indians are to be allowed. Only Afghan subjects may go back to their country. In view of this, does the honourable member think that the Punjab Government has any authority to issue passports to the Khilafat Committee or to any one else?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Can we raise the question that the Punjab Government has no right to decide?

Mr. President : When that question is raised it will be considered on its own merits. Just now we are considering a different matter.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Notwithstanding the light which is further thrown by the Chair, I may very humbly submit that though we will always abide by the ruling of this Chair, yet, so far as our views are concerned, however different they may be, of course, we will always continue to put them

very submissively before this House and the Chair, and we still hold the view that, notwithstanding this telegram, still it is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government to decide whether passports in particular respect that is for medical mission should be allowed or should not be allowed. It is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government to make recommendations to the Government of India and then to sign these passports on behalf of the Viceroy. This is nothing more than a blank cheque which shows that it is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government.

Mr. President : What has Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan to say after hearing this telegram which expressly prohibits the Punjab Government to issue passports to Afghanistan to any one but Afghans?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Before the latter portion of the telegram was read out I was of the opinion that even in the exercise of these powers generally the matter would be primarily the concern of the local Government, but under express instructions the matter has been taken out of their hands and as a matter of fact the Central Government has intimated that they would not grant passports except to Afghan subjects. The matter is not now the concern of the local Government. Supposing the motion is carried against them the Punjab Government cannot remedy the matter. Therefore, I am compelled to submit that the situation is as has been submitted by the Leader of the House.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I submit that there are three points to be considered by the Honourable President in the motion for adjournment, whether the matter is of public importance, whether it is definite and whether it is a matter of urgency. These are the three things to be considered.

Mr. President : Only three?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : And the fourth is whether the matter which has to be discussed is the concern of the local Government or not. Prominent members of the House admitted that this question is primarily the concern of local Government. After reading that telegram it will still remain primarily the concern of Punjab Government. That telegram does not alter the real position. If before the telegram it was primarily the concern of the local Government it will be even after receiving that telegram. I admit that if Government had admitted frankly that it is primarily the concern of the local Government and that their position because of the receipt of that telegram has been altered, then I would have admitted that Government was right in stating that it is not now the concern of the Punjab Government. Before that telegram was read and any reference was made the Punjab Government refused to admit that this subject has anything to do primarily with the Punjab Government. I think that this telegram does not in any way alter the position that was taken by me that this matter concerns primarily this Government and moreover, Sir, this telegram has nothing to do with the matter that I wish to bring to your notice and the notice of the House. That telegram refers to the delegation which was to proceed to Afghanistan for political purposes and all reference that was given in that telegram concerns that delegation and the delegation of the Punjab Khilafat Committee. The first letter of the Government which was read out concerns the Punjab Khilafat Committee delegation and not the Punjab Khilafat Committee medical mission. The other letter to which

[Chaudhri Afzal Haq.]

reference was made by Government was about this medical mission. This proposal of the Punjab Khilafat Committee has nothing to do with the previous application. The Punjab Khilafat Committee has nothing to do with the Central Khilafat Committee Delegation.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : All I can say is this, that if the Punjab Government behaved like this they will soon be dis-affiliated by the Government of India.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I would admit that my motion is out of order if the Leader of the House will say that this application for sending a medical mission was ever brought to the notice of the Central Government. If the Governor in Council independent of the Central Government ordered, advised or gave their decision then I submit that my motion is quite in order. I submit Sir, that you will intervene and ask the Honourable the Leader of the House whether the Punjab Government ever brought this second application to the notice of the Central Government or not?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Has he any right to do it?

Mr. President : The question has been asked through the Chair.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I would like to know whether the Chair wants to put that question to me.

Mr. President : When a question has been asked I can only refer it to the honourable member concerned. It is for him to answer it or not.

Sardar Harbakhsh Singh [Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural] : Sir, if I may be permitted to say a word, I submit that the position has become quite clear. The questions raised by Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan have brought out this telegram from the Leader of the House and this telegram goes to show that the position taken up by the honourable mover of this motion is quite correct. It seems that the primary concern was with the local Government. There was a delegation for some time and now on account of certain circumstances instructions have been received by the provincial Government from the Government of India in which there is a reservation, that whereas formerly passports could be given to A, B and C now they may not be given to B and C but only to A. That is, Afghan subjects can still be given passports by the provincial Governments. Therefore the matter of giving passports still remains although partially, primarily the concern of the local Government. We do not know whether the Khilafatists would send in their medical mission Afghan subjects or Indian subjects. So this is still primarily the concern of the local Government and the motion is, therefore, quite in order.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan [South-east towns, Muhammadan, Urban] : I think there is some confusion of issues in this case. The real question for the ruling of the Chair in its abstract form is whether granting of passports is primarily the concern of the local Government or not. This question has been fully discussed and I have heard nothing to lead me to the belief that it is not primarily the concern of the local Government.

Rather otherwise, even the telegram which has been read by the Leader of the House does show that upto this time the subject matter of this adjournment motion has been the primary concern of the local Government. So the question in its abstract form which was before the Chair was whether the subject is the concern of the local Government or not. The other question whether the local Government was justified in this particular instance in not granting the passports to the Punjab Khilafat Committee is quite beside the mark. If the discussion is allowed, the Government can offer this telegram and other documents in their justification and in their support that they were not wrong in refusing the passports. But this telegram or any other telegram on this subject or some other subjects does not alter the nature of the question before the House.

Mr. President : What is the date of the application and when was it refused ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The application was without date, the refusal was dated 24th March.

Mr. President : The telegram on which the Leader of the House relies in this case is dated the 26th of January 1929. The passports were applied for on the 6th of March and they were refused about the 24th or 25th of March. The telegram, is so very clear and emphatic that there is absolutely no manner of doubt in my mind that the Punjab Government is unable to issue any passports. The relevant portion of the telegram is :

"The Government of India have been compelled to suspend the issue of passports to Afghanistan generally and to withhold permits to cross the Indian Frontier for all but Afghan subjects."

This is a general prohibition by the Government of India. In the face of such clear instructions to say that it is primarily the concern of the local Government to issue a passport in the month of March, is on the face of it absurd. The Government of India has given its orders and the Punjab Government is bound to obey those orders. The passports were applied for after the above mentioned prohibition was issued by the Government of India and were also refused by the Punjab Government after the prohibition. The motion relates clearly to that refusal. Consequently as to the question whether this particular matter of the refusal of passports is or is not primarily the concern of the local Government, there is no doubt in my mind that it is not. The question is not whether in the past passports were primarily the concern of the local Government or not. The question is whether the refusal of passports which were applied for and refused by the Punjab Government in the month of March is primarily the concern of the local Government. I have no doubt that it is not. Therefore, I rule the motion out of order.

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alana : On a point of order. Do I understand from your ruling that our submission that it is primarily the concern of the Punjab Government is not only wrong, but "absurd"? Are our submissions held to be absurd?

Mr. President : You may take them to be wrong. The word 'absurd' means 'wrong.'

Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : I will be obliged, if you will make it clear that it is only wrong and not absurd.

Mr. President : I have no objection to the word "absurd" being replaced by the word "wrong". I did not use the word to offend any honourable member of this House.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, I want to know whether the Honourable Leader of the House does not wish to answer my question or the question of my honourable friend.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I thought the question time was over. May we now proceed with legislation?

THE PUBLIC GAMBLING (PUNJAB AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member) : Sir, I beg to present the Select Committee's report on the Public Gambling (Punjab Amendment) Bill.

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

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

It will be noticed that the Select Committee has made but two material changes. One is in clause 2 which is the most important clause of the Bill and the change consists in sub-dividing gambling into two parts—one general and one special. The general remains as in the original Bill and the special one, the *satta* gambling, is separated from the general and for it more strict provisions have been made.....

Mr. President : Order, order. Conversation should not be carried on loudly in this House.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The second important alternative is in clause 7. I consider, Sir, that both these changes are an improvement on the Bill as it was committed to the Select Committee.

Mr. President : The question is—

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

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The Council will now proceed to take the Bill into consideration clause by clause.

The question is—

"That sub-clauses (2) and (3) of clause 1 and clauses 2 to 6 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 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 Public Gambling (Punjab Amendment) Bill be now passed."

Mr. President : The question is :—

"That the Public Gambling (Punjab Amendment) Bill be now passed."

The motion was carried.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

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. XII.

SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE.

(Answer to Question No. 1471*, page 83).

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

so 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 : (a) 79.

(i) The main factors are local jealousies, dissensions, and the difficulty of satisfying everyone that they are being fairly treated.

(ii) 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 CHHAUNCHI KHEED.

(Answer to Question No. 1552,* page 151.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Land paying Rs. 82 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, Kanera, 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. Manchar 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 : (a) (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.

(e) 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-
gotha.

(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	424,530
(iii) Ram Dasia	230,729
(iv) Balashahi	8,800

Total 885,009

(b) No figures of literacy are available, but the following facts may interest the honourable member :—

Year.	Number of scholars of de- pressed classes in edu- cational institutions in the Punjab.
1921	2,848
1922	3,782
1923	3,042
1924	10,597
1925	11,974
1926	19,572
1927	19,502
1928	26,761

(c) The honourable member is referred to my answer to starred Council Question No. 1890.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, BHAKKAR.

(Answer to Question No. 1643,* page 247.)

The Honourable Mr. Manchar Lal : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

DISTRICT BOARD, MUZAFFARGAH.

(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. 56,000 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 Muzaffargah. 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, MUZAFFARGAH.

(Answer to Question No. 1649,* (d) & (e), page 249.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (d) The first running payment was made on the 16th 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, KAROL.

(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. O.

(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 Abdul 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 KONRUSHETRA.

(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. Munohar Lal : The following statement gives the required information :—

Year.	Total number of students admitted.	Number of Muhammadan students admitted.
1925	423	209
1926	525	260
1927	923	442
1928	1,016	463

JUNIOR-ANGLO-VERNACTULAR 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.

STATEMENT SHOWING ADMISSION TO THE JUNIOR-ANGLO-VERNACTULAR CLASSES DURING THE YEARS 1925 TO 1928.

Serial No.	Name of the Institution to which the class is attached.	Number of students admitted												Remarks			
		1925						1926									
		Madras	Quota	Others	Madras	Quota	Others	Madras	Quota	Others	Madras	Quota	Others				
1	Madras College, Madras	14	10	1	12	10	1	12	10	1	12	10	1	12	10	1	No students made application for admission.
2	Government Intermediate College, Loyallpur.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
3	Total of classes managed by Government.	15	11	2	13	11	2	13	11	2	13	11	2	13	11	2	
4	Madras College, Annamal	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	
5	D. A. V. College, Salem	10	10	1	10	10	1	10	10	1	10	10	1	10	10	1	Total for classes attached to Government Institutions.
6	Madras College, Palani	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	
7	Madras College, Palani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
8	Madras College, Palani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
9	Madras College, Palani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	GRAND TOTAL
10	Madras College, Palani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
11	Madras College, Palani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
12	Madras College, Palani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

No Madras students applied, but was refused admission.

GENERAL POLICE POSTS.

(Answer to Question No. 1697, page 268.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (c) —

Year.	Sum actually realized.
	Rs.
1926	5,85,780
1927	4,62,786

(d) —

Year.	Sum actually expended.
	Rs.
1926	4,51,280
1927	5,98,680

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.

(e) 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 Inspector, 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	250 0 0
11	Office of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Punjab, Central Range	95 0 0
12	Office of the Superintending Engineer, Upper Chenab Canal Circle	168 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	260 0 0
17	Office of the Civil Member and Engineer Member of the Water-Logging Enquiry Committee and its staff	130 0 0
18	Office of the Deputy Registrar, 2 Assistant Registrars, 4 Inspectors, 1 Banding Expert and 1 Inspector	450 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 Headquarters Office	352 0 0
24	Office of the Inspector, Draglines, Northern Circle	45 0 0
25	Office of the Land Acquisition Officer, Sutlej Valley Project	60 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	4387 0 0

CIVIL PRISONERS.

(Answer to Question No. 1714,* page 841.)

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

1925	669
1926	1,698
1927	2,227
1928	2,350

(b)

1915	436
1916	412
1917	819
1918	247

(c) The general application of the principle enunciated in Civil Miscellaneous Appeal No. 662 of 1925 (Hargobind Kishan Chand versus Haldin 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 Municipality (committed)	Total annual cost of the school.	Net annual cost of maintenance of the school after deducting for income Government grant, etc.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gohana	25,688	9,985	1,228
Beri	24,632	16,286	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 chowpals 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 320,000 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	81	15	88	17	80	18
Agricultural College	74	61	86	82	68	48 +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
Rohatak	12	21	8
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. 1773,* 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 1 Foot Constable	Next increment stopped for 2 years. 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 3 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 106, Indian Penal Code, but was withdrawn as no evidence was forthcoming.
1 Head Constable	Reduced to Foot Constable.
1 Head Constable	Found blameless on enquiry.
2 Head Constables	Departmental action is pending.
1 Sub-Inspector	Warned.
1 Sub-Inspector	Warned.
1 Foot Constable, Selection Grade.	Reduced to Foot Constable, Time Scale.
1 Sub-Inspector	Departmental action was taken, but the officer was acquitted with the concurrence of Deputy Inspector-General.
1 Deputy Superintendent of Police	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 : (c) Yes.

(d) The system is considered the most convenient and suitable.

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

(Answer to Question No. 1841,* page 587.)

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, Gurgaon, Jhalam, Abock, Mawal 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 587.)

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

(b) Five months.

(c) 20th 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND POSTAL ALLOWANCES.

(Answer to Question No. 1848,* page 589.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal :

(a)

(b)

Karnal Taluk.

1. Barsan.
2. Samana Bhan.
3. Indri.
4. Moonak.
5. Rambha.
6. Faridpore.
7. Jundha.
8. Amin.

1. Barsan.
2. Samana Bhan.
3. Indri.
4. Moonak.
5. Rambha.

Pampat Taluk.

9. Nanika.
10. Ahar.
11. Grlana Kalan.
12. Naran.
13. Manana.
14. Larna.

6. Grlana Kalan.

(a).

Thanesar Tahsil.

(b).

15. Ismailabad.
16. Sanghaur.
17. Gumbhala Rao.
18. Jharsa.
19. Kalsara.
20. Tengaur.
21. Radour.

7. Sanghaur.
8. Radour.

Kaithal Tahsil.

22. Kaul.
23. Habri.
24. Fai.
25. Gumbhala Gadhu.
26. Assandh.
27. Seewan.
28. Bajondh.
29. Dhatrat.
30. Bhagal.
31. Arasuli.
32. Phari.

9. Kaul.
10. Fai.
11. Gumbhala Gadhu.
12. Assandh.
13. Seewan.
14. Bajondh.
15. Arasuli.

LOCATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN VILLAGE CHAUPAIS.

(Answer to Question No. 1859, page 545).

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
CHAUPAIS.

Serial No.	Names of villages
Karnal Tahsil.	
1	Sheikhupura.
2	Balranghuran.
3	Sanghaur.
4	Gharainda (Branches Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4).
5	Gadhi Birbal.
6	Pinsagath.
7	Ranwar.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPAIS—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Karnal Tahsil—continued.</i>	
8	Agrodh.
9	Rampura.
10	Gudra.
11	Uetana.
12	Tikri.
13	Baidhara.
14	Ran Kalan.
15	Berthal.
16	Barutha.
17	Debarhi.
18	Sanbhi.
19	Padha.
20	Nigam.
21	Kheri Narn.
22	Ramana.
23	Goli.
24	Ganjo Gadhi.
25	Chamra.
26	Aloda.
27	Sikri.
28	Janesarai.
29	Kehand.
30	Muharikatal.
31	Dingarimara.
32	Kalron.
33	Tewana.
34	Bazida Jatan.
35	Rangoze.
36	Bastali.
37	Jarsoli.
38	Churui.
39	Dabkash Kalan.
40	Katlaheri.
41	Shahpur.
42	Kheri Man Singh.
43	Hasampura.
44	Mohini Dimpura.

**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	Amunpura.
47	Charpure Khalsa.
48	Niyawal.
49	Kalheri.
50	Kalri Jagir.
51	Barawali.
52	Alipura.
53	Budha Khora.
54	Moromajra.
55	Salarya.
56	Rindal.
57	Bhadson.
58	Randaoli.
59	Kurlan.
60	Bansa.
61	Barana.
62	Fatehpura.
63	Sitond.
64	Dadhana.
65	Bathna.
66	Kanthai Khurad.
67	Dabkanli Khurad.
68	Shalkhpura.
69	Kairwali.
70	Barsala.
71	Khaspura.
72	Nadana.
73	Matthala.
74	Sayyad Chhapra.
75	Senwant.
76	Kunjpura Branch.
77	Pansuri.
78	Chaurkarsa.
79	Jaur Mazra Kalan.
80	Gari Gujran.
81	Daulatpura.
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>Panchayat Tahsil.</i>	
83	Babail Branch.
84	Shahpara.
85	Dikadla.
86	Sink.
87	Alhupre.
88	Karva.
89	Kahri.
90	Shahmulpura.
91	Mohammulpura.
92	Bapauli.
93	Parina Khund.
94	Realapure.
95	Bichpasi.
96	Machrauli.
97	Banauli Khurd.
98	Hastari.
99	Brahman Hazra.
100	Kurur.
101	Ujah.
102	Chandauli.
103	Nanhera.
104	Gola Khurd.
105	Pardhana.
106	Pacti.
107	Budhuwal Masri.
108	Bilana.
109	Dhadhola.
110	Gadhi Chhaja.
111	Haldang.
112	Palsi.
113	Qasari.
114	Lehari.
115	Dhodpur.
116	Bhadwar.
117	Chamsara.
118	Jahulpura.

APPENDIX

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	Chhajpura.
120	Titiyana.
121	Nagal Khori.
122	Naraina.
123	Namonda.
124	Rajakhori.
125	Hawada.
<i>Kathal Tahsil.</i>	
126	Azra Gach.
127	Jhabala.
128	Sarsa.
129	Guliyana.
130	Chika.
131	Jaddaula.
132	Shamda.
133	Taragach.
134	Mari Kalan.
135	Mardaa Hord.
136	Hafaul.
137	Korora.
138	Phaphrana.
139	Kathana.
140	Sanch.
141	Siyona Saldan.
142	Malakpura.
143	Harigadh.
144	Simora.
145	Harwana.
146	Barna.
147	Bangul.
148	Kharandi.
149	Dig.
150	Sertha.
151	Khori Sharaf Ali.
152	Pegan.
153	Habera.
154	Kharana.
155	Balbhersakhat.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUFALE - continued.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
Kaula Tahsil - continued.	
156	Sergada.
157	Murlesapure.
158	Kharyal.
159	Barsana.
160	Fatehpure.
161	Bhagana.
162	Elmi.
163	Bhana.
164	Bakkal.
165	Janedpura.
166	Pusaeh.
167	Bughsana.
168	Jhakhanhi.
169	Bhorak.
170	Soga.
171	Chaba.
172	Sehnumazra.
173	Salvan (Branch).
174	Bohara.
175	Naman.
176	Jajampur.
177	Bakhi.
178	Chandana.
179	Sangmuli.
180	Dahala.
181	Kharek.
182	Muana (Branch).
183	Dabah.
184	Uplana.
185	Sadiwadi.
186	Chodra.
187	Endadhega.
188	Bhor.
189	Badhara.
190	Chuharpura.
191	Pudh.
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 Taluk.</i>	
193	Devdaspora.
194	Nalwi.
195	Josar.
196	Nawarsi.
197	Gudha.
198	Mathana.
199	Khari Dabdan.
200	Bhustla.
201	Kalwa.
202	Naini.
203	Ban.
204	Ramsaranmaza.
205	Maohbrauli.
206	Dunyamaza.
207	Rajheri.
208	Zainpure Jatan.
209	Nachraon.
210	Dhanaura.
211	Budha.
212	Jobal.
213	Teora.
214	Thaske Ali Shah.
215	Sheikhupura.
216	Dabkheri.
217	Karara.

INSOLVENCY CASES.

(Answer to Question No. 1984, 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. 1,18,878-6-9. In 1928 the number of such cases was 32 and their total value about Rs. 3,11,546-9-0.

(b) In 1927 Muslims were appointed Official Receivers in 4 cases, of which the total value was Rs. 3,474 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 1,063 acres and as shown by Canal Patwaris 1,959.

(iii) The village is irrigated from Rappar, Danwaran, Shahmal and Gopal Distributaries of Mailai 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 Mailai tahsils did represent to the local authorities that there were mistakes in the measurements done by Canal Patwaris for *Kharif* 1923.

(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 1879, applicable to the Mailai Canal and they were informed accordingly.

(c) Does not arise.

NORMAL SCHOOL, HOSHARPUR.

(Answer to Question No. 1961,* page 723.)

The Honourable Mr. Manchar 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. Manchar 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 738.)

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. 1987*, page 841.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stew :—(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 Kishak 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. 2060*, page 932.)

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	34
1928	28
(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 L. 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 4 Indian Law Report (Lahore), page 548.

PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF JHATEA MEAT IN GOVERNMENT

HIGH SCHOOL, KASUR.

(Answer to Question No. 2122,* 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 *Jhatha* 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. 2124,* 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 record goes 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.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE OF GUJRAT.

(Answer to Question No. 2180,* 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 Smawan school on 8th 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 1150.)

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.

OFFICERS IN THE TEANA SADAR, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2167,* page 1261.)

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 1273.)

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.A.'s 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.
III	48	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 3 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 AHLWADS, 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 Tahsils.

(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 1278.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) The mileage of metalled roads under the district board, Karnal, is 48 miles 2½ furlongs.

(b) The mileage of 48 miles 2½ furlongs is distributed among 4 tahsils as under:—

	Karnal tahsil.	Kaithal tahsil.	Paripat 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	5 1	1 2	1 6	0 1½	12 2½
Total	15 1	2 2	1 6	20 1½	43 2½

(c) Government gives grants-in-aid for II class roads at the following rates:—

- (1) For maintenance at 85 per cent. of the actual expenditure.
- (2) For development works at 60 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	25
(3) Kaithal-Guhla road	20
(4) Guhla-Bhagal road	10
(5) Assandh-Rajmudh-Pandri road	22
(6) Pehowa-Bhagal road	12

ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

VOL. XII.

NOMINATION OF LADY CANDIDATES TO MUNICIPAL COM- MITTEES.

(Answer to Question No. 116, page 112.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon: (1) Yes.

(2) No vacancy has since occurred in the municipal committee of Jullundur 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. Government 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)	106
(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 8 Mortgage Banks started during 1926-27	1,518
3.	Number of Credit Societies (of all kinds), including 8 Mortgage Banks started during 1927-28	1,104

INSPECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, AMRALA 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 :-

Amhala division	5
Jullundur division	16
Lahore division	12
Rawalpindi division	16
Multan division	10
Total	58

(b) 18 per cent.

(c) 11½ 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 255.

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 1923 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 HARNA.

(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 452.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A statement is laid on the table.

STATEMENT SHOWING NAME, LENGTH OR SERVICE, DATE OF BIRTH, RANK, ETC. OF SUPPLEMENTED MEN AND HEAD CLERKS IN THE REGIMENT OF INFANTRY, 10TH REGIMENT, IN THE LAHORE DIVISION, AS AT STAFF OF THE DIVISION, 1902.

[illegible]

1. 2—Under the provisions of Title 40, Section 101, it is required that an individual cannot pay a required fee to return to the agency in all years, but should ordinarily be released in service in some cases of necessity up to his age of 60 years.

NAROWAL-ZAFARWAL KUCHA ROAD.

(Answer to Question No. 943, page 489.)

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 653.)

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 653.)

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. 979, 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 MUSSAKAT KANAM BHANI.

(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.

(i) Government has no knowledge of any such complaint.

(j) Yes.

(k) No.

CANAL IRRIGATION AND ARIANA.

(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 ariana levied.
	Acres.	Acres.	Rs. & p.
Locharan	1,325	38-08	37 6 0
Dargahpur	1,825	37-11	32 12 0
Sandiwala	<div> <div>970</div> <div>1,825</div> </div> 2,825	<div> <div>35-19</div> <div>36-41</div> </div> 71-6	<div> <div>53 3 0</div> <div>38 4 0</div> </div> 111 7 0
Thada Tahlan	2,500	89-38	154 10 0
Bojapur	<div> <div>2,685</div> <div>490</div> <div>3,244</div> </div> 3,410	<div> <div>235-35</div> <div>38-35</div> <div>775-35</div> </div> 1,100-10	<div> <div>560 5 0</div> <div>.</div> <div>2,074 0 0</div> </div> 2,625 5 0
Dhertala	780	14-75	25 8 0

USE OF PUBLIC WELLS BY DEPRESSSED CLASSES.

(Answer to Question No. 991, page 666.)

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.

4514

[illegible]

District	(Kind of local bodies that have the right of compulsory education)	No. of schools	Date of introduction	Do these any other authorities have the right to compulsory education?	Do any other authorities have the right to compulsory education?	How many times has the law been amended?	Remarks
Albania	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Austria	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Belgium	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Bulgaria	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Czechoslovakia	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Denmark	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
France	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Germany	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Greece	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Hungary	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Italy	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Japan	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Korea	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Lithuania	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Luxembourg	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Netherlands	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Norway	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Poland	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Portugal	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Romania	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Russia	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Serbia	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Slovakia	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Spain	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Sweden	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Switzerland	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Turkey	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Ukraine	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	
Yugoslavia	District Board, District Council, Municipal	10	18-10-1908	No	No	10	

[illegible]

MOTOR VEHICLES TAX.

(Answer to Question No. 1080 (1), page 1021).

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : 8,700,704 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.	Bhai 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 chaprasi at Rs. 15 per mensem	13,500	Net income during first year of engagement of the Adviser 23,337 Net income during the three following years— During 1925-27 12,031 During 1927-28 10,500 During 1928-29 23,713

APPENDIX

DETENTION OF STUDENTS OF VARIOUS COLLEGES IN THE PROVINCE.

(Answer to Question No. 1112, page 1155)

The Honourable Mr. Manshar 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	NUMBERS DETAINED	
		F. A.	B. A.
1	G. N. Khalsa College, Gujranwala	6	
2	Islamic College, Lahore	21	3
3	Hindu Sabha College, Amritsar	2	
4	Government Intermediate College, Lyallpur	9	
5	Forman Christian College, Lahore	12	4
6	Murray College, Shaloot	5	
7	D. A. V. College, Rawalpindi	6	
8	Mohindra College, Patiala	3	1
9	Gordon College, Rawalpindi	9	3

COMPLAINT AGAINST WEATER SUPPLY.

(Answer to Question No. 1121, page 1235)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (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 SURLET.

(Answer to Question No. 1140, page 1236).

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) The expenditure on the combined works at Ferozepore to the end of February 1929 was Rs. 1,30,84,708 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 84 ante.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) 18.

(b) 9 including 4 statutory agriculturists.

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72 PLC-C20-48-29-BGPP Lab re.

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