

311

# THE Punjab Legislative Council Debates.

From 21st February to 29th March, 1935.

Vol. XXVI.

## OFFICIAL REPORT.



Lahore :

Printed by the Superintendent, Government Printing, Punjab.  
1935.

**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE  
COUNCIL.**

*President.*

**The Hon'ble Chaudhri Sir Shahab-ud-Din, Kt., K.B.**

*Deputy President.*

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh, B.A., LL.B.**

*Secretary.*

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Abnasha Singh, Barrister-at-Law.**

*Assistant Secretary.*

**Khan Sahib Hakim Ahmed Shujaa, B.A.**

## **PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

### **LIST OF MEMBERS.**

#### **I.—EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND MINISTERS.**

The Hon'ble Mr. D. J. Boyd, C.I.E., I.C.S., Finance Member to Government, Punjab.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan, C.I.E., Revenue Member to Government, Punjab.

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

The Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Kt., Minister for Education (Shahpur East, Muhammadan, Rural).

The Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, M.A., Ph. D., Kt., Minister for Local Self-Government (North-West Towns, Non-Muhammadan, Urban).

#### **II.—OFFICIAL MEMBERS.**

Anderson, Mr. J. D., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Legislative Department.

Bourne, Mr. F. C., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Electricity, Industries and Labour Departments.

Dobson, Mr. B. H., C.B.E., I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Development, Punjab.

Fazl Ilahi, Khan Sahib Shaikh, Director, Information Bureau, Punjab.

Hearn, Mr. J. W., I.C.S., Home Secretary to Government, Punjab.

Latifi, Mr. A., C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Punjab.

Marsden, Mr. P., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Transferred Departments.

Ogilvie, Mr. C. M. G., C.B.E., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Finance Department.

Puckle, Mr. F. H., C.I.E., I.C.S., Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.

Rahman, Khan Bahadur Dr. K. A., O.B.E., Director of Public Health, Punjab.

Sanderson, Mr. R., M.A., I.E.S., Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.

Tate, Mr. T. B., Chief Engineer to Government, Punjab, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.

#### **III.—NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS.**

Abdul Ghani, Shaikh, West-Punjab Towns (Muhammadan), Urban.

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

Ahmad Yar Khan, Daulatana, Khan Bahadur Mian (Muhammadan), Landholders.

## III.—NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS—CONTINUED.

- Akbar Ali, Pir, B.A., LL.B., Ferozepore (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Allah Dad Khan, Chaudhri, B.A., Ambala Division, North-East (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Arjan Singh, Sardar, B.A., LL.B., Hoshiarpur and Kangra (Sikh), Rural.
- Bahadur Khan, Sardar, M.B.E., Dera Ghazi Khan (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Balbir Singh, Rao Bahadur Captain, Rao, O.B.E., Gurgaon (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Bansi Lal, Chaudhri, Lahore City (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Bhagat Ram, Lala, Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Bishan Singh, Sardar, Sialkot-cum-Gurdaspur (Sikh), Rural.
- Chetan Anand, Lala, B.A., LL.B., West Punjab Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Chhotu Ram, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., South-East Rohtak (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Chowdhry, Mr. Sajjan Kumar, Hissar (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Faqir Husain Khan, Chaudhri, Amritsar (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Fazl Ali, Khan Bahadur Nawab Chaudhri, O.B.E., Gujrat-East (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Ghani, Mr. M.A., Representative of Labouring Classes (Nominated).
- Gopal Das, Rai Sahib Lala, Lahore and Ferozepore-cum-Sheikhupura (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Gurbachan Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar, Jullundur (Sikh), Rural.
- Habib Ullah, Khan Bahadur Sardar, Lahore (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Haibat Khan Daba, Khan, Multan East (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Jagdev Khan Kharal, Rai, Lyallpur North (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Janmeja Singh, Captain, Sardar Bahadur Sardar, O.B.I., Representative of the Punjab Officers and Soldiers of His Majesty's Indian Forces (Nominated).
- Jaswant Singh, Guru, Ferozepore (Sikh), Rural.
- Jawahar Singh Dhillon, Sardar, B.Sc. (Agri.) (Wales), M.S.P. (London)-Lahore (Sikh), Rural.
- Jyoti Prasad, Lala, B.A., LL.B., South-East Towns (Non-Muhammadan)-Urban.
- Kesar Singh, Rai Sahib Chaudhri, Amritsar-cum-Gurdaspur (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Labb Chand Mehra, Rai Sahib Lala, Representative of General Interest (Nominated).
- Labb Singh, Mr., M.A., LL.B. (Cantab.), Rawalpindi division and Lahore division North (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.



## III.—NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS—CONTINUED.

- Lekhwati Jain, Shrimati, North-East Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Malak, Mr. Muhammad Din, Lahore City (Muhammadan), Urban.
- Mamraj Singh Chohan, Kanwar, B.A., LL.B., Ambala-cum-Simla (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Manohar Lal, Mr., M.A., Punjab University.
- Mayadas, Mr. Ernest, B.A., Representative of Indian Christians (Nominated).
- Mazhar Ali Azhar, Maulvi, B.A., LL.B., East and West-Central Towns (Muhammadan), Urban.
- Mohan Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar, Rawalpindi division and Gujranwala (Sikh), Rural.
- Mohindar Singh, Sardar, Ludhiana (Sikh), Rural.
- Mubarak Ali Shah, Sayad, Jhang (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, Chaudhri, Jullundur (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Amin Khan, Khan Bahadur Malik, O.B.E., Attock (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Eusoof, Khwaja, South-East Towns (Muhammadan), Urban.
- Muhammad Hayat Qureshi, Khan Bahadur Nawab, Mian, C.I.E., Shahpur West (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Hasan, Khan Sahib Makhdum Shaikh, Muzaffargarh (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari, Khan Bahadur Nawab, Baluch Tumdars (Land holders).
- Muhammad Baza Shah Gilani, Makhdumzada Sayad, Multan West (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Sadiq, Shaikh, Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban.
- Muhammad Sarfaraz Ali Khan, Raja, Jhelum (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Yasin Khan, Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., Gurgaon-cum-Hissar (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., Sialkot (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Mukerji, Rai Bahadur Mr. P., Punjab Chamber of Commerce and Trades Association (Commerce).
- Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, Khan Bahadur Mian, Representative of General Interests (Nominated).
- Muzaffar Khan, Khan Bahadur Captain Malik, Mianwali (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Narendra Nath, Diwan Bahadur Raja, M.A., Punjab Landholders (General).
- Nathwa Singh, Chaudhri, Karnal (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

### III.—NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS—CONCLUDED.

Nihal Chand Aggarwal, Lala, East and West Central Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.

Noor Ahmad Khan, Khan Sahib Mian, Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural.

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

Nurullah, Mian, B. Com. (London), F.R.E.S., Lyallpur South (Muhammadan), Rural.

Pancham Chand, Thakur, Kangra (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

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

Puri, Mr. Mukand Lal, M.A., Punjab Industries.

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

Rahim Bakhsh, Maulvi Sir, K.C.I.E., Representative of General Interests (Nominated).

Ramji Das, Lala, Amritsar City (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.

Ram Sarup, Chaudhri, North-West Rohtak (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Ram Singh, 2nd-Lieutenant, Sardar Sahib Sardar, Ambala division (Sikh), Rural.

Riasat Ali, Khan Sahib Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., Gujranwala (Muhammadan), Rural.

Roberts, Professor W., C.I.E., Representative of the European and Anglo-Indian Communities (Nominated).

Sampuran Singh, Sardar, Lyallpur (Sikh), Rural.

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

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

Sheo Narain Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar, C.I.E., Representative of General Interests (Nominated).

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

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

Zaman Mehdi Khan, Khan Bahadur Malik, Sheikhupura (Muhammadan), Rural.

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# PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, 21st February 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

## OATH OF OFFICE.

*The following members were sworn in :—*

Maulvi Sir Rahim Bakhsh (Nominated non-official).

Mr. F. C. Bourne (Secretary, Electricity, Industries and Labour).

Mr. T. B. Tate (Chief Engineer, Irrigation).

Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie (Finance Secretary).

Mr. B. H. Dobson (Financial Commissioner, Development).

Mr. F. H. Puckle (Chief Secretary).

Khan Bahadur Dr. K. A. Rahman (Director of Public Health).

## STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### CROWN LANDS IN POSSESSION OF OCCUPANCY TENANTS AND TENANTS-AT-WILL.

**\*2341. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state the total amount of Crown lands in the cultivating possession of (i) occupancy tenants and (ii) tenants-at-will in the province as a whole and the proportion which it bears to the total area under cultivation ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement giving the total figures of all the districts except Multan is laid on the table. As soon as the figures of the Multan district are received from the local officer, they, as well as the percentages to the total area under cultivation, will be communicated to the honourable member.

### CROWN LANDS IN POSSESSION OF OCCUPANCY TENANTS AND TENANTS-AT-WILL.

AREA IN CULTI-  
VATING POS-  
SESSION.  
*Acres.*

(1) Occupancy tenants	..	..	..	880,427
(2) Tenants-at-will	..	..	..	1,149,988

## RETRENCHMENT.

**\*3052. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether in pursuance of the policy of retrenchment a number of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh officials were retrenched in the different departments under his control ;
- (b) if so, the number and percentage of officials belonging to different communities who have been so retrenched ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) All the 14 panchayat officers, and 2 Hindus, 2 Sikhs and 11 Muslims in the Industries Department. The percentage is cent per cent. in the case of panchayat officers and 1.1, 5.5 and 6.5, respectively, in the case of Industries Department.

Retrenchment has to be carried out with reference to the posts which can be dispensed with. It is not practicable to conduct it with reference to the community to which the individual Government servant affected belongs.

## MEMORIAL FROM ZAMINDARS OF ILAQA BEIT.

**\*3155. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether they received any memorial from the zamindars of ilaqa beit, district Hoshiarpur, tahsil Garhshankar, to the effect that since the Sirhind Canal has been started, the Sutlej has changed its course in the northern direction, thus washing away most of the agricultural lands of ilaqa beit, Garhshankar ;
- (b) whether the Government since the receipt of this memorial has prepared an alluvion and diluvion report ;
- (c) whether any officers have been appointed to enquire into the complaints of the zamindars of that ilaqa ; if so, what is the report ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The Deputy Commissioner and Superintending Engineer were asked to make enquiries and report. Their reports show that the change in the course of the Sutlej river cannot be ascribed to the construction of the Sirhind Canal.

## SALARY BILL OF PUBLIC SERVANTS.

**\*3257. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the total annual salary bill of the following classes of public servants in the province, separately :—

- (a) members of which are known as imperial services including provincial services, class I ;
- (b) members of provincial services ;
- (c) holders of specialist posts ;
- (d) members of clerical establishment of all grades ;

(e) members of subordinate services ;

(f) menial establishment ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The figures for 1933-34 were—

(a) Rs. 72,65,066-13-8.

(d) Rs. 99,86,807-10-0.

(b) Rs. 67,93,847-11-0.

(e) Rs. 2,05,24,889-9-0.

(c) Rs. 7,97,728-3-0.

(f) Rs. 24,89,902-2-0.

In addition to the figures shown above a sum of Rs. 24,065-10-2 was paid in 1933-34 on account of leave salary of officers on leave *ex-India*, and a sum of Rs. 1,02,861-13-0 was paid from provincial revenues towards the proportionate share of the cost of Local Audit Department establishment for work done by this establishment for the Punjab Government.

INDEBTEDNESS OF S. KHARAK SINGH, DIVISIONAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICER.

**\*3370. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** With reference to reply to starred question No. 2989<sup>1</sup> in regard to Sardar Kharak Singh's debts wherein it was stated—

(i) that Government had no exact information, and

(ii) that further inquiry would be made,

will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture now please state the result of the promised inquiry, particularly with reference to the points—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Kharak Singh is heavily in debt ;

(b) whether Sardar Kharak Singh's debts are in excess of his two years salary ;

(c) whether he has been and is carrying on business in sugar making machines and other agricultural implements ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that a case was actually instituted in a court at Lyallpur for selling a defective machinery ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to starred question 3586<sup>2</sup> in the last session of the Punjab Legislative Council.

INDEBTEDNESS OF S. KHARAK SINGH, DIVISIONAL AGRICULTURAL OFFICER.

**\*3371. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** With reference to question No. 2989, volume XXIV, page 599, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state if it is a fact that Sardar Kharak Singh has been owing heavy debts for a considerable time past ; if so, the reason why Government have not so far taken any action under rule 16 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to starred question 3586<sup>2</sup> in the last session of the Punjab Legislative Council.

<sup>1</sup>Vol. XXIV, page 599.

<sup>2</sup>See Volume XXV, page 425.

## MALE DOCTORS IN GIRLS' INSTITUTIONS.

**\*3403. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether it is a fact that male doctors attend and examine the females in the girls institutions; if so, will the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, kindly state why the male doctors are allowed to examine them against the sentiments of the public and the female purdah system?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The purport of this question is not clear. In girls' schools there is no compulsory medical examination of students. Perhaps the honourable member has in view the doctors who attend the girls residing in boarding houses. If so, then the answer is as follows :—

Wherever lady doctors are available they are appointed in preference to men doctors. The honourable member will realise that where there are no lady doctors available the Department has to ask the help of men doctors. I am glad to say that a large section of the public voluntarily avail themselves of the services of male doctors for their families. If the honourable member has any particular case in view where an undesirable person has been engaged for this purpose, I shall be grateful if the information is conveyed to me privately. No complaints have been received from anywhere on the subject. The professional integrity of men doctors in this province stands high.

## WHEAT CROP IN THE ILAQA BAIT.

**\*3439. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the yield of wheat crop this year is much below the average in the *ilaqa* bait of tahsil Nawanshahr and tahsil Garhshankar;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the suspended land revenue demand for the last *kharif* is being realised along with the *rabi* instalment of land revenue;
- (c) whether the Government is prepared to grant some concessions to the zamindars regarding the payment of land revenue? If not, why not?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Government's information is that the yield of the wheat crop in question is not much below the average.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

## MOLESTATION OF SCHOOL BOYS BY GOONDAS.

**\*3471. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that *goondas* of Lahore tease the school-boys when coming from and going to school;

- (b) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that some headmasters of the local schools of Lahore referred the matter to the police ;
- (c) the number of persons who have been dealt with in accordance with law ;
- (d) what steps Government proposes to take so that school boys may pursue their studies without molestation ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Yes ; there have been some cases of this nature.

(b) In 1980 one of the headmasters of the local schools brought the matter to the notice of the Divisional Inspector of Schools, who referred it to the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore. One of the offenders was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment under section 379, Indian Penal Code. No complaint seems to have been made to the Inspector of Schools by any of the local schools after this occurrence.

(c) Six. Two of these were convicted and sentenced to one year's, and five years' rigorous imprisonment ; two were warned by the police while one of the remaining two is under trial, and the case of another one is being investigated by the police.

(d) Government will do its best to see that law on the subject is obeyed.

#### SEDUCTION OF BOYS BY TEACHERS.

**\*3537. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) how many cases of seduction of boys by teachers were reported during the last five years by the—
  - (i) primary schools maintained by district boards ;
  - (ii) primary schools maintained by municipal, town committees and notified areas ;
  - (iii) primary departments of secondary and high schools maintained by all local bodies ;
  - (iv) primary departments of all secondary and high schools maintained by private bodies but recognised by the Education Department in the Punjab ;
- (b) how many of the cases thus reported were dealt with departmentally and how many by the law courts and with what results ;
- (c) how much time is generally taken in conducting departmental enquiry into such cases ;
- (d) whether Government proposes to take any steps to expedite the departmental enquiry in view of the fact that a delayed action on the part of the authorities is liable to cause gross miscarriage of justice ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) (i) 17.

(ii) 4.

(iii) 17.

(iv) 3.

(b) Thirty-three cases were dealt with departmentally with the result that twenty-one teachers were dismissed, five acquitted, one discharged and five awarded lighter departmental punishments. One case is still under investigation. Further enquiries are also being made about cases in which a penalty short of dismissal was imposed. In the eight cases tried by law courts, three teachers were imprisoned and five acquitted.

(c) From a few days to three or four months, depending on the nature of the case.

(d) Instructions to deal with such cases promptly and efficiently have been repeated.

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#### COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

**\*3547. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of teachers communitywise (J. V. and S. V. separately) in the vernacular schools (primary, lower middle and middle) in the province ;

(b) the number of students communitywise reading in them ;

(c) the expenditure on the same from Government funds ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

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#### SEDUCTION OF BOYS BY TEACHERS.

**\*3556. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

(a) how many cases of seduction of boys by teachers were reported during the last five years by the—

(i) primary schools maintained by district boards ;

(ii) primary schools maintained by municipal town committees and notified areas ;

(iii) primary departments of secondary and high schools maintained by all local bodies ;

(iv) primary departments of all secondary and high schools maintained by private bodies but recognised by the Education Department in the Punjab ;

(b) how many of the cases thus reported were dealt with departmentally and how many by the law courts and with what results ;

- (c) how much time is generally taken in conducting departmental enquiry into such cases ;
- (d) whether Government proposes to take any steps to expedite the departmental enquiry in view of the fact that a delayed action on the part of the authorities is liable to cause gross miscarriage of justice ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member's attention is invited to the answer to Council question No. 3537 (starred) asked by Mian Nurullah during the last session of the Council.

UNIVERSITY LAW COLLEGE, LAHORE.

**\*3592. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state in respect of the University Law College, Lahore—

- (a) the present number, communitywise, of the members of the teaching staff, stating also the number of agriculturists and non-agriculturists of each community ;
- (b) the total amount, communitywise, paid as salaries to members of the teaching staff, in the last financial year ;
- (c) the total number, communitywise, of new employments on the teaching staff, for each of the last fifteen years, stating also how many were agriculturists and how many non-agriculturists ;
- (d) the total number, communitywise, of members of the teaching staff, whose services were dispensed with, or otherwise came to an end, for each of the last fifteen years, specifying the number of agriculturists and of non-agriculturists ;
- (e) the total number, communitywise of the members of the clerical staff, and the administrative staff other than the teaching staff specifying the number of agriculturists and of non-agriculturists in each community ;
- (f) the total amount, communitywise, paid as salaries to the members of the clerical staff, and the administrative staff mentioned in (e) during the last financial year ;
- (g) the total number, communitywise, of the members of the menial staff specifying the number of agriculturists and of non-agriculturists in each community ;
- (h) the total amount, communitywise, paid as salaries to the members of the menial staff during the last financial year ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The information received from the Punjab University is attached. The statistics regarding agriculturists and non-agriculturists are not available nor can they be collected.

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

(a) The present number communitywise of the teaching staff is as follows :—

	Hindus.	Muham- madans.	Sikhs.	Others.
Principal .. ..	1	..	..	..
Whole-time Readers ..	2	2	..	..
Part-time Readers ..	1	1	1	1
Part-time Lecturers ..	10	8	3	1
Teachers for Post-graduate work.	2	..	..	..
Agriculturists .. ..	1	8	..	..

(b) Total amount of salaries paid to the teaching staff communitywise in the last financial year is as follows :—

	Hindus.	Muham- madans.	Sikhs.	Others.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.
Principal .. ..	13,478 10 8	..	..	..
Whole-time Readers ..	12,725 3 1	13,500 0 0	2,451 0 0	..
Part-time Lecturers ..	13,741 14 7	12,709 10 9	6,083 13 11	2,400
Conveyancing Lecturer ..	1,000 0 0	..	..	..

(c) The following table gives communitywise the total number of new employments during the last fifteen years :

	Hindus.	Muham- madans.	Sikhs.	Others.
1933-34 .. ..	4	3	..	..
1932-33 .. ..	3	4	1	1
1931-32 .. ..	1	..	1	..
1930-31 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1929-30 .. ..	2	1	..	..
1928-29 .. ..	1	1	1	..
1927-28 .. ..	1	..	..	..
1926-27 .. ..	1	..	..	..
1925-26 .. ..	2	..	..	..
1924-25 .. ..	1	1	..	..
1923-24 .. ..	1	..	..	..
1922-23 .. ..	2	1	..	..
1921-22 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1920-21 .. ..	..	1	..	..
1919-20 .. ..	1	1	..	..



(d) The following table gives the number of the teaching staff whose services came to an end :—

			Hindus.	Muham- madans.	Sikhs.	Others.
1933-34	..	..	1	1	..	..
1932-33	..	..	..	..	..	..
1931-32	..	..	2	2	..	..
1930-31	..	..	..	..	..	..
1929-30	..	..	2	..	..	..
1928-29	..	..	..	..	..	..
1927-28	..	..	2	1	..	..
1926-27	..	..	2	..	..	..
1925-26	..	..	..	..	..	..
1924-25	..	..	1	..	..	..
1923-24	..	..	1	1	..	..
1922-23	..	..	..	..	..	..
1921-22	..	..	..	1	..	..

(e) The following gives the clerical staff as a present :—

Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Sikh.	Others.
5	..	1	..

(f) The total amount of salaries paid to the clerical staff during the last financial year :—

Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Sikhs.	Others.
4,404 6 0	45 0 0	512 8 0	..

(g) The following is the present number of the menial staff arranged communitywise :

Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Sikhs.	Others.
11	4	..	2 depressed class Hindus.

(h) The following is the amount of salaries paid to the menial staff communitywise during the last financial year :—

Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Sikhs.	Others.
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.
1,895 11 4	776 12 11	68 10 4	192

(depressed class Hindus).

#### GURDAWARA SITE IN MANDI BAHADUR-DIN.

**\*3614. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to (d) of starred question No. 3219<sup>1</sup>, dated the 22nd March, 1934 —

(a) whether any information has been received yet, whether the whole price has been realized and what balance, if any, remains unpaid ;

(b) the steps that are being taken to realize the balance ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :**

(a) The whole site has been paid for.

(b) Does not arise.

## FACILITIES IN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

**\*3643. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain facilities, such as examination by compartment system, award of grace marks, etc., have been provided to University candidates sitting for the F.A., B.A. and M.A. examinations, while these are being denied to examinees in Oriental and Vernacular languages ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The compartment system prevails in the Intermediate and B.A. examinations but not in the M.A. examination. Similarly, it obtains in the Proficiency and High Proficiency examinations for the oriental titles and oriental languages, but not in the Honours examinations.

The "grace marks" are awarded in accordance with certain regulations in the Matriculation, Intermediate, B.A., B.Sc. and B.C.L. examinations, but these are not awarded in any other examination—oriental titles and vernacular languages examinations included.

ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS OF MUSLIMS OF MIANWALI AND MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICTS.

**\*3657. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether the economic and educational conditions of Muslims of Mianwali and Muzaffargarh districts are becoming worse ;
- (b) if so, what methods Government has adopted for their uplift ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The number of Muslim students under instructions during the last four years in the two districts was—

Year.				Mianwali.	Muzaffargarh.
1930-31	..	..	..	20,853	19,160
1931-32	..	..	..	19,965	19,396
1932-33	..	..	..	20,332	20,766
1933-34	..	..	..	19,391	16,989

From these figures it cannot be inferred that the position of Muslims is becoming worst year after year. Their number under instruction in 1933-34 was no doubt less than in the previous year, but this was a year of general economic depression and other districts and communities experienced a similar decline in numbers at school during this year. In fact, in the Muzaffargarh district, while the Muslims lost by 4 per cent., the Hindus and Sikhs lost by 6.6 per cent. and 8.8 per cent., respectively.

As regards the economic position these two districts have suffered proportionately with other districts owing to the general economic depression in the province.

## ABOLITION OF SPECIAL PAY TO OFFICERS OF IMPERIAL SERVICES.

**\*3717. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly lay on the table of the House a statement showing the annual saving effected by the abolition, if any, of special allowances given to the officers of various Imperial Services before retrenchment?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to the Council question is not ready.

## DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, GURGAON DISTRICT, AND THE TEACHING OF HINDI AND URDU IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS. ✓

**\*3729. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of district board primary schools in Gurgaon district in which Hindi was started from the infant class as the first vernacular before the appointment of the present Muslim District Inspector in the district ;
- (b) the number of such schools in which Urdu has been introduced as the first language since his appointment ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in the Divisional Conference of the Inspectors of Ambala division it was resolved that Hindi should be the first language in district board schools where the majority of students belong to Hindu community and Urdu where the majority belong to Muslim community ;
- (d) if answer to (c) is in the affirmative, whether he proposes to take any action against the said District Inspector to ensure carrying out of the resolution ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) There is no District Board primary school in the Gurgaon district in which Hindi by itself has ever been started as the first vernacular from the infant class. There are, however, some schools in which Hindi is also taught alongside of Urdu in the primary classes and the number of such schools before the appointment of the present District Inspector of Schools was sixty.

(b) Out of these sixty schools eighteen have dropped the teaching of Hindi and have made the entire infant class take up Urdu. On the other hand there are twelve other schools which have started the teaching of Hindi alongside of Urdu. It may be added for the honourable member's information that these experiments are not being made under orders of the District Inspectors of Schools.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

## LINE SUPERINTENDENTS, ELECTRICITY BRANCH.

**\*3784. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the work of Dalip Singh, S. B. Bhatnagar, Mohan Lall and Harparshad, Line Superintendents on probation in the Electricity Branch, has been reported by their Executive Engineers to be unsatisfactory ;

[Ch. Afzal Haq.]

- (b) if so, how many extensions of their probationary period have been given, and what is the total period of extension in each case?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The information is of a confidential nature and it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

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LINE SUPERINTENDENTS, ELECTRICITY BRANCH.

**\*3785. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mohan Lall and Dalip Singh, Line Superintendents, whose work was reported to be unsatisfactory during their probationary period in one division, were, after such reports, transferred to another division in the Electricity Branch ;
- (b) whether any Muslim Line Superintendent on probation, about whom unsatisfactory reports were received, was similarly transferred to another division of the Electricity Branch ;

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The information is of a confidential nature and it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

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LINE SUPERINTENDENTS, ELECTRICITY BRANCH.

**\*3786. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the work of Des Raj, Line Superintendent of Local Distribution in the Electricity Branch, has more than once been reported by his Executive Engineer to be unsatisfactory, and, if so, what action has been taken against this Line Superintendent ;
- (b) whether this Line Superintendent was previously removed from service of the Electricity Branch on account of serious breakdown in the Lahore-Amritsar temporary transmission line which was in his charge ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The information is of a confidential nature and it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

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CENTRAL TRAINING COLLEGE.

**\*3865. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of agriculturists, communitywise, who passed the Senior Anglo-Vernacular and the Bachelor of Training examinations from the Central Training College, Lahore, since the year 1930 ;
- (b) how many of them, communitywise, applied to the various divisional inspectors for posts in Government schools or in the inspecting line and how many of them have been appointed ;

- (c) how many of them, communitywise, applied to the Director of Public Instruction for posts in Government colleges and how many of them have been appointed?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The statement below gives the requisite information :—

	Muham- madana.	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Others.	Total.
(a) Number of agriculturists who have passed the B. T. or S.A.-V. examination since 1930.	160	49	66	11	286
(b) (i) Number who applied to Divisional Inspectors for posts.	181	37	34	3	255
(ii) Number appointed ..	7	..	..	..	7
(c) (i) Number who applied to Director of Public Instruction for posts in colleges.	11	2	4	..	17
(ii) Number appointed ..	1	..	..	..	1

It may be added for the honourable member's information that two Hindu and two Sikh agriculturists who had passed the S. A.-V. or B. T. examination before 1930 have been appointed during this period.

#### ACTION AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN ROHTAK DISTRICT.

**\*3903. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state whether any action has been taken against any officers of the Police, Revenue or Judicial department in the Rohtak district for corruption during the last three years, and, if so, the nature of the action taken?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the action taken against officers of the Police, Revenue and Judicial Departments in the Rohtak district for corruption during the last three years, i.e., 1931-32, 1932-33 and 1933-34.*

Year.	Police Department.	Revenue Department.	Judicial Department.
1931-32 .. ..	Two foot constables were dismissed for taking a bribe.	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i> .
1932-33 .. ..	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i> .
1933-34 .. ..	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	One Reader to a Subordinate Judge was dismissed for corruption.

## NOTARIES PUBLIC.

**\*3963. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the provincial total of Notaries Public in the Punjab, stating the strength of each community and how many among each community are agriculturists and how many are non-agriculturists and the total emoluments of each community during the last year for which figures are available ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** There are seventeen Hindu, three Muslim and three Sikh Notaries Public in the Punjab, i.e., twenty-three in all. All are non-agriculturists with the exception of one Sikh. Government have no information regarding their total emoluments.

## LOTHIAN COMMITTEE REPORT.

**\*3976. Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly place on the table final proposals made by the Local Government with reference to the observation made in paragraph 170 of the Report of the Lothian Committee, Volume I ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** It is not in the public interest to lay on the table the correspondence between the Government of India and the Punjab Government on the subject.

## MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, LUDHIANA.

**\*3993. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly (a) lay on the table the following :—

- (i) complaint of Khwaja Muhammad Akram, Municipal Commissioner, addressed to the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, dated 27th November, 1934, against Dr. Noor Muhammad, nominated Municipal Commissioner, Ludhiana Municipal Committee, regarding the violation of laws, and letter, dated 28th November, 1934, regarding the above complaint from Khan Muhammad Akram to the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana ;
  - (ii) report of the Overseer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, dated 27th November, 1934, on the above-mentioned complaint ;
  - (iii) action taken by the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, on the report of the Overseer, dated 27th November, 1934 ;
- (b) state whether he is prepared to take any action against this member ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the reply to this question is not ready.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

COMPLAINT AGAINST ASSISTANT DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, CHUNIAN.

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

- (a) whether a nephew of Lala Durga Das, Pleader, Chunian, district Lahore, who was a student of the Municipal Board Primary School, Chunian, was examined by the Assistant District Inspector of Schools, Chunian, in 1929 ;
- (b) whether his result was not declared by the Assistant District Inspector along with the result of other students ;
- (c) whether Lala Durga Das submitted a complaint against the Assistant District Inspector concerned ;
- (d) whether any action was taken against him ;
- (e) if so, what ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the reply to this question is not ready.

OPENING OF WINE SHOPS BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF FEROZEPUR.

**673. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Municipality of Ferozepore is considering the question of one or more wine shops being opened on the Delhi Gate, Mall Road and Baghdadi Gate, Harbhagwan Memorial High School Road ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government High School, Ferozepore, practically adjoins the Delhi Gate City Mall Road ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the play-ground of the Government High School (known as Hearn Park) is located on the Delhi Gate City Mall Road ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that a cinema is also located on the Delhi Gate City Mall Road ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the school boys when going to schools and play-ground walk along the roads referred to above ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that there is also a church near the meeting point of the roads referred to above ;
- (g) under these circumstances, what action Government intends taking in the matter ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :**

- (a) No.
- (b) to (f) Yes.
- (g) Does not arise.

COW SACRIFICE, KALUWAL.

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

- (a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that Lala Sant Ram, Magistrate, first class, Hoshiarpur, had been deputed to settle the cow sacrifice question on the 'Id festival in village Kaluwal, tahsil Dasuhya, in 1929 ;

[Ch. Afzal Haq.]

- (b) whether it is a fact that the said Magistrate arranged to take out the cow from the village to Galzian slaughter house ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that at the request of the Hindus it was proposed that the cow should be taken out through the agricultural lands to the slaughter-house ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that all communities agreed to the proposal of the Magistrate and the cow sacrifice was going on peacefully ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that in year 1929, the Sikh community again raised objection and wanted to take away cow by force, and Mr. Jenkins, then Deputy Commissioner, under the police guard, allowed the Muslims to make a sacrifice and they continued to make cow sacrifice peacefully in the year 1930 ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that when Mr. Bakhle took charge of the district, Hindus and Sikhs again protested and held a meeting in Kaluwal ;
- (g) whether it is a fact that Mr. Bakhle, Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur, ordered the Mussalmans to take the cow to the slaughter-house three days before the 'Id and appointed a Magistrate with orders that beef may be brought to the village through public road and not through agricultural lands ;
- (h) whether it is a fact that the Magistrate refused to take cow under his protection up to the slaughter-house ;
- (i) whether it is a fact that the cow was sacrificed within the four walls of a private house in the village Kaluwal, in 1933 ;
- (j) if so, why the Magistrate did not give protection as usual to the Mussalmans to take cow to the slaughter-house ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the reply to this question is not ready.

#### COW SACRIFICE, KALUWAL.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that District authorities in Hoshiarpur refused to give protection to the Mussalmans of Kaluwal to sacrifice cow as had been previously agreed in 1928 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that one Maulvi Ibrahim and others were arrested long before 'Id in the year 1933, and were run in under section 107, C. P. C.
- (c) whether it is a fact that Maulvi Ibrahim and others were sent to jail on the occasion of 'Id in spite of their offering security bond in 1932 ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that in the year 1933 Mr. Bakhle even did not grant licence for cow sacrifice to Mussalmans ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that some Mussalmans were arrested in Kaluwal village, tahsil Dasuhya, for offering sacrifice of cow at 'Id festival in year 1933 ;
- (f) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to allow the Mussalmans to offer cow sacrifice according to the canon of their religion ?



**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the reply to this question is not ready.

#### COW SACRIFICE, KAROR.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that when Mr. Bakhle, Deputy Commissioner, took charge of district Hoshiarpur the Mussalmans of village Karor were not allowed to make cow sacrifice on 'Id in spite of the fact that the Mussalmans of Karor, tahsil Garhshankar, were allowed to sacrifice cow on 'Id long before ;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to take steps so that Mussalmans of the village Karor may be allowed to make sacrifice as usual as on the 'Id festival ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the reply to this question is not ready.

#### REPRESENTATION OF BALMIKI AND AD DHARAM COMMUNITY IN SERVICES.

**842. Chaudhri Bansi Lal :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government has ever given any posts to the members of the Balmiki and Ad Dharam community in the departments under its control ; if so, how many ; and if not, why not ?
- (b) whether the Government is prepared to give to the members of Ad Dharam and Balmiki community their due share in services in proportion to their population ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (a) The information is not available.

(b) Government is prepared to admit members of these communities to services in proportion to their merits, having regard to the reasonable claims of other classes.

#### SERVICE APPEALS IN THE LAHORE HIGH COURT.

**909. Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) how many service appeals by aggrieved officials (communitywise) were preferred in the Lahore High Court since 1920 to date and what was their result ;
- (b) how many service appeals by aggrieved officials (communitywise) were lodged in the Lahore High Court since October 1932 and what was their result ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) and (b) The required information is contained in the attached two statements.

*Statement showing the number of service appeals, communitywise, received in the High Court of Judicature at Lahore upto date with their result.*

MUSLIMS.					HINDUS.					SIKHS.					OTHERS.				
Dismissed.	Accepted.	Partially accepted or rejected.	Abated or remanded.	Total.	Dismissed.	Accepted.	Partially accepted or rejected.	Abated or remanded.	Total.	Dismissed.	Accepted.	Partially accepted or rejected.	Abated or remanded.	Total.	Dismissed.	Accepted.	Partially accepted or rejected.	Abated or remanded.	Total.
137	26	1	10	174	132	43	3	8	186	18	10	..	1	29	1	..	..	..	1

Statement showing number of service appeals, communitywise, received in the High Court of Judicature at Lahore, since October 1982 to date with their result.

[illegible]

## EXPENDITURE ON GIRLS' SCHOLARSHIPS BY DISTRICT BOARD.

**954. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the amount spent on girls scholarships by district boards of the province during the last financial year, giving the number and amount of scholarships for passing middle, entrance F.A., F.Sc., B.A., B.Sc., M.A. and M.Sc. examinations ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A statement showing the required information is laid on the table—

*Statement showing the amount spent on girls' scholarships by district boards of the province during 1933-34.*

No.	District Board.	Amount spent.	Number of scholarships.	Stage for which the scholarship was awarded.
		Rs.		
1	Rohtak .. ..	430	5	Middle.
2	Ambala .. ..	158	1	B.A.
3	Gurdaspur .. ..	190	1	Intermediate.

## DOGRAS IN THE FEROZEPUR DISTRICT.

**945. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the population of Dogras in the Ferozepur district by tahsils ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the reply to this question is not ready.

## DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

**990. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** With reference to his reply to unstarred question No. 8621, giving a statement showing the grants-in-aid paid to denominational schools run by different communities, will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- the number of scholars in the secondary stages of anglo-vernacular aided middle and high schools under different denominations communitywise ;
- the number of scholars in secondary department of anglo-vernacular unaided schools under different denominations communitywise ;
- the *per capita* expenditure from Government funds on students belonging to each community receiving instruction in anglo-vernacular schools ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The required information for the three major communities is :—

	Hindus.	Mustims.	Sikhs.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(a)	26,556	15,427	9,482
(b)	9,452	3,192	3,792
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
(c)	9 3 0	10 10 0	15 11 0

### THE PUNJAB ANTI-BEGGARY BILL.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** (North-East Towns, non-Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*) : I beg to move—

That the Punjab Anti-Beggary Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Lala Chetan Anand,  
Mr. Mukand Lal Puri,  
Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan,  
Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon,  
Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof,  
The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson.,  
A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The mover.

Sir, I would not like to take much of the time of the House in making a somewhat lengthy speech in support of my motion. Begging, having assumed the form of a public nuisance, has already caused much harm to the country, and is likely to cause more if no steps are taken to put an end to it. I do not like to enumerate the evils of begging, but would remain content with saying that most of the crimes committed in this country are being committed by beggars and mendicants whom you see roaming about in various parts of the country. These innocent looking people beg for alms in the day and play the rôle of thieves and dacoits in the night. Their number is very large, probably 50 or 60 lakhs in the whole of India, and about 5 or 6 lakhs in this province alone. It is said that their number is increasing day by day only because of the acute unemployment now prevailing in the country. I ask, if their number increased from six to thirty lakhs, whether it would remove unemployment ; I do not think it would. The best way to do away with unemployment is to remove the lazy habits of these people and cultivate in them love for work. In these hard days a graduate is hardly able to earn Rs. 50 or Rs. 40 a month, but a beggar can easily collect two or three rupees every day. Very often I have seen beggars entering railway compartments and begging for alms. In this way they collect a fairly good sum of money without any trouble. You should ask them to do some work, and if they take to some work, I am sure, they would become very useful members of society. Some of these beggars are regular cheats. They sometimes pretend to be blind, or would walk like a cripple or would show their self-inflicted wounds in order to excite your sympathy. In this way they do collect two or three rupees every day and spend them on

drinking or purchasing *puris*, *kachauris*. I think it is more honourable for them to remain content with a few pieces of stale bread rather than to beg money and to spend it on drink or good food for themselves. It is, therefore, our duty to put some check on them and compel them to do some work. Even in times immemorial, as is expressed in a well-known proverb—

اتم کھیتی-مدہ دیوار-فکھد چاڑی ہیک دوار

begging was considered to be the worst, and the most ignoble form of living. I have already said that beggars and mendicants number about 5 or 6 lakhs in this province, and if we give them only one anna every day, it means that we are wasting something like Rs. 60,000 every day, which can be spent more usefully on the education of the people or on the industries of the province. I, therefore, urge that it is high time that we should pass this Bill into law. Of course, there are people amongst these beggars who are physically unfit to earn their livelihood and who really deserve our help. You can make provision for their exemption in this Bill. Whenever these beggars come to my residence I ask them to do work for me for which I offer to pay. Immediately they take to their heels. This shows that they do not want to work even if they are able to do so.

The Bill may be objected to on the ground that before its passing into law poor-houses should be constructed for these people. I agree that poor-houses should be constructed. But like the Hindi proverb—

نہ نو من نیل ہوگا نہ رادھا ناچیگی

the Government would put in the excuse of want of funds. A law on the lines I have suggested is absolutely necessary for the welfare of this province. Under it you can grant licences to persons who are physically unfit to earn their livelihood or for whose maintenance we are morally bound. But the pity is that even the most strongly built people who can be very useful citizens otherwise, have taken to this easy profession of begging. We should make it a point to discourage such men from their unholy activities, for they are a mere dead weight on society.

From the volume of opinions that have been received with regard to this Bill, it will be seen that the number of opinions in its favour is very large. There are very few people or organisations that have expressed disagreement with the principle or the object of this Bill, and, if I may say so, their disagreement is based mainly on three grounds. In the first place, they say that this Bill is bad in principle, and there is no need for enacting such a legislation. Secondly, they object to this Bill because there exists no provision for public work-houses or poor-houses without which it will be no use placing this Bill on the Statute Book. The third ground on which this Bill has been objected to is that its draft is not acceptable to them, or that there is room for improvement in it. These are some of the objections which have been raised against this Bill by some of the organisations and persons including Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Lal Chand and the honourable member for Rohtak, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. In expressing his opinion Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram has been pleased to say that a very large proportion of the population, particularly among Hindus, considers it a sacred duty to give alms to the

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poor and particularly to sadhus and faqirs. He has been further pleased to say that under Hinduism the fourth stage of life known as "Sanyas" is to be devoted to the service of humanity, and that every person assuming the rôle of a sanyasi must beg for his maintenance. It is true that according to Hinduism the fourth stage of life ought to be devoted to the service of humanity, and it is also true that the sanyasis must beg for their maintenance, and I shall certainly be very happy to see the dawn of that day when Hindus in general begin to act in that way. That course, I need hardly say, will help to produce men of ripe judgment, men with vision and vast experience. In that case we shall have a large number of men to guide us in the path of life. We shall benefit by their experience and their advice, and I am sure that many of the troubles from which the public at large is suffering in these days will have been removed. In that case there may not be any need for a legislation of this kind, and in fact of many other legislations. But as things are, and as we see them, we cannot do without the proposed legislation. I would like Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram to tell me as to how many of the beggars and the so-called sadhus and faqirs are real sanyasis and faqirs who have consecrated their lives to the service of humanity, and who are, therefore, useful members of society. I do not think that he will be able to find more than one per cent. of these sadhus who can be or who ought to be tolerated. There is quite a large number of these beggars, some of whom under teens, who are beggars simply because begging has been allowed to become a profession. They have not begun begging at the fourth stage of their lives, according to one of the injunctions of Hinduism, but they beg because they do not like to do any work. Therefore, this objection of the honourable member falls to the ground.

In expressing his opinion about this Bill the honourable member has also been pleased to point out that by the enforcement of the provisions of this Bill Government will be faced with serious financial and administrative difficulties inasmuch as it will have to increase considerably the strength of the police and the magistracy to cope with the work in connection with the working of this law. In the first place, I do not believe that with this Bill becoming law the work of controlling these beggars will increase to such an extent as to compel the Government to increase the strength of the police or the magistracy. We find that in spite of an unprecedented increase in the motor vehicles, it has not been found necessary to increase the number of officers who have to issue licences to the owners. Similarly, I think that there will be no need to increase the number of magistrates for issuing licences to the beggars to any appreciable extent. If, however, it is necessary to increase the strength of the magistracy to cope with this work, there will be any number of men forthcoming to work as honorary magistrates to whom this work can be safely entrusted. I will not object to such magistrates being appointed from amongst the zamindars if I can thereby please the honourable leader of the zamindar party, and if I can win his support for this Bill. That will not entail extra expenditure and the end in view will also be achieved. I may also say that it will go to increase the prestige of the zamindars who are very fond of exercising some powers. This suggestion, I am sure, will satisfy Rao Bahadur Chaudhri

Obhotu Ram. His fear that the enforcement of this legislation will involve increased accommodation in jails and consequent heavy expenditure on prisons, is also groundless. There will be few beggars, I may assure him, who would break this law and who would like to go to jails. He is perhaps not aware that even in the days of civil disobedience movement when every person going to jail was not only honoured outside the jails, but was given every facility inside the jails as well, these beggars did not like to go to jails, although I personally tried to persuade many of them to picket liquor shops and court imprisonment. I remember to have told many of these beggars, whenever they happened to meet me, that it was time for them to do service to their motherland and to earn not only their bread but also a name in the bargain. But none, as far as I remember, liked my advice, and each one of them refused to go to jail. I am, therefore, sure that this type of lazy and lethargic people will never like to go to jails, and hence the honourable member need have no fears on that score. It is only by legislations of this nature that we can stop them or dissuade them from begging. I realise that these beggars will not be able to amass money, as many of them do now, when this Bill becomes law. They will not be able to lead a life of ease and lethargy when the provisions of this Bill are enforced. They will then be able to earn not much, but only dry loaves of bread after working perhaps very hard. But that life will certainly be more honourable, and it will not be long before they will become accustomed to it.

Another objection that has been raised against this Bill is that in the absence of public work-houses and poor-houses, it will not be possible to give effect to the proposed legislation. To me this objection also does not appear to be very serious, and it should not deter us from undertaking this legislation. If we must postpone placing this legislation on the Statute Book till work-houses and poor-houses have come into existence, then we had better drop the idea of legislation for ever. I do not quite understand why we should follow that course at all. I know, and I think other members of the Council also know, that such a law was passed in England before any work-houses or poor-houses had been brought into existence. These work-houses were provided long after that law was passed. In the beginning the beggars and mendicants in England used to find food and shelter in the churches where generously disposed people used to provide food for them. Then gradually the need for poor-houses was felt, and they were brought into existence in course of time. Similarly here in the Punjab the municipalities and the district boards can start such work-houses and poor-houses even after this Bill is passed. The charitable people, whose number is said to be very large and who fear that they will not find any opportunity to show their love for charity, will have ample opportunities to provide funds for the maintenance of these work and poor-houses. Therefore this objection against the Bill is not very serious and should not be made a ground for throwing it out.

Of course, this Bill has not been brought forward by any of the members of the zamindara party and if it is to be rejected on that ground then I have nothing to say. If it is to be rejected so that these beggars and these mendicants may continue to curse the *baniyas* who may on some occasions fail to satisfy them, then also I have nothing to say except this that these are not very reasonable grounds on which this Bill should be rejected.

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It may be contended that there is already a provision in the Municipal Act according to which begging has been held to be a sort of crime. But as the House is aware that provision has never been made use of. It is, if I may say so, a dead letter now. Before I close my remarks I may as well say that I am not the first person to move in this matter. Such a legislation has already been passed by the Legislative Council in Bombay. A similar Bill has also been introduced in Madras and an honourable member of the United Provinces Council contemplates bringing forward such a measure in that Council.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** May I know the number of the Act passed by the Bombay Council on this subject ?

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** I do not remember the number of the Act, but I can assure the Honourable Doctor Sahib that such a law has been passed by that Council. I need not say much about the objection that the draft of the Bill is not acceptable to some of the members of this House and of the public or that the draft is defective. The select committee to whom this Bill is proposed to be sent, can make any changes in the draft to make it acceptable. Therefore this objection is not also very sound. I think I have made it sufficiently clear that there is a crying need for a Bill of this nature, and that there are no serious objections against it. I, therefore, confidently hope that the House will unanimously agree to send this Bill to the select committee.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That the Punjab Anti-Beggary Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Lala Chetan Anand,

Mr. Mukand Lal, Puri,

Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan,

Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon,

Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof,

The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd.

Mr. J. D. Anderson.

A nominee of the Honourable President, and

The mover.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammadan, Urban) : The Bill which the honourable lady member has proposed to refer to select committee is no doubt very useful, and I think there are very few members who will not support the motion. In this century it is the business of the State to see that the workless people get something to feed themselves, that every man who has no work gets some support or living without having to disgrace himself by begging in the public and getting everywhere insulted. You will find that there are thousands and thousands of workless people in England. Even now there are 15 lakhs of workless people there. If the Government of that country had not given them support, the workless in that country would have grown to 40 lakhs begging for food in the streets. That would not have been an edifying spectacle for any self-respecting people. In New York we have got 5 million people who are workless, and the present President, Mr. Roosevelt, came to their rescue, and State help was started



and is being given to all of them. Of course it comes to an enormous amount, and it will probably swallow the whole of the Indian revenues in six months. Similarly we will have to tackle this problem to-day or to-morrow, this unedifying sight of young children being trained for begging. This is not what one can see with equanimity. Able-bodied parents sit on the roadside and send their children 5 or 6 years old running after tongas and motor vehicles running the risk of being run over and getting abuses and insults. This is not what any self-respecting nation can bear. What is the effect produced on people coming from outside when they see swarms of these people in rags and sometimes with emaciated bodies pursuing you simply to get a pice, and very often getting nothing but abuse or disgrace, not to talk of the great inconvenience that they cause to drivers? That is not a thing which one can tolerate. On the other hand, if the intention of the honourable lady member is not to impose on municipal bodies the duty of supporting these beggars, I would certainly oppose this Bill. If money is not forthcoming and work-houses are not going to be built for the poor people, how can you tell a poor beggar that he should not be a nuisance to the public and that he should not do such and such a thing? How will you answer him if he asks you how he is to feed himself? You know that now-a-days even respectable people have been reduced to the position of abject penury. I know hundreds and thousands of youngmen are going workless in the cities. It is only self-respect that is compelling parents to support them which is unparalleled in the history of the world. In this country parents are supporting big families of children, whereas in England or in any other western country they would turn them out of their homes to go and support themselves as best as they can. So we cannot deny any beggar the right of receiving alms nor can we deny him work. If, therefore, the Government is going to rise to the occasion and make a provision by which they can take power for themselves to order district boards and municipalities to supply funds for poor-houses, I shall be glad to lend my support to this measure. Probably Mr. Ogilvie with his magic wand may be able to discover some gold or diamond mine which has not been discovered by us and provide funds for this purpose. But unless funds are forthcoming, it is impossible for any member who realises his responsibility in this case to support this measure. It is impossible to see thousands of beggars and faqirs, many of them *apahajs* and maimed persons shut in jails and made criminals simply because we want to remove a nuisance from the cities of Lahore and Amritsar. So, I beg my honourable friend to induce the Government, and I am sure the Government knowing its responsibility in this twentieth century, will rise to the occasion.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** What new taxation do you propose?

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** I shall come to that question presently. I am going to make some suggestions, and unless I am assured that some of these suggestions will be incorporated in the Bill, I am afraid I cannot support the reference of this Bill to select committee, and I will have to oppose it. I am sure the honourable members of the select committee will consider these suggestions that I am going to make. And unless they are considered I am afraid I will not be able to support it, not because I realize the importance of the Bill less, but because I realise more my responsibility to thousands

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of workless and disabled people who I know will be thrown into the jail, and because I know that in the alternative we will force this Act to remain a dead letter. To pass an Act and yet for the Government of the country or the people not to try to act upon it, is not at all creditable. If it is a useful Act it must be enforced, but if it is to be passed simply to lie in the shelves of lawyers and not to be operated upon, then I think it is a sheer waste of time of this House and sheer waste of public money. I would like to see that this Act is not applied to any except municipal areas because I know it will not be right to send hundreds of thousands of policemen all round the countryside to arrest people who are begging. First of all I say that it is not a problem for the villages really, it is a problem for the big cities only and the Act should be applied to municipalities only. Another point that I would like to place before the members of the select committee is that this measure should not be applied unless Government wants it to be applied to certain areas, that is, the power of applying it to certain areas should rest with the Government. They may from time to time apply it to any area they like and see whether it has proved useful and effective. If it has proved useful then they may extend it to other areas. I would like this power to be given to the Government. I would not like to see it applied to the whole of the province by one stroke. Again, I would not like the application of this Act unless Government is ready to enforce the municipalities to provide poor-houses where those people who are physically unfit or workless can be supplied with food and shelter. Unless Government is ready to do this either by contributions as in England, France and Germany or by forcing the municipalities to start poor-houses, I think it is impossible for any member to support this Bill. Another point that I would like to advance is that nobody would like to see that rigorous imprisonment is imposed on beggars. Nobody whether he is a Hindu or a Muslim would like to see a faqir or sadhu arrested and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment. He may be a man of culture and of religion and may not have been used to work or may have been unable to work. You will find a big procession of hundreds and thousands of people coming to the Council and the Government House protesting against the arrest of a faqir like that and his incarceration in the jail to do coir matting or to be yoked to the oil pressing machine. That is not a sight which any religion will allow. There may be good men who cannot work or who have never worked, educated men, men of learning and culture. We cannot allow even one such man to be subjected to these indignities of rigorous imprisonment. Then the honourable lady member says that guardians of children under 14 should be punished. All along we have been crying against the imposition of penalty on the parents of those in Bengal who take part in terrorist activities. Shall we provide in the Punjab that the sins of children shall visit upon the parents? It is a strange thing to punish a parent because his child is not under his control and goes abegging. There may be children who are only 13 years of age, but are very independent. Parents' authority after all is very limited. If a boy refuses to live with his father, the latter is not expected to run after him all over the cities of Lahore and Amritsar to see that his child is not begging. The father may smack him, that is all. The boy will still escape from the house, and may not be amenable to discipline. Are you going to punish the parent for that? Further, I would like to see that certain days are exempted from

the operation of the Act. I am sure the honourable lady member would not like to have a thousand or so of sadhus being marched to the jail on *baisakhi* or *dewali* day only because they were being fed in the open. Perhaps the honourable lady member herself will be one of those who send *makhan* and *malai* to these sadhus. This is a thing which no Indian will tolerate. No Hindu, I am sure, will dare say that sadhus should be sent to prison on a *baisakhi* or *dewali* day. If the Bill is to be passed exemption should be made in favour of particular days. No Musalman will ever like any faqir to be arrested on the 'Id day. I would, therefore, like these days to be exempted. These are things which look very minor, but in reality they are very important and unless they are incorporated in the Bill, it will be useless to proceed with it. So, I would request the honourable members of the select committee to go through the suggestions that I have made and through others that may be made by other members, and see that at least the clause about work-houses is passed. If it is not passed, then I am afraid it will be my painful duty to oppose this Bill, because it will be useless. It will only mean that the police will be given unnecessary power and officers will be given unnecessary trouble to convict and send people to jail for faults which are really our own. We have not found any work for them, we have not founded any factories for the hundreds and thousands of those who are workless and helpless and who cannot help begging. If we had factories as in England, Germany or France, these people would have had work enough to earn their living. If we had responsible Government they could have set aside 30 or 40 lakhs of rupees for these workless people who cannot because of physical inability be expected to work. But we cannot send them to jail because we have failed in our duty. I know how our youngmen are living, and I know that very soon they will be reduced to the necessity of begging. This, is therefore, not a thing which we can allow to be passed lightly. With these few words I support the Bill.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani :** What a support !

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** It may be a bad support, but I cannot keep my mind away from this view. I cannot allow this Bill to be passed without providing for work-houses. If the honourable members of the select committee can induce the Government to provide work-houses, it may be worth while to proceed with the Bill, otherwise I will ask the honourable lady member to withdraw her Bill and wait for a year when we will have self-government and responsibility on our own shoulders, and we will have the power to impose taxes.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** A very wise advice.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** We can then by a vote of censure throw out the Government which does not sanction money enough to supply work-houses for the poor people. But now the executive Government is unalterable, fixed to the spot, not at the will of the House. What can we do now except to fret and fume, and probably call names which it is not necessary to call knowing them as we do, knowing their temperament, and knowing their past careers ? It is hopeless and futile to appeal to them to open their coffers. But probably some magnanimous municipality will realise its responsibility. It is with that only hope that I am supporting this Bill, and I am sure the discussion on this measure

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will open the eyes of the public to the enormity of the evil, and I trust that something useful will turn out. With these words I support the motion.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural): The question raised in the Bill is certainly a very important one, and we cannot light-heartedly brush it aside one way or the other. But I am afraid the Bill as proposed is ill-conceived and ill-timed. We are passing through a very great economic depression, and the honourable lady member must be aware that there are all sorts of people who under ordinary circumstances would have been called respectable but who are now in impecunious circumstances, and that the difficulty is very great now when we attempt to tackle the question. The beggars consist of both able-bodied persons and disabled persons such as the blind, cripple, indigent, and so on. Both these classes offer separate and difficult problems to deal with. Just take the case of the able-bodied. There are certain able-bodied persons who cannot get work and their complaint is not frivolous, but genuine and sincere. They cannot get work. The Government, as my honourable friend has pointed out, have not opened work-houses; municipalities and district boards do not run charity houses for them. The public have not started poor funds for their benefit. What are we doing for their sake? All that we are doing or aiming at by this legislation is to clap them in jail behind iron bars. We, everyone of us, have failed in our duty towards the poor, and this is all that we can do—to put them in prison. They are the victims of our social system, of the economic depression of the times and as such they deserve pity rather than the treatment which is proposed for them in this measure. Instead of making provision for feeding them, we are meting out a punishment to them. I would submit that this legislation is rather premature. Public opinion has not yet been quite alive to the importance of the question. The public have not yet come to realise that the giving of alms is as much an offence as the taking of alms. We encourage begging and in the same breath we come down upon beggars and legislate that they should be treated as criminals. "Beg, borrow or steal," I think, is a maxim which contains a lot of practical wisdom. Theft is already a crime under the ordinary law of the land. As regards borrowing we were told last session that we were making it difficult for anybody here to borrow. And now I think in quick succession we are making begging also an offence. As regards the indigent and the poor, the author of the Bill recognises that we have a duty to support them, but that duty has not as yet been discharged by us to the satisfaction of anybody concerned. I doubt very much whether the question of begging is a nuisance as it has been described by honourable members. It is true that in big towns like Amritsar and Lahore so many beggars have collected, but in the country side people do not take any serious objection to begging. Even if this Bill is passed into law it is sure to be a dead letter just as that salutary provision in the Municipal Act, section 151, has been a dead letter so far. (*Mr. P. Marsden*: No). Have any prosecutions been started under that section in any municipal area? I am not aware of any. (*Mr. P. Marsden*: Yes, in Simla and Lahore). (*The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government*: Two most important places). So far as the cities of Lahore and Amritsar are concerned, the provisions of the Municipal Act

should be strictly enforced. But before that is done sufficient provision should be made in the shape of opening charity houses or poor-houses. Under the circumstances I am constrained to oppose this Bill.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural): I studied this Bill at the time of its introduction as well as at the time when it was circulated for eliciting public opinion, and again at this third stage I have been going through the provisions of the Bill. I have heard the honourable mover on all these three occasions, and I am sorry to say that I still hold that the Bill is unnecessary, impracticable and unworkable. The opinions that have been referred to by the honourable lady member have been alleged to show that there are very few who have expressed themselves against the Bill. This statement, as I shall show presently, is not true. There are the opinions of the five commissioners which are against the Bill. There are the opinions of three out of four sessions judges which are against it. There are the opinions of the Inspector-General of Police, the Deputy Inspector-General, Eastern Range, and the Deputy Inspector-General, Western Range, which are against the Bill. There are again the opinions of the Honourable Judges of the High Court which are against it. So far as the deputy commissioners are concerned, fourteen are against and 14 for the Bill. We cannot count the deputy commissioners as they are equally divided. This means that persons with long experience of service, those who have spent the best part of their life in serving the public and who have administrative experience in districts and divisions, are of the opinion that this Bill is unnecessary, impracticable and unworkable. So far as the question of beggary being a nuisance is concerned, it has been dealt with briefly by my honourable friend there. As pointed out by him, this might be a nuisance in Lahore to people educated in western methods. It might be a nuisance in Amritsar. But to how many of the people on the whole? The real country is living in the countryside. India in general and our province in particular is a country of villages, and we should not be led astray by any opinion expressed in the capital city or in any other town. Just examine the conditions prevailing there. Honourable members will be pleased to know from the opinion of the Commissioner, Jullundur division, who is a European that he has toured in his division more than 2,000 miles in the countryside, and that he has never come across any beggar in this area. That is the condition of things. It is not my opinion but the opinion of a British officer who has got vast experience of this country. People who are living in villages know that even Pathans who earn their daily wages by work during the day go abegging at night, and they are not turned out. They go out begging in order to save their earnings. Even those people whom people engage on work of several kinds during the day and who are thereby earning some daily wages, are not turned out when they go out during night for alms. The conditions prevailing in the countryside and public opinion prevailing in rural areas go to support that beggary is not considered a nuisance so far as the general body of public of the province is concerned. Moreover, there are certain religious usages which have grown by force of custom to have a religious sanctity. There are volumes of literature which describe as superhuman beings the sadhus, sanyasis, sufis and others. I do not say that they are beggars, but there is a sort of religious sanctity round about these people

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who go on begging. And there are people who go out from their houses simply with the wish that they should be able to give alms to anyone that they might come across. They believe that beggary is the ladder to God's throne as it purifies the man and lowers his pride. How can he go against public opinion which has to that extent impregnated into the feelings of persons?

Beggars are, so far as one can see, of five kinds. First are the able-bodied beggars. They are the professional beggars who would be victimised by this Bill. So far as they are concerned, I might say that they might be a nuisance in the sense I have referred to and to the extent I have mentioned. The second class is the class of children or women or even men who are driven by unfortunate circumstances through death or loss of property on some journey to take to begging. They are very genuine cases, and before they run to a headquarter and obtain their licence the whole object of begging is gone because they are so helpless at that juncture. The third class comprises of those people who are blind or lame or have been rendered unfit for work on account of age or infirmity. These people are the ones who must deserve our sympathy. They must be given alms, and if the giving of alms is in any way a worship of God, then to give alms to this class of people is the best way of worship. The next class consists of children and women who are made to beg by their husbands or parents. There is then the fifth class, the class of religious mendicants who live near shrines, mosques and temples. I do not think we can do anything with the last class. No police officer even if he were given the powers will have the courage to go to these fakirs whose presence people think is necessary for the religion to which they belong, for, can anybody do that in the precincts of the *Data Sahib* or any other shrine? It will thus be observed that out of the five classes of beggars there is only one class, and there must be very few in that class for which we can make any provision. But the question is whether there is any necessity for making a provision at all. I do not think there is any. If you go through the provisions of section 151 of the Punjab Municipal Act, it will be clear that the whole of the present Bill is compressed in that section, and that if that section is acted upon, there will be no necessity for framing another measure. I will read out section 151. It runs :

Whoever, in any street or public place within the municipality, begs importunately for alms, or exposes, or exhibits, with the object of exciting charity, any deformity, or disease, or any offensive sore or wound, shall be punishable with imprisonment of either description, which may extend to three months, or with a fine not exceeding fifty rupees, or with both.

Take the question of procedure. You will find that it is provided in subsection (2) that an offence punishable under this section shall be cognisable.

I shall show how all the provisions of the Bill are contained in that one section 151. Section 1 of the Bill is short title, extent and commencement ; we are not concerned with that. Section 2 contains definitions. Clauses 3, 4 and 6 are the only principal clauses in the Bill, and all these three are provided for in the Municipal Act. The procedure and punishment provided in the Bill are identically the same. (*An honourable member* : In fact it is simpler in the Municipal Act). In view of this I think there is no need of a further provision of law.

It is stated in the statement of objects and reasons :

Section 151 of Punjab Municipal Amendment Act, 1933, has proved extremely inadequate to meet the situation.

This is wrong. I have only to invite your attention to the opinion of the Deputy Commissioner of Simla. I will read it—

In Simla during the past summer the offence of begging has been practically put down by the use of section 151 of the Punjab Municipal Act.

Then again there is opinion No. 19. What does it say? The Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala says—

The Bill actually whittles down the present law, for whereas section 151 of the Municipal Act makes it illegal for anybody to beg in public places or streets.....

Then there is opinion No. 67. The Secretary, Municipal Committee, Gujranwala, says—

Rather than enacting a new piece of legislation of a broader application the representatives of the people and also the electorates be educated to apply and tolerate the application of section 151.

Here is again the opinion of the Municipal Committee, Gujranwala—

To conclude, I think that section 151 of the Punjab Municipal Act as at present embodied in the Act, is quite sufficient to meet the needs of the problem. If it is strictly enforced, I think the necessity for such a legislation would be obviated.

I need not quote any more. I think I have sufficiently established that section 151 alone covers the whole Bill with all its provisions, and that the new Bill is redundant and that nothing would be gained by our sending it to the select committee.

One thing which I am surprised to note is this, that if this section 151 has been inadequate in the cities of Lahore and Amritsar where there are so many constables and police officials available, how is this Bill, if enacted into law, going to be more adequate in the mufassil or small towns where so much police machinery is not available? That would be totally impossible taking into consideration the way in which according to the mover of the Bill the provisions of this section have been inadequate in these towns which are fairly equipped with the police, municipal employees and others.

Now I shall come to the next point and show how it is impracticable and unworkable, and my last argument falls under that head also. I think it will be impossible for any police officer in the mufassil to keep aside his more important work and to run after beggars to round them up. Moreover, supposing a man is challaned. Then there should be a complainant and there should be one or two witnesses, and I do not think that a man who is molested 68 miles from the headquarters by a beggar will take the trouble of going to the headquarters and appearing in that case. Even if he does that he will be a fool for I do not think that the case will end in any sort of conviction. Then in case of conviction the idea of fines being realised from the beggars is fantastic and nothing else. It is impossible to realise any fine from these beggars. The result will be that these beggars will go to jails for imprisonment in lieu of fine and when they come out of jail they will turn into regular criminals and will be worse for society than they were before they were sent to it.

Another point is that from the Jail Administration Reports it is already clear that these short term prisoners are nothing but an undue burden on

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the resources of the jail, and I do not think there will be sufficient accommodation for them, and then will arise the question whether the jails can accommodate so many people. Another point why it is impracticable is this. Clause 7 contemplates the granting of licence to religious mendicants. It will be very difficult to distinguish between genuine and other cases. Any one who wears long hair and besmears himself with ashes and takes hold of a beggar's bowl will be taken as a religious mendicant, and he might be given a licence under the Act. These people will prove more harmful according to the reports of the Inspector-General of Police. They will turn into regular criminals, and will be more harmful to society than they were before they were sent to jail. It is said in the statement of objects and reasons that "beggary encourages crime and laziness," while I say that the Anti-Beggary Bill, if enacted into law, will encourage criminals, crime and laziness. I am supported in this view by the opinion that I am going to read out to you. This is what the Inspector-General of Police says :

The principle of licensing beggars deserves consideration, but, as described in the Bill, such a system would lead to the gravest abuse. It is well-known that many habitual criminals adopt the guise of religious mendicants, and it would be extremely difficult to ensure that no such persons should receive licences. In the event of their doing so the difficulty of the police in controlling this elusive element in the criminal population would be considerably increased. Generally speaking, unless licences were restricted to very special classes of beggars and to very narrow limits of time and place, the licence would become a passport for uncontrolled importunity and would probably afford cover for much criminal activity.

One sentence more.

To saddle the police with the duty of arresting wholesale for an offence which is widely condoned by social and religious custom and in acting against which they would be able to obtain little public assistance either in the form of information or evidence, would be objectionable and would lead to many abuses.

Now as has already been said—and I will not take long on that point—unless we establish poor-houses and other places to provide them board and lodging and also labour, we cannot go on with this measure and we cannot allow it to remain on our statute book.

Then there are financial difficulties. Government would not be able to start poor-houses nor would the public contribute to it, and there will, therefore, be no poor-houses, and in the event of there being no poor-houses it is absolutely impossible to support this measure.

The only remedy for beggary, I submit, lies, not in legislation, but in public opinion. If the people begin to realise that we should not give any alms to those who do not deserve it, I do not think you will see any beggars in areas which they at present frequent. In this view I am supported by the opinion of the Commissioner of Lahore division. He says that he had been seeing so many beggars in the vicinity of commercial shops of Lahore and now he says that there are very few of them, and this is due to only one reason that the customers in those shops have given up the practice of giving alms to those people. This is the only remedy, and, as I have already said, no amount of legislation will do. Now, under section 7 the district magistrate grants a licence. What will be the result? The beggar will then go with the *sarkari parwana* and impose his presence on



any one. He will say that he must be heard because he has a *sarkari parwana*. Thus he will become importunate, and will be exacting money from people more rigorously and furiously than he would as an ordinary beggar, for after all who can ignore the *parwana* from the district magistrate?

Then there is another side of the matter too. It is sought under this Bill to impose on the district magistrate the responsibility of giving a licence to beg. The poor district magistrate is the head of the police, he is the head of the district, he is the head of education and now he will also be the head of beggars. That is most impracticable, and we should not ask him to perform so many duties in addition to the already manifold duties which he has to perform. A solution was given by the honourable mover of the Bill that we should authorise the honorary magistrates to issue these licences. With due deference to my friends who might be honorary magistrates, I would like to say that if this power is given to them, they will be so generous and merciful that they will issue a *parwana* to every one, and the number of licensed beggars will be more than the number of unlicensed beggars in this province (*laughter*). These magistrates instead of paying something from their own pockets will feel that by giving a *hukum* to these beggars for earning their livelihood they will be doing more good than anybody else can do. They will issue *parwanas* without ever going into the question whether these beggars deserve them or not.

There was another point raised by the honourable lady member which I would leave it to the leader of my party to answer in detail. But I should like to make a passing reference to it, that is, about sanyasis. She asked, how many in this age have turned sanyasis, that is, have entered the fourth stage of life under the Hindu code? My only answer is this: If certain religious enactments or religious commands are not believed or not acted upon, that does not take away anything from the sanctity of that religious order.

There is just one more point I should like to refer to before I resume my seat. The honourable lady suggested that if the Government cannot afford to establish poor-houses out of its present finances, it can raise money by imposing a sort of a poor-tax. This I say is touching the nose in the round-about way instead of directly. If people can be asked to pay a tax for the poor, they may as well help the poor beggars with alms directly instead of giving them alms through the Government by way of a tax. Why should the interference of Government be sought at all in this affair? In this connection I am reminded of a story. A man asked another person as to how to catch a *bugla*, a white bird. The latter answered, "When the *bugla* is sitting on a summer midday in the open, place a little wax on its head. When that wax melts it will flow into the eyes of that bird which will then get blind. Then it is easy to catch the bird." "Why should I not catch the bird when I go to place the wax on its head?" asked the former. The latter replied, "That is not the (*ustadi rasta*) expert way." The suggestion made by the honourable lady in regard to the establishment of poor-houses resembles this story. I think it is much better to give help to the poor direct than to pay a tax to the Government and ask it to utilise the money for helping the poor. With these words I oppose the motion.

**Lala Bhagat Ram** (Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana, non-Muhammdan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, I am not opposed to the principle underlying the Bill moved by Shrimati Lekhwati. But I regret that I cannot support it in its present form. The remarks she just now made concerning sanyasis were made in utter disregard of their holy place in society. She has attacked them in a manner—

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** : I have attacked none.

**Lala Bhagat Ram** : The honourable lady said that these sanyasis are serving no useful purpose.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** : It is a matter of opinion.

**Lala Bhagat Ram** : Sadhus and sanyasis have a status in every religion. Perhaps Shrimati Lekhwati has lost sight of the fact that in her own country many Rajas renounced their kingdoms and turned mendicants. Sanyasis are not fond of coming to cities. Their favourite haunts are the woods. But the dawn of civilization is seeing the end of jungles and woods. Therefore, sanyasis have perforce to come to cities. In the past fruit-laden trees of the jungles provided them with means of subsistence. Now the jungles have been turned into agricultural lands and the fruit trees cut down. *Ban-prastis* and sanyasis, therefore, have migrated to cities, and there is no dearth of true sanyasis amongst the Hindus. There is no denying the fact that some good-for-nothing people too have put on the *bhagwa* garments and they deceive people. But we should not be harsh upon the true sanyasis in order to punish the impostor. The honourable lady member has remarked, I believe only good-humouredly, that whenever any person approaches her with a view to beg for alms she points towards her durrie and asks him to clean it if he wants to earn an honest penny. But the question is, how many people can she provide with the work of cleaning durries? Certainly she cannot solve the vexed problem of unemployment so easily, nor can she provide work for several lakhs of beggars by asking them to clean her durries. We know that there are thousands of educated young men in our country who want work and do not get it. Many commit suicide simply because they have no means to earn their livelihood. Under these circumstances, who is going to provide the beggars of the country with work and leave the educated unemployed clamouring for work? Then sending to jail of beggars would be useless. The jails will not afford sufficient accommodation for them. It is true that in the days of the Congress agitation the Government arranged for detention camps and thus coped with the vast number of prisoners. But those were only temporary arrangements made to meet an emergency. Moreover the congress prisoners were only a few thousands while the beggar prisoners will be several lakhs. Further, the present problem demands a remedy of a permanent nature. Jailing of beggars will not improve matters in the least. Establishment of poor houses is, of course, a real remedy if the work is started on the lines suggested in the Punjab Municipal Act. It would be practicable, however, to make it impossible for persons under 16 or 18 to beg in public places. But it will be impossible too to arrest a group of 200 beggars including men, women and children of all ages. Such groups are seen begging alms in public places. They are very difficult indeed to deal with. You cannot send all of them to prison. It is necessary, therefore, to devise some suitable remedy to deal with such

groups of beggars. Moreover, there are Arya Samajists who go about in groups collecting money for charitable purposes. The Bill in its present form penalises such people also. If it is enacted in its present form it will become difficult for people to collect money for cow-rearing, orphanages and other charitable purposes.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** You do not seem to have studied my Bill carefully.

**Lala Bhagat Ram :** Then it has been proposed that a fine of Rs. 50 should be imposed on those who infringe the provisions of the Act. Is it not realised that such a big fine cannot be paid by destitute beggars? Such is the plight of our countrymen in these days that even well-to-do people cannot afford to pay so much fine. Then the honourable lady has complained that many of these beggars lead a most licentious life; they drink and are very fond of meat. All this may be true, but our contention is only this that the remedy she has proposed to check the evil of beggary is not adequate, much less desirable. As far as the question of beggars being a positive public nuisance is concerned, I am at one with her. I myself find it very difficult to deal with beggars when they block my way. One word more and I have done. There is no doubt that people are tired of beggars and they want to see the end of these parasites. But while dealing with them, one should not forget that there are some really respectable and holy sanyasis and sadhus who are found hidden amongst them. One should not treat genuine sadhus and idle parasites alike. With these words, I support the principle of the Bill now before us and oppose it in its present form.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : Sir, the fact of the matter is that honourable members have not fully appreciated the real importance of the present Bill. They seem to be under the impression that it has come up before the Council for the first time. But this is not the fact. In 1921 a Sikh member of this Council brought forward a resolution recommending to the Government that steps be taken to uproot the evil of beggary. Then a complaint was made in this very honourable House that suitable arrangements were not made for beggars in this country as were made in England. In 1927 I raised the same point on the same grounds during the discussion of the budget. At that time a European beggar had come over to India and the Government had spent as much as Rs. 6,000 on him.

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Was he given this sum by way of charity?

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** No, this money was spent on his homeward passage. This item was in the budget for that year.

**The Honourable Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** When was that?

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** In 1927. Many speeches were made at that time and the House accepted my motion. Thereafter a committee was appointed to consider the question. All the objections which have been raised to-day were raised and considered in that committee. The main objection in this connection is this: There are as many as 13 lakhs of beggars in this

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country. How can the Government provide work or subsistence for all of them? This very objection was raised in that committee. The Government had invited the Deputy Commissioner of Criminal Tribes to give evidence before that committee. He said that there was nothing difficult in dealing with this question. Only the Government had to show courage and tact. The evil of beggary could be done away with in no time. When the Criminal Tribes Department was started, work seemed very difficult and chances of success very remote. But that courageous and energetic man, Sir Machael O'Dwyer, whose political and social zeal both in favour of and against India is well known everywhere, took courage in both hands and won success. Similarly if the Government were to show courage and resourcefulness the problem of beggary can be solved in no time. The Deputy Commissioner of Criminal Tribes was of the opinion that the Government will have to spend less on beggars than they had to spend on criminal tribes. Mention was made of the relevant sections of the Municipal Act in the aforementioned committee. But it was pointed out that if the municipalities applied the provisions of that Act rigorously the beggars would leave the cities and migrate to villages; thus the trouble would not end but would spread to the countryside. No answer was given, as far as I know, to this objection. I do not know what became of that committee thereafter. I was sent to prison and so went out of touch of these things. So, that was the main objection which arose out of the presence of certain provisions of the Municipal Act, and the reply given to it was that if its provisions were strictly applied in municipalities and efforts for the stopping of beggary were restricted to cities only, beggars would migrate to villages. This was, I think, a sufficient reply to that objection. It is, therefore, the duty of this House that in view of the fact that it has already committed itself to the principle underlying this Bill no exception should be taken to its being referred to a select committee. If there are any defects in its present form they can easily be rectified in the select committee. Its principle having been accepted in 1927 the details can be discussed in the select committee. I hope honourable members will agree with me and will support the motion for referring this Bill to a select committee.

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by Mr. J. D. Anderson (Chairman).)*

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** I move—

That the question be now put.

**Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave** (Nominated, non-official) : I have not risen to support the Bill as it stands. But it has led to an important discussion. The aspect of begging which, of necessity, especially strikes me is the presence in our streets of people infected with disease in some of its most horrible forms, including leprosy. That these people should be moving in and out amongst us spreading infection is surely an evil that requires immediate attention. Chaudhri Riasat Ali says we ought to go on giving money to beggars in the streets. But we must not salve our conscience and try to save our souls in this way. Our obvious duty lies in another direction. We must consider before very long the question of paying poor rates. These unfortunate people must be removed from our streets and must be provided

for. We must give the money to Government to use in providing for them. This is a definite step forward which this country must take. Let this province be the foremost in instituting a "poor rate" for the help of the destitute.

In this connection I should like to bring to the notice of Government the fact that though there is a work-house for Europeans in Lahore, Anglo-Indians are refused admission to it. The foreigners, for instance the Russians, are not only admitted to this work-house but are accorded the additional relief of a free railway ticket. Both the work-house and the railway passes were liberally administered before, but now that there is an Indian deputy commissioner and an Indian additional district magistrate in this town the letter of the law is being strictly adhered to, and I am told "there is no relief for Anglo-Indians." When a man tired of the town and weary of rebuffs wishes to give himself up, he cannot get admission to the work-house. When a workless man without means has exhausted every possible source of aid in this town and must move, his only means of getting away is to 'jump a train,' and if he is caught he is liable to a punishment of 4 or 6 months in jail. I ask that this relief accorded to foreigners be extended to destitute Anglo-Indians also.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, it is really in an auspicious moment that this Bill has come up for discussion. Chaudhri Afzal Haq has told us that this matter came up for discussion before a former council too. But I was not a member of the Council at that time; if I had been here then I would certainly have lent my whole-hearted support to such a measure. Begging is really the most wretched thing in the world. I should like to point out first of all what Islam says in this respect. It tells us that on the Day of Resurrection beggars will rise from their graves with no flesh on their faces. It means that begging takes away all courage and self-respect from the beggars and he is left morally emaciated like one rising from his grave with his face shorn of all flesh. My personal view is that it is the beggary which is the cause of country's misery. It is on account of our beggars that we find ourselves slaves of a foreign nation.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit**: What do you say about begging for a vote?

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan**: It is proper that a voter should exercise his right of casting his vote out of his own free will and nobody should go to him begging for his vote. He should know the value of his vote and then vote for the right person. I am reminded here of a story about Caliph Umar. He was going one day on horseback when his whip fell down. He alighted from the horse and lifted the whip with his own hand. A by-stander said, "You could have easily asked anybody near you to hand over the whip to you." But the Great Caliph smiled and said "I do not like to ask others to do something for me. This would be tantamount to begging for favours." He knew it full well that begging or asking for favour of others detracts from one's integrity. It is necessary, therefore, that we should all combine to uproot the evil of beggary from our country. My learned friend from Jullundur said that this Bill would subject the sanyasis and sadhus to great hardship. I am afraid he does not understand the true meaning of the word sanyasi. Sanyasis do not go about

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begging for alms. Their needs are already fulfilled. They depend upon none but their God for subsistence. They relieve others from their worries. They do not stand in need of people's help. Their only vocation is endless meditation. Wherever they are they get their *karah* all right. This Bill wants to put a curb on the activities of those greedy beggars who would not let people pass safely through public streets. It is to penalise such beggars that this Bill is intended. There is no question of penalising the holy man. Checking of beggary is essential if we want to elevate the morale of our people. My personal belief is that we should not depend even upon the wealth and property left to us by our fathers and grandfathers. We should learn to have confidence in our own powers of earning. This will make us real men, and we will be able to stand in the company of respectable people with our heads high. Then we should make provision for the old and the decrepit. In Europe, America and in all civilized countries of the world people above the age of 50 are provided by the Government with subsistence. In our country we should arrange for superannuation allowances on a large scale. If we make suitable arrangements for the welfare and maintenance of the poor and the disabled we and our Government will be entitled to feel proud of this achievement. We will be able to raise our head high and say with pride, "There is no beggar in our country."

It is really a great pity that small children are taught to beg even in their childhood. The foolish parents cultivate these bad

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habits in these young folks and spoil them once for all. These promising lads can neither serve their nation nor their motherland. If steps are taken to put an end to beggary, these young people can come forward and serve their nation and their country. Besides, I should like to submit that though punishments have been suggested in the Bill, yet in my opinion it would be far better to give two dozen cuts with a cane there and then to a beggar, when he is found begging, and send him about his business. This will save the trouble of imprisoning the beggars and the expenditure that will have to be incurred in that connection. The best course is to punish the beggar on the spot and send him away. The efforts of the Government to put an end to this evil will be appreciated by all and sundry.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** (East and West Central Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): Sir, on the subject before the House speeches have been made from different points of view, and a great deal has been said in favour of this Bill and against it. But one thing has particularly touched my mind. One honourable member has thought it proper to laugh at this Bill and to ridicule it. In my opinion it would have been far better if instead of treating this Bill so lightly he had seriously thought over it and made some useful and valuable suggestions about it. Although a number of objections have been made against this Bill yet we cannot ignore the opinions which we have received in this connexion. It is our duty that we should seriously think over those opinions and determine whether it is not necessary for Government to do something in the matter. The question arises whether beggary should be abolished. If beggary is to be abolished then you must also do something for the poor. The Government has not provided any poor houses. There are some people who do not want to beg but they have

no work to do. Since no arrangement exists for these people, they cannot help begging. If at this stage we do not bring home to the Government the desirability of establishing such institutions as poor houses and work-houses, the problem of beggary and other problems connected with it will never be solved. If we are really in earnest, we must act upon the suggestions which have been made in the opinions that we have received in connection with this Bill. A reference has been made to the opinions of the Honourable Judges of the High Court and I should like to read out to you the opinion of the Honourable Mr. Justice Skemp on the subject :

To the personal knowledge of us all begging is a nuisance in Lahore and other large towns in the Punjab, and we should all be glad if it disappeared. But I doubt if mere repression and punishment is sufficient without otherwise aiding the beggar if he is helpless or unable to work, i.e., without the provision of some form of poor relief. This Bill assumes that beggars can work, even sick beggars, or that there is somebody who can and will work for them.

So far as the opinion of this Honourable Judge and those of other Judges are concerned, there is no difference among them and they say unanimously that if we want to enact a legislation for the abolition of beggary we must establish poor houses or work houses where the needy may come and get their food or earn their livelihood. Therefore we must impress this fact upon Government that if they want to abolish beggary from the country they will have to do other things besides and it will be then and then alone that Government will get rid of this nuisance for ever. There are some people among these beggars who are anxious to work, but they cannot get any work and it is the duty of Government to find out work for them and take them under their own charge and care. The Government should provide work houses for those beggars who are hale and hearty and poor houses for those who are sick and unfit for work. If Government shows its willingness to accept this Bill, it can be made workable by committing it to the select committee or by some other means. To end the whole matter by simply saying that a provision exists in the Municipal Act to meet this difficulty is tantamount to doing nothing in this direction. It has been said that the Municipality of Simla took stern measures and the beggars disappeared from Simla. But it does not mean that beggary has come to an end. If the beggars were driven out of Simla they went to neighbouring places and started begging there. The rich people of Simla want only the sight of lovely and agreeable objects. They cannot tolerate the dirty and ugly beggars, so, they turned them out of Simla. It has been suggested by some members that if section 151 of the Municipal Act is rigidly followed, beggary will disappear. But my submission is that it will not be so. If to-day the trouble is present at Simla and Lahore, to-morrow it will start in villages. It is necessary to consider this problem from economic and moral points of view. If a person takes to begging, it lowers his personality and sense of self-respect. If we do not check these persons from degrading themselves and losing their sense of self-respect it will adversely affect our national pride and self-respect and stand in the way of our progress and prosperity. Again, it has been said that it is not proper to impose any extra tax on the people in order to help the poor. If by means of that tax the Government establishes poor houses and work houses, both the society and the Government will be doing their duties, respectively, and thus saving the poor people from begging and degradation. Up to this time the attention of the Government has not

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been drawn to these things and so Government has not taken any practical step in this direction to the extent it should have done.

It is wrong to assume that there is more beggary in cities than in villages. Their number in villages does not appear to be very large and this problem does not seem to be so serious and appalling there as in cities, but the fact remains that beggary is on the increase everywhere and people are feeling it very keenly. In order to enact a legislation of this kind we shall have to think a great deal. If we lay down that begging is an offence and that offenders will be punished, we must make some provision for people who have no means to earn their bread. I should also like to read the opinion of the Honourable Mr. Justice Agha Haider on the subject :—

There are, however, lepers, cripples, blind people and other badly damaged specimens of humanity in whose case work is out of the question. Old age and decrepitude also come under this head. I am against the system of granting licences to this class of beggars. But Government or some local body must provide food, clothing and shelter for them, if they are not permitted to beg in public places. This is done in most of the European countries. People having a certain income must be taxed for this purpose. An Anti-Beggary Act without some such provision in it or in some parallel legislation would be an inhuman measure, something like the Indian Penal Code without the chapter of Exceptions.

It is possible that this Bill may not contain all the things. As Justice Agha Haider has pointed out Government can include in this or any other parallel Bill some provision for the food and clothing of these people. To declare begging a crime and fill jails with beggars will be entirely useless, if we do not take actual steps to discourage begging tendencies among the poor. But if we make such a provision, and establish poor-houses and work-houses then there will be no beggary and we shall not require any police, magistrates and prisons.

If there is such a class of religious beggars as believe in begging and living on charity, a way can be found even for them so that they may not go about from door to door and beg in public places. Even our society is coming to that way of thinking and adopting the same attitude. People generally do not approve of begging. The result will be that even these people who believe in begging and living on alms will give up their practices.

In the end, I would submit that we should offer no hitch in sending this Bill to the select committee. The Bill may assume there a different shape altogether, but we should not throw it out haphazardly at this stage. If the select committee fails to put forward a better Bill, it can be considered after their report whether we should drop this Bill or adopt it, but in my opinion, it is not proper to throw it out at this stage.

**Mr. Chairman** (Mr. J. D. Anderson) : The question is—

That the question be now put.

*The motion was lost.*

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram** (Multan division non-Muhammadan, Rural) : I think the Bill deserves our sympathy and support. It is not to be thrown out in this haphazard manner as some honourable members are inclined to do. It is the usual custom to send Bills to the select committee to discuss the details and to thoroughly modify it so as to bring it to a perfect



shape. We have spent so much time in a debate for simply referring the measure to a select committee. It has been more or less a waste of time but now that the debate has gone on I wish to say a few words in support of the Bill for various reasons.

There is no doubt that section 151 of the Municipal Act contains almost all the provisions which are embodied in this Bill. But that section is a dead letter. For a long time it has not been applied in municipalities. Every day we see in the streets most abominable and objectionable people begging for alms. There are the lepers who are allowed to go about begging in every street. Would any Government, would honourable members as educated men or would the medical profession allow this to go on? Yet there is the Municipal Act, there are the municipal commissioners, there are the policemen, but no action has been taken against the leper beggars. There are similarly other kinds of beggars who expose themselves in public streets so as to excite pity. They are not prohibited even if the policeman is standing close by. In the face of that why should honourable members oppose this Bill which wants to put a stop to this class of beggars particularly?

My second point is this. Of late several kinds of people have sprung up who go about begging. It may be said that the section of the Municipal Act is there to prevent this. But what about the villages? Some arrangement could be made by either amending the District Boards Act or in some other way steps could be taken in regard to areas other than municipalities. I shall illustrate this by reference to the alleged *gaushalas*. There is actually no *gaushala*, yet a man with a *chapras* puts down the name of *gaushala* at such and such a place and begs from place to place without anyone taking action against him. Even if you verify and find that there is no *gaushala* of that description nothing can be done against these people who are going about deceiving people. We must put a stop to this and this is a point which can be discussed in the select committee.

There is yet a third kind of people in Lahore particularly within the municipal area. You stop your car for one minute to talk to a friend of yours. Beggars jump on you and will not simply allow you to talk for one minute. Every officer of Government knows it. Go along the Anarkali, stand anywhere, these beggars will not allow you to talk for one minute. Where is section 151 of the Municipal Act and how is it applied? There is this third kind of trouble which is within our daily experience. With regard to lepers you often find there is a man who poses himself to be very ill and he keeps on shaving his sores spitting right and left of you for nearly an area of 10 or 15 feet. Nobody stops him while he says that he is suffering from a very severe disease on account of which he must have alms. This is a kind of exposure which needs remedy. There is then a community in Lahore called *Bhatras*. They are so rich that in Gowalmandi they have got two streets of beautiful houses. Their womenfolk do not wear anything else but gold ornaments. They beg from door to door and they keep on troubling and will not let you walk till you have given them alms. They are not at all poor, some of them perhaps pay income-tax. Yet they are begging. The head of the family is paying income-tax but he has got four children begging in the street. This is another kind of trouble to the public.

[**B. B. Lala Sewak Ram.**]

The question then is how to stop this evil. The section of the Municipal Act does not stop it. It has been so useless a measure up to this time that it has not done anything. Then why not make some penal provision and also make it obligatory on the police officials to arrest these beggars? If it is not considered advisable to amend the Municipal Act in this way, then let the honourable lady member's Bill come into force so that there may be a fear infused in the mind of people who want to take to begging. Those who are really poor do deserve alms. For them there are poor houses. There is one poor house kept by an association at Lahore. There is a cripple's home established by my father close to the Ravi. But people will not go there for they are able to make more money outside. There were one or two cripples that I met the other day. I requested them to go to the cripple's home. They said: "How can we live there; we have to support a family." And why should they go there; if they can expose themselves and make a decent income by begging? We have to do away with that type of beggars. There is the complaint made by a friend of mine in this House that there are not sufficient poor houses. There is no doubt that Government or the municipal committees should provide poor houses in every large municipal town. In a town like Lahore there is neither a Government nor a municipal poor house. If you go out on an evening you find hundreds of beggars lying outside the Shabalmi Gate or by the side of Mela Ram's tank. All of them can be made to go to poor houses if there are such houses. The gentry of the place have established a poor house but Government has not done anything towards the establishment of poor houses. If there is a poor house within the limits of every district board and within every town there will be less number of beggars even in villages. District boards are doing better than municipal committees in this behalf for they have got a kind of serai in each place where they charge a nominal amount, I think it is a pice, for one evening. Many people go there. But in municipal towns where the need is most felt poor houses are not to be found. All these points will be discussed in the select committee.

With these words I earnestly beg of the House that the Bill might be sent to the select committee and if it cannot come out in any practical shape, let it be shelved then but not thrown away at this stage in this haphazard manner.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, I had no mind to participate in this debate, but a few speeches that have just been delivered, might lead the public to conclude that there is a lot of sympathy for this Bill in this House. I have, therefore, thought it necessary to make some observations on this subject. It has been said over and over again that Government has done nothing to put a stop to the nuisance of beggary. Wherever we go we are surrounded by these beggars, they jump on our cars, and pester us a good deal; therefore, in order to put an end to this pest and abolish beggary altogether, some sort of legislation must be enacted. While dealing with a question of this kind, more often than not, we are carried away by our sentiments and emotions. Under such circumstances, the right course is to exercise our discretion and judgment and coolly think whether a legislation of this kind is absolutely requisite. In my opinion there is no

need of a new legislation because in the Municipal Act there exists a provision to meet this difficulty. If section 151 of the Municipal Act is used properly and effectively, there will be no such trouble and we shall be able to get rid of beggars and our towns will be free from this nuisance. If we do not get rid of this nuisance, it is because section 151 of the Municipal Act is not used properly and adequately. And if it is not used properly, the reason is that the general public opinion is against the effective application of that provision and does not favour such a step. It has been tried to show on the floor of this House that beggary is a great nuisance and it should be abolished forthwith, but a feeling of this character is not at all present even in the minds of educated people outside the Council. When there is already a provision in the Punjab Municipal Act to which you can resort for the purpose of dealing with the evil of beggary and when you do not make use of it, presumably because the public opinion is not in favour of any limitations being imposed on beggars, I do not see that there is any use in enacting a new law on the point. Therefore, my first objection to this Bill is that it is absolutely unnecessary and uncalled for. The next point which I would like to make in this connection is that giving of alms and charity is in certain cases obligatory on both the Hindus and Muhammadans. I am not conversant with the provisions of Muhammadan Law on the point, but so far as Hindu Shastras are concerned, they lay down that in the fourth and last stage of life, every good Hindu should resort to sanyas, when one has to renounce the world, preach to the people the knowledge one has acquired and live upon the charity of the people. The number of such sanyasis may be very small at present, but there is this provision in our religion and one cannot say at what particular time the number of such men may increase enormously. People sometimes feel bound to give charity to persons who appear in public dressed in yellow clothes. Therefore, if the act of giving charity to sadhus is penalised the religious susceptibilities of the people would be wounded. If begging of alms is made an offence it would produce far reaching effects which some of the honourable members who have been carried away by sentiments, have totally ignored. The main effect of this legislation will be that you will have to arm the police, about whom you have already so many complaints, with very vast powers, powers to arrest men and women both young and old, sadhus and preachers. Very often in questions and in speeches made in the Council complaints have been made as to the manner in which the police exercise their powers. Complaints have been made of their highhandedness and abuse of powers already vested in them. If so, what is the use of arming the police with further powers that are likely to be abused and that may produce undesirable consequences. Let us now consider the administrative difficulties that are sure to confront us if this Bill is passed into law. Under this Act you will have to engage extra police in order to watch the movements of beggars and mendicants and arrest them if necessary. Their number is believed to be 52 lakhs. If a policy of arrest is decided upon, you can well imagine how many extra magistrates will have to be appointed to dispose of their cases. And on their being sent to jail, the jail population will go up. You will have to make arrangements for their accommodation and for the engagement of extra jail staff. Just imagine how this measure is likely to affect our budget and land us in fresh difficulties.

[R. B. Chhotu Ram.]

Now, let us turn to the financial aspect of this question to which none of the honourable members has so far adverted. You have often while discussing budgets, moving resolutions and putting questions made complaints that such and such an educational institution, such and such a municipal committee and such and such a district board have not been given grants-in-aid to carry on their beneficent activities. As a matter of fact, we know that the beneficent departments are seriously suffering for want of funds. And if in spite of that you pass this Bill into law and incur the heavy expenditure which must result from this legislation, you would give a serious set back to the beneficent activities of these departments. Besides, you complain that people are already groaning under the heavy burden of taxation. You say that land revenue is too much, *abiana* is unbearable, court fees are very heavy and *malikana* and acreage rates are exorbitant. If all this is true where will the money come from to meet the expenditure which will be incurred as a consequence of the proposed legislation. At any rate, I would warn the zamindar members of the House against the serious financial implications of this Bill. The present classification of taxes is such that the local government is authorised to levy only such taxes as fall on land, that is, on zamindars. And if you still want to deal with these 52 lakhs of beggars in the manner advocated by the lady member you should be prepared for fresh taxation. With these words I would advise that this Bill should be opposed at this very stage for, if it is to be thrown out ultimately why should the time of the House be wasted on an intervening stage for nothing.

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair).*

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries) : I have carefully listened to the speech of Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. The points which he has brought to the notice of the House should not be ignored. The nuisance of beggary has really assumed such proportions that something should be done to deal seriously with the problem. It is not only the beggar who molests respectable people who go about in cars in Anarkali or on the Mall in Lahore, but unfortunately it is sometimes the burglar, the pickpocket, the kidnapper or the abductor who masquerades as a beggar and goes about the streets gathering information which he utilises in his nefarious occupation, and which he is able to collect because of the freedom he enjoys in going to private houses. Therefore, this is a problem to which the Punjab Government as well as the legislature ought to direct their serious attention. But the practical difficulties, pointed out in the course of debate, are such that they cannot be lightly brushed aside. I consider that in the presence of section 151 of the Municipal Act the enactment of any other legislation for the municipal committees would be entirely superfluous and if the Government could give an assurance that it would draw the attention of the police to this very salutary provision and insist upon their taking action more often than is being done, I think the object which the mover of the Bill has in view would have been achieved, so far as the municipal areas are concerned.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** : We will give you that assurance.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** If that assurance is forthcoming, I think it is not necessary to proceed with this legislation, though I do not think for a moment that the financial difficulties pointed out by Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram are at all grave. When this indiscriminate charity is proscribed by the State, I have not the slightest doubt that voluntary charity will be forthcoming for poor-houses in various towns assisted by municipal committees and district boards ; but we should, in view of the assurance that is being given by the Government, watch what salutary results are achieved by more vigorous action by the police in this matter, before embarking upon new legislation.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : Sir, the excellent speech of Chaudhri Riasat Ali, reinforced later by the speech of Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram and finally Mr. Puri's assurance that if Government will draw the attention of district magistrates to the necessity of enforcing section 151 of the Municipal Act then in his opinion also further legislation is unnecessary, these three speeches make it unnecessary for me to say more than a very few words. I may be permitted to congratulate the introducer of this Bill on her courage and enterprise in introducing it, but I may also be permitted to express regret that she did not study section 151 of the Municipal Act a little more deeply before proposing new legislation. Everybody admits the evil of beggary and I myself know that in places like Murree and Simla the charity of the public is very sadly abused, because the villagers living round about those places make a practice of importing into the hill stations the cripples of their own villages in the hope of making money. It is not generally the case that these people need help, but they find it a very good and convenient means of making money. That certainly should be stopped and we have in the opinion of the District Magistrate of Simla a clear example of how it can be stopped. The District Magistrate says—

In Simla, during the past summer the offence of begging has been practically put down by the use of section 151 of the Punjab Municipal Act. The procedure has been to warn a beggar the first time he comes before the court, and to sentence him to imprisonment the second time. Half a dozen or so beggars were actually sent to prison by the District Magistrate under section 151, and the offence subsequently abated.

That is what happened. It only needs a little vigorous use of section 151 to kill this evil in towns. With regard to villages, the position is very different. I have during my 34 years of service in India, had to visit several villages while on tour and I have visited 2,000 villages in the Sialkot district alone. In the village streets it is an uncommon thing to see beggars. I do not say that we do not see beggars at all, but it is distinctly uncommon to see any beggar in the streets of villages. The present Bill differs from section 151 of the Municipal Act mainly in extending the provisions of that section in a slightly modified form to the whole of the province, that is to say, to the villages of the province. The law is already adequate in the towns, but in the villages, I hold that it is very little needed. We have a vulgar proverb in English, "A few fleas are good for a dog." Similarly, a few beggars are good for human beings. It gives them an opportunity to exercise their charitable instincts and indeed one complaint I heard in Simla about the use of section 151 during the last summer was that on big festival occasions when it is the duty of Indians to give charity it was found

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

very difficult to carry out that duty as there were no beggars. It is a complaint of which we do not need to take any serious note. But I think that the evil has not attained such serious dimensions in villages as to justify our passing special legislation to deal with it. As Chaudhri Chhotu Ram has already shown to the House it would need a great deal of extra expenditure to carry out the law in the villages. We will have to strengthen the police very considerably. At present we have about 11 constables in every *thana* and each *thana* covers an enormous area as there are only 15 *thanas* in each district. We will have to strengthen the police very considerably if we are to tackle beggary in villages. I do not think the members of this House would be prepared to vote the extra money which would be necessary to increase the police in order to put into full operation the Bill contemplated by Shrimati Lekhwati Jain.

There are many other things that I might say in opposition to this Bill, but I think the question has been fully dealt with by Chaudhri Riasat Ali and Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram and it is not necessary for me to say anything more. But I will repeat the undertaking that I have already given that the attention of district magistrates will be invited to the provisions of section 151 of the Municipal Act and they will be asked to use them where the evil is really serious. Indiscriminate use of that section is not advocated. But I would invite the attention of honourable members to one word that occurs in that section that does not appear in the new Bill. Section 151 prohibits *importunate* begging. The present Bill prohibits begging under any circumstances. The word "*importunate*" has been omitted in this Bill and I think it is an unfortunate omission. Government must oppose this motion for reference of the Bill to a select committee.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain (Urdu):** Sir, I insist on this Bill being sent to the select committee where we shall be able to consider this matter more closely and be able to decide whether this Bill should be withdrawn or that some of its provisions should be incorporated in the Municipal Act or whether this very Bill should be placed on the Statute Book with certain desirable changes here and there.

**Mr. President:** The question is—

That the Punjab Anti-Beggary Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Lala Chetan Anand,  
Mr. Mukand Lal Puri,  
Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan,  
Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon,  
Khawaja Muhammad Eusoof,  
The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The Mover.

*The motion was lost.*

## THE PUNJAB SMALL TOWNS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural): I beg to move—

That the Punjab Small Towns (Amendment) Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,  
Mian Nurullah,  
Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan,  
Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan,  
Sardar Bishan Singh,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang,  
A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The Mover.

In pursuance of a motion adopted by this House the Bill was circulated with a view to elicit public opinion. A large number of opinions have been received and I shall make a brief reference to them presently. The Bill as introduced aims at removing an anomaly which exists in the present law. Section 21 authorises the small town committees to impose any one or more of the following taxes :—

(a) A town-rate in the form of a tax—

- (i) upon all owners or occupiers of houses or lands within the limits of the small town assessed according to the annual value of such houses or lands : provided that if any land is assessed to the local rate under the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, the amount of the rate so assessed shall be deducted from the tax assessed on such land under this section;
- (ii) upon all residents of the small town assessed according to their circumstances : provided that the amount assessed on any one person according to his circumstances shall not exceed Rs. 7-8-0 per month in any one small town.

There are other clauses in this section, but the present Bill does not aim

at any alteration of any of those clauses. The present Bill aims at an alteration of section 21 of the

Small Towns Act, sub-clause (ii) of clause (a). So far as clauses (i) and (ii) are concerned, a town committee is competent to impose taxes upon the owners or occupiers of houses. This is what is called property town rate. It can also impose a tax upon all residents of the small town assessed according to circumstances and this is called personal town rate. So far as clause (i) is concerned, that is property town rate on owners and occupiers of houses, those owners or occupiers may belong to any class. They may possess any property of any nature or character. There is no objection to that. Under part (i) the zamindars who are living in these small towns are liable to pay a tax according to the value of the property which they occupy, may be in the form of houses, or even land, provided of course it is not taxed or assessed according to the District Board Act. The difficulty arises when we come to clause (ii), under which the committee can impose taxes upon all residents when they consider that the circumstances of individuals require that a tax should be imposed on them. Now, how are these circumstances determined? Suppose a shopkeeper is carrying on business and he makes his livelihood within the municipal area and he is in good affluent circumstances. Then a circumstance does arise which makes him liable to pay another tax in the

[Sardar Arjan Singh.]

shape of personal town rate. Similarly, under this clause if a zamindar who possesses land is considered by the members of a small town committee to earn proceeds from this land sufficient for his livelihood, then he is liable to be taxed by the committee. My objection to this tax is that when considering the circumstances of a certain individual, the produce that he gets, the income that he derives from the land should not be taken into account and my reasons are these. In the first place, the land-owner already pays land revenue upon that particular land which determines his circumstance when this tax is imposed. Secondly, he pays local rates and cesses to the district board and the district board provides these small towns committees with schools, facilities for medical aid and so on. We are told that the district boards in their turn, for the services they render to the small town committees, call upon these committees to make a contribution to the district boards. It will be interesting to see that one of the deputy commissioners, the deputy commissioner of Gurgaon, has opposed this Bill and he says as his reasons :—

There is no reason as to why land-owners and payers of haisiyat tax, who will enjoy the amenities of life provided by the town committee in the same manner as other residents of the town committee, should be exempted from the payment of town rate. The argument that these residents pay local rate and haisiyat tax is not of serious consideration, because under orders of Government, town committees are being called upon to make contributions to the district boards for services, such as educational and medical, rendered by the district boards within the jurisdiction of the town committees and, therefore, taxes paid to the district board cannot secure exemption to this class of the people from the town rate.

If this passage is closely followed it will be seen that this very argument can be adopted by those who support this Bill. That is, if already a contribution has been made by the land-owners to the district board and that district board in its turn calls upon the small town committee for a contribution to the district board for those very amenities of life which the district board has supplied for the committees, it means that the money out of the funds of the small town committee has to go a second time to the district board. In the first place a direct taxation has been put by the district board upon the land-owners and now again there is this indirect taxation by the district board through the small town committee, because the small town committee in order to make its contribution to the district board in its turn taxes again those very land-owners who have already paid their quota direct to the district board. Therefore this very argument which the learned Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon has adopted supports the view that this tax is unjust and inequitable upon the land-owners who are called upon to pay it. I, therefore, submit that this system of taxing the land-owners so many times is against all canons of justice.

There are other objections which have been taken and I will deal with them one by one. The first is that it will not be possible for the small town committees to distinguish between income derived from land and income derived from other sources. My reply to this objection is very simple. How is this tax imposed? No inquiry is made, no calculations are made, no accounts are kept by anybody. All that is done is that when it is found that a certain zamindar living within the area of a small town committee possesses some *ghumaons* of land, a flat rate is imposed on him, it may be



Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 or even Rs. 7 and Rs. 8. Therefore the objection that it will be impossible or impracticable for the town committee to distinguish between the income derived from land and other income does not hold good. The second objection is that it will cripple the finances of the small town committees. In the first place it is not proper to rob Peter to pay Paul. Because, the finances would suffer and therefore this unjust and iniquitous tax should be imposed upon a certain class of people, does not stand to reason. Besides, the finances will not suffer at all because the Bill does not aim at the abolition of any of these taxes. Both these taxes now existing go side by side and therefore there will be no serious reduction in the income of the small town committees. Another objection and a very fantastic objection is that perhaps it will create a split between land-owners and other classes of people. This holds good to some extent under the present law. But when the proposed Bill is passed into law, the wranglings that now go on between the land-owners and other classes of people in the small town committees will disappear altogether. I submit that as soon as a small town committee has made its position quite clear that a certain kind of income derived from land is not to be taxed, these daily quarrels that go on between various communities will disappear altogether. It has been pointed out by one of the gentlemen who have submitted their opinions on this Bill that in a committee in which the zamindars predominate they will ask for taxation under clause (i) and where the zamindars are not in a majority they will perhaps ask for a personal town rate, under clause (ii). But when this distinction is abolished, the classes will learn to live harmoniously and it will lead to a smooth working of the committee. These are the only two objections which I have noticed among the opinions on this Bill.

On the whole the Bill has been well received by the official class as well as by the non-official class. For instance, the Deputy Commissioner of Karnal says—

The proposed legislation is a just measure and will be welcomed by agriculturists residing in small towns as an enactment calculated to set right a valid grievance of theirs.

The Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala says—

I forward a copy of the opinion of the Town Committee, Ram Nagar. The other town committees in the district have no objection to the Bill, no doubt because zamindar members predominate, or else they have not understood the point at issue.

The Deputy Commissioner of Hoshiarpur says—

I think the object in view can be achieved by simply introducing another proviso to the existing sub-section as follows.

He realises that this amendment is absolutely necessary but he proposes another method of dealing with it. He says that instead of having two clauses, two provisos should be added.

The Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur, says—

There is no reason why people who pay local rate should not contribute to the income of the small town which is spent on these objects. Small towns are already suffering from want of funds and if such exemptions are allowed they are sure to disappear.

[Sardar Arjan Singh.]

Higher up he says—

They may claim a deduction of the amount paid by them as local rate.

The Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, says—

The proposed amendment is quite sound and very necessary, and would do away with a hardship which has so keenly been felt by the agriculturist residents of small towns during the last few years when there has been such a slump in the price of agricultural commodities.

The opinion of the Deputy Commissioner, Rawalpindi, is very interesting. He says—

Since they pay land revenue on their holdings to Government and local rate to the district board, I am of opinion that it is only fair that additional tax may not be levied on them. The Bill appears to be suitable and remedies a clear injustice to the zamindars.

The District and Sessions Judge, Rawalpindi, is very explicit. He says—

On the whole I am inclined to agree that the proposed amendment is quite fair, since persons who derive income from land within the limits of small towns already pay land revenue on their holdings, and, as is pointed out in the statement of the objects of the amendment, most of the real amenities of the small towns are provided by the district board rather than the small town committee itself, and the exemption of income from land from taxation by small towns.

This is important—

And the exemption of income from land from taxation by small towns is analogous with the general law on the subject.

Income derived from land is free from the incidence of taxation on general grounds also. It would be interesting for this House to note that a large majority of small towns have expressed themselves clearly in favour of the amendment and I cannot leave the subject without bringing to the notice of the House the opinion that has been expressed by the Sanatan Dharma Pritinidhi Sabha, Punjab—

The Sabha supports the Bill. However, taking into consideration the general trade depression, and high taxation, the Sabha is of opinion that the proposed figure of Rs. 7-8-0 per month is also very high and the same should be reduced to Rs. 4 a month.

Another important association, the Punjab Merchants' Association, says—

The Association fully supports the aims and objects of the Bill.

That is the trend of the opinions that have been expressed in the province. Having dealt with these I would point out that these grievances are long ones and one of the officers has pointed out that this grievance should have been brought to the notice of the authorities even when this Act was passed, that is, in 1922. Better late than never. It is no justification that because an unjust tax has been in existence for such a long time, therefore, it should be allowed to exist any longer. With these words I move that the Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the gentlemen I have already named.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That the Punjab Small Towns (Amendment) Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,  
 Mian Nurullah,  
 Kanwar Manraj Singh Chohan,  
 Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan,  
 Sardar Bishan Singh,  
 Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
 The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang,  
 A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
 The Mover.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to support the motion under consideration. If you look at the figures of a zamindar's earnings from land you will find that he pays 50 per cent. of his net income from land as land revenue to Government for the assessment in most of the districts is up to one half of the net earnings. Over and above this he pays 12½ per cent. for local rate which on Rs. 50 comes to Rs. 6½. That means for every one hundred rupees a zamindar gets from his land, he pays Rs. 56-4-0 towards land revenue and local rates and he is left with only Rs. 44-12-0. If on this a town rate is also levied what is left with him? The zamindar has to work long hours during day and night enduring all weather conditions and when he brings home the fruit of his labours more than 50 per cent. thereof is taken away from him. This is very hard on him indeed and I think the framers of this Small Town Act when they framed it did not take this aspect of the case into consideration. If they had known that zamindars already pay to the coffers of the State and local bodies Rs. 56 out of every Rs. 100 they earn—and this is more than what others pay, whether they are traders or public servants or whether they carry on any other profession—they would not have thought of levying any additional tax upon the zamindars even if they happened to live within the small towns. In these circumstances I think there should be no opposition to this Bill. It is for this very reason, namely that the zamindar already pays a heavy amount of taxation in the form of land revenue and local rates that his income is exempted from income-tax. Why then should the small town committees alone levy any tax upon the zamindars? As for the argument which some of the deputy commissioners have put forward namely that because the zamindars live in the four corners of the small town and get all the amenities therefore they should contribute something towards the cost of those amenities, I submit that they forget that the zamindars already contribute more than anybody else. All the money which they pay goes to maintain the Government which is over the head of all the small towns. Why should they be asked to contribute anything more from their paltry incomes? Such exorbitant charges are responsible for the poverty of the zamindars and I think whenever an effort is made to decrease that poverty, howsoever slight, the honourable members of this House should agree and most of all the Government members should welcome such a proposal. I think the mover of the Bill is doing real service in bringing this motion to draw attention to an omission in the Act which was passed several

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

years ago and it is the duty of the Council now to give it their whole-hearted support. It may be contended that this Bill will benefit the zamindars very little. I say even a relief of a rupee is a great thing for the zamindar. He values one anna more than perhaps many people value a hundred rupees. Therefore whatever little help is given will be welcome and on the equity of the case also the help is well deserved. I do not think there is any need for long speeches on this simple subject. After these observations I think all the honourable members will support the Bill. With these words I support the motion under consideration.

**Dewan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General): I am sorry I am unable to see eye to eye with the two speakers that have preceded me. In the first place the object which the honourable mover of the motion has in his mind is not achieved by the phraseology of the Bill which he has used. Income earned within the limits of small towns, does not exclude agricultural income. Let me point out to the Council that in small towns and in municipal areas income from land which is situated within the limits of the small towns or within the limits of the municipalities is the largest income. Therefore I think that income from land should not be excluded, not even the income from land outside the small towns if it makes a large portion of the income of a person residing in the towns. The object which the honourable mover has in view is in the first place not served by the phraseology adopted. Clearly if the argument of my honourable friend, the member from Ambala, were correct, all owners of land living within municipal limits would be exempted from taxation in municipal areas. Taxation within the limits of municipalities and small towns is intended to defray the expenses of the amenities which the urban population enjoys. Therefore I do not think that it would be right to discriminate between the income derived from land and income derived from other sources so far as persons living within the small towns or municipal limits are concerned. As long as they have the benefit of lights, as long as they have the benefits of roads and water-works and in some places of electricity, they ought to pay for these amenities and enjoyments and it would not be fair to distinguish between income derived from land and income derived from other sources. Besides, as I have already pointed out the drafting is so defective that it does not serve the purpose which the honourable member has got in view, that is, exemption of income from land from taxation by small town committees.

**Lala Bhagat Ram** (Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana, non-Muhammdan, Rural) (Urdu): This Bill is moved and supported by people who are not in the least acquainted with the real situation in the small town committees. My personal knowledge tells me that zamindar residents of small town committees have nothing to complain of. They are paying their dues quite willingly. After all it is not difficult for them to pay something to the town committees after paying local rates to district boards. In our small town committee two members are non-agriculturists and five are agriculturists. The agriculturist majority has never raised this question which is being raised by my honourable friend over there. They are pulling on very smoothly and amicably. They do not feel any difficulty in realising the taxes. We in the small town committees divide the area into certain units and realise a fixed

amount of tax from those units. Of course, the financial position of individuals comprising a unit is also taken into consideration. If a unit has to pay Rs. 1½ the amount is realised from people comprising that unit and every individual pays in proportion to his paying capacity. Similarly when we have to realise Rs. 2,000 from the Alawalpur town we divide the whole town into units and feel no difficulty in getting the money. I am at a loss to understand what put it into the head of the honourable mover of the Bill that the small town committees are faced with any grave problem of this sort. No conference of small town committees has ever been held and no resolutions calling for the enactment of a legislation on the lines suggested by our honourable friend were ever passed. I fail to understand on whose authority he has brought forward this measure. I myself am President of a small town committee. There are agriculturists as well as non-agriculturists residing within the four corners of our committee. But never has such a question arisen there although there is a clear majority of agriculturists in that committee. After all the small town committee has to finance so many beneficent institutions like schools and hospitals and has to maintain the roads in good condition. Then it has to make arrangements for lighting the streets in the night and for chowkidars. If people are to be exempted from certain taxes imposed by the small town committee, where will the money come from to finance all these institutions? It is, therefore, not proper to exempt people from taxation when they are in the enjoyment of all amenities provided by the small town committees. If you accept this principle of taxing some and exempting others you will find yourself face to face with countless difficulties. Some people will come forward with the suggestion that the houses which are used by zamindars should not be taxed. Others will say their cattle should be exempted from all sorts of taxation. By and by it will be impossible to levy any tax on the income of zamindar residing in a town. Even the commodities brought by the zamindars into the cities will be claimed as articles deserving of exemption from octroi charges. I should, therefore, submit that it is not in the best interests of sound administration to create distinctions of the type suggested in the present Bill, between the two sections of the small town population. If this Bill had been brought forward at the instance of some small town committee, or other I could have understood it. But as the honourable mover has gone out of his way to champion the cause of zamindar residents of small towns especially when he holds no brief for them, I feel constrained to oppose his Bill.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani** (West Punjab Towns, Muhammadan, Urban): The proposed Bill contemplates three changes in the existing law. In the first place for the words "according to their circumstances" it substitutes "according to their income earned within the limits of the small town." In the next place it fixes the maximum amount that can be levied on a particular individual in a small town. In the third place it excludes agricultural income from its operation. My friend from Ambala, Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan, complained that agriculturists were very hard hit, the times were so bad with them that they should be exempted from the payment of taxes though they are residing in small towns and enjoying all the amenities of civic life. I do not think there is any logic in this argument. After all, if two neighbours are living in a small town and

[Sh. Abdul Ghani.]

the small town committee places at their disposal all the benefits that it provides and they enjoy them, it is hardly just that one should go on paying for all the amenities enjoyed equally by them both while the other should be sitting by, paying nothing and jeering at the man who pays. If an honourable member of this House is serious in bringing in a Bill and seeks the support of the House to put it on the statute book, fairness requires that he should be careful to see that the legislation he proposes should not be in any way of a kind which can be called unfair. If you look at the Bill you will at once come to the conclusion that it is a Bill which wants to benefit one class at the expense of another. I would have been quite at one with the honourable mover if he had proposed in the Bill that because in a way the agriculturist has to pay twice over, some provision should be made and the Government should refund to him out of the land revenue he has paid to Government an amount in proportion to the assessment made by the small town committee on the basis of his agricultural income. If the Bill contained some such provision it would have been an equitable piece of legislation and the House would not have found it very difficult to support it. But what is done is this. The agriculturist is made to pay land revenue to Government, his neighbour and other people in the small town are made to suffer for that. Because Government gets payment from the agriculturist, why should the residents of the town be asked to forego their rights? If the agriculturist enjoys in common with all the residents of the place all the amenities why should the latter forego what is due from the former? I do not think this argument can be advanced with any fairness in regard to agricultural incomes. With regard to the fixing of the maximum at Rs. 7-8-0, I think it must create many difficulties. After all the finances of each particular town, its needs and requirements is a matter which is for the small town committee to decide and to fix once for all, in all circumstances and for all cases. The fixing of a particular fee for a particular individual (*An honourable member* : It has already been fixed. The Bill has nothing to do with fixation) does not appear to be just. With respect to the income earned within the limits of the town, here again I think it is rather absurd. There are bankers, sahu-kars, traders trading with countries outside India, residing in small towns and there are certain towns where the gentry is richer than in other towns. Because decent people inhabit a particular town it is only natural that their standard of living should be higher and they should demand better conditions around them within which to live. If there are rich people who make income outside the limits of the small town within which they live there is no harm if they are made to contribute a little more than others in order to ameliorate the condition of people comparatively poor within the town living round about them. I do not think we need any such discrimination in a case like this. I oppose this Bill as I do not find any reason in support of it.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Chaudhri Fazl Ali** (Gujrat East, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : I feel called upon to make a few observations after hearing the speech of my honourable friend Shaikh Abdul Ghani. He has said that it is not fair that one section of the people should be made to pay a certain tax and another should be exempted from it, and that no distinction

should be made between a zamindar and non-zamindar in the matter of realising small town committee dues. He has conveniently ignored the fact that non-zamindars benefit by all institutions established with the money collected as local rates which are paid by zamindars only and to which non-zamindars make no contribution whatever. There are hospitals run, schools established and roads made by the money collected from the zamindars in the shape of local rates and the non-zamindars benefit from them without paying a single penny towards their expenditure. So, if Sardar Sahib has proposed to exempt the zamindar resident of a small town committee from some tax levied by the committee there is nothing unfair in it.

Small towns are necessarily big villages. All the hospitals, schools and roads there are the creation of district boards which levy local rates on zamindars' income. But when after some time the big village is given the name of a small town the institutions financed by the district boards are allowed to remain at least for a sufficiently long time. The small town people benefit from them although it was with the money of the zamindars that those institutions had come into existence. Moreover, it looks rather improper that the district board should remove its schools and hospitals immediately after a village has been declared a small town. Therefore the district board goes on paying towards the expenditure of the school or the hospital, as the case may be, though this has to be done with the sanction of the commissioner. But when the zamindar claims exemption from certain dues on very cogent grounds a veritable storm of opposition is raised. I, for one, cannot understand this mentality. I am at a loss to understand what is my friend's conception of fairness. With these words I beg to support the motion under consideration.

**Mr. P. Marsden** (Secretary, Transferred Departments): The first remark I would like to make is that the financial position of small towns is very precarious at the present moment. Anything that is done to cripple the finances of the small towns will most certainly ruin them very quickly. So one has to be very careful before adopting any measure which might have that result. I would also mention that the personal town rate produces more than the property town rate. In the last recorded year the small towns realised about Rs. 1,30,000 from the personal rate in small towns and something under a lakh from the property town rate. If this amending Bill were to be passed the personal rate is the one that would be affected and which would be very much diminished. Supposing that the agriculturist was to be benefited by this Bill and was to be exempted in so far as his income is derived from agricultural land, he would not then pay a personal rate, under the second clause of this section of the Small Towns Act and he would probably be liable to pay little or nothing, in thousands of cases, under the first clause of this section, that is to say, as property town rate. For so many zamindars, thousands of them, in small towns live in small mud or *kachha* houses which would have to be valued at a few rupees only, while the other class of residents of the village who have flourishing *pucca* houses, would as a rule be liable to pay any appreciable amount towards the tax which is known as the property town rate. That is why I say if this Bill is passed, you would undoubtedly be crippling the small towns financially and perhaps ruining them.

Mr. P. Marsden.]

The second remark I would make about this Bill is that it is impracticable. I allude to the features to which Raja Narendra Nath also alluded. The main part of the Bill consists of a proposal that the tax should be imposed upon residents of the small towns assessed according to their income earned within the limits of the small town. That would not only get off an enormous number of small town residents who are at present taxed, but it would also facilitate an enormous number of evasions of the tax. People who can at present be said to carry on their business within the limits of the small town would take very good care to do their actual business outside the limits of the small town and it would be almost impossible to say what people are liable to the tax and what people are not. Where there are pleaders, for example, living in a small town who go out to carry on their business, perhaps to another town or to the district headquarters, presumably they would not be liable because they would not be carrying on their business within the small town limits. Similarly a large number of well-to-do Government and other pensioners would not be liable to pay the tax, because they also are not deriving income from the business carried on within the small town limits; and I can multiply instances of that sort of people who would escape the tax altogether if this amending Bill was passed.

I would remind honourable members that the Punjab Small Towns Act was very largely modelled on the corresponding Act in the United Provinces, and in that Act also no such distinction has been laid down as the proposer of this Bill seeks to lay down. It is quite true that in the United Provinces the tax is in rather different form, because instead of having two taxes you have one tax there, i.e., for the two different taxes that are imposed under section 21 (a) of the Punjab Small Towns Act you have in the United Provinces one tax. But that is another matter. If the House wished to convert these two taxes into one single tax, that would be a matter for another legislation. But the main principle of this Bill, namely that the agriculturists should be exempted in respect of the income which they get from agricultural land, is not observed in the United Provinces Act.

Now I would suggest, that one should take a broad view of these taxes, such as the people of the towns were intended to take when this Act was first passed. If a person living in a small town and enjoying all the amenities of that town is a well-to-do person, a man in flourishing circumstances, it is only right that he should be taxed in order that these amenities should be continued, whether he is an agriculturist or whether he is a non-agriculturist. There are plenty of non-agriculturists who will also be liable to two taxes, for example, you may have a non-agriculturist paying a profession tax in the small town and you may also have a man paying a profession tax to the district board because he partly carries on his profession outside in the district board area. (*An honourable member*: He is not liable to be taxed). He is liable to be taxed. The District Board can levy profession-tax from a non-resident who has a business in the District Board area. One has to view this section in a broad spirit, and one has to realise that everybody who lives in a small town and who is or at any rate ought—though I am afraid he does not always, to judge from the circumstances of many of our small towns—to be enjoying the benefits and all the amenities that you get from living in a town, ought to be prepared



to pay for it. I think that if members view the question in that spirit they will realise that the section, as it now stands, is quite equitable.

I would mention one more fact in connection with this section. At present it might look as if there is one piece of inequity in the section, and that is that one and the same person can be liable to both taxes under this section. But some time ago it struck Government that this was inadvisable, and instructions were issued to the effect that where there are both these taxes levied in a small town, one and the same person should not be liable to both taxes. Therefore, I hope the honourable members will agree that this section, as it stands and as it is being applied, is not inequitable, and that the agriculturist members of this House will not consider that agriculturists are being harshly treated on account of tax from which this Bill seeks to relieve them.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural), (Urdu): I had no intention of participating in this debate, but after listening to the speech of the Secretary, Transferred Departments, I feel that I must make a few observations. Whereas the non-zamindar resident of a small town committee has to pay taxes levied on behalf of the committee, the zamindar finds himself in a more difficult position. He has to pay certain taxes to the small town committee and certain dues to the district boards within whose limits his lands are situated. Now it is clear, that it is not fair that zamindars' paltry earnings should be taxed by two bodies while the non-zamindar is put in a more comfortable position of paying taxes only to one body. The poor zamindar is called upon to pay land revenue, local rate, municipal tax and then the octroi duty also. To inflict so much burden on one man is not at all fair. I appeal to the Government members to think over this matter again and not to try to crush the poor zamindar who is already burdened with many taxes and liabilities. I do not plead that the zamindar residents of small town committees should be totally exempted from all sorts of assessments that may be made on behalf of these bodies, but I only urge that some consideration and sympathy should be shown for them and that they should be treated as equitably as the non-zamindars are being treated who are paying a limited tax on their income. The poor zamindars should not be called upon to pay any dues, as it were, twice over.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural), (Urdu): This Bill is based on principles of equity and its provisions are perfectly reasonable. As the district boards have to levy tax on the earnings of the zamindar his income is assessed every year and a proportionate tax is levied on him. But the zamindar who resides within the limits of a small town committee is called upon to pay a tax to that committee also. Fairness demands that if the small town committee is authorized to levy a tax on the income of a zamindar resident the money paid by him to the district board in the shape of taxes should be refundable. I claim this concession for the zamindar because I know that it is on him that the greatest burden of government dues lies. Whereas the town-dweller has to pay tax on a fixed amount of income below which he is exempt from all State liabilities, the zamindar is called upon to contribute to the State treasury from his most meagre resources. This is how the schools are established, hospitals are run and every modern amenity is provided for. All

[Ch. Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.]

these institutions are financed by the poor zamindars. And this is because even the poorest of the poor amongst them is made to pay something to the Government. It would, therefore, not be improper if the additional tax which is being imposed on him by our small town committees is done away with. The Government will not lose anything thereby because it is already getting much out of the pocket of the zamindar. With these words I would urge that he should be exempted from the additional tax which the amending Bill before us seeks to abolish. A good deal is made of the hospitals and schools and new taxes are imposed on the poor and wretched zamindar for the maintenance of these institutions. But I would submit that the zamindars do not derive so much benefit from these institutions as the non-zamindars, yet right from the beginning of the British rule it has been the zamindars who have been bearing the burden and responsibility of their maintenance. Therefore, I once again urge that the poor zamindar may not be tortured with the new tax and that it may be abolished.

*The Council then adjourned till 2-30 P. M. on Friday, 22nd February, 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

*Friday, 22nd February, 1935.*

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2-30 P. M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### THE PUNJAB SMALL TOWNS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the motion of Sardar Arjan Singh about referring of the Punjab Small Towns (Amendment) Bill to a select committee.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government) : I have very carefully considered the amendment proposed by Sardar Arjan Singh to the Small Town Act and I am thoroughly convinced that the amendment is not only impracticable, not only is it based on a misapprehension but is absolutely useless and unnecessary. It is impracticable because it will not be possible easily to distinguish between income made inside a town area and outside it. Already people who are assessed to Income-tax know what difficulties they experience with the officers of the Income-tax Department and the officers of the Income-tax Department know what difficulties they have to experience in determining the actual income of an assessee. Now, in the case of town committees the amount of tax which has to be levied is so small that the game will not be worth the candle in any case, the result being that there will be bad blood and unpleasantness created between the members of the town committee and the assessees; and it may lead to all sorts of troubles in the towns which are after all only glorified villages, their population under the statute being below 10,000. That is one great difficulty that I see. Then, as I submitted already, the Bill is utterly useless as it will not achieve the object which my friend has in view, assuming that the Act is amended in the way suggested by the honourable member. Town committees cannot exist unless they find some other sources of taxation. Now under section 21 (a) there are two kinds of taxes which a town committee can levy. One is the property tax and the other is personal tax. If a person is exempted from personal tax naturally his property will be assessed and it will rest with the members of the town area to assess it at whatever figure they like, because they have to make up certain amount without which the town area cannot exist and this amount they have to make up somehow, from some source or other. If personal tax is abolished the members of town committees will have to fall back upon property tax. My honourable friend does not propose that the zamindars should be exempted from the property tax, but to be consistent he ought to have moved that the zamindars should be exempted altogether from the payment of any tax within a town area, because all the arguments that he gave apply equally to the property tax.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

Zamindars pay land revenue and they also pay local rates, but as there is no amendment proposed to sub-section (1) of section 21 (a) they will have to pay property tax. Where is the relief then for them even if this Bill is passed? I therefore submit that the Bill, even if it is passed, will fail to achieve the object which my friend has in view and the result will only be a great deal of dislocation and unnecessary trouble caused to a number of town committees in the province. I may point out that there are about 114 or 115 small town committees in the province. About 75 of these levy property tax and the rest impose personal tax and some 5 or 6 of the total number have imposed both the taxes. Thus, about 40 town committees mainly depend for their income on this personal tax. Mr. Marsden pointed out yesterday that the amount of tax collected from persons living within the jurisdiction of these 40 town committees was nearly Rs. 1,30,000 or rather Rs. 1,27,000 leaving out of account the hundreds, while the income from property tax is only about Rs. 98,000; so that, by introducing this amendment the honourable mover is really depriving the town committees of their principal source of income. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram does not happen to be here, otherwise I believe what I say would have appealed to him. If these town committees are deprived of these sources of income the result will be that these small town committees will cease to exist unless, of course they transfer the whole of this burden to the properties in which case as I have already pointed out no relief will be afforded to the poor zamindars. If they do not do that these town committees will go out of existence with the result that these towns will become part of rural areas; and those who do not want the urban votes in any way to influence rural areas will certainly not welcome this amendment at all. There has been a great deal of trouble over the definition of rural and urban people and if I am not mistaken, for purposes of future constitution urban people have been defined to be those people who live in towns with a population exceeding 7,500. (*Interruption*). That is what has been proposed by a certain committee whose name I do not want to mention. Now, we are dealing with towns whose population may be 9,999 or may be 10,000. If this Bill is passed, the result will be that all those towns will merge into rural areas and thereby influence for various purposes the votes of the rural areas at the time of various elections. That is an argument against the Bill which my honourable friend has brought forward.

Next, I must submit that I am not at all impressed by the argument that the present method of taxation is unjust. I really do not understand why it is considered unjust. If I am a zamindar I have to pay land revenue because I hold land and I have some advantage which is denied to others. I pay local rate according to the land revenue I pay because I enjoy certain amenities in the rural areas. I have to take out my produce to the market place and if there were no roads constructed by district boards my produce will rot in my village. If there are no schools my children will not receive any education. If there are no dispensaries I shall find it very hard to get medical aid in case of illness. If there are no other amenities which are at present being afforded by the district boards I shall be deprived of so many comforts. It is to provide these amenities that local rates are collected. Now, have we not got such amenities in towns for which we have to pay?

The town committee is a corporate body which means that people pool their resources for securing certain comforts. Is it the idea that a zamindar who lives in a town should not have lights before his house? Is it intended that the part of the street in front of his house should not be cleaned or that the sweeper should not visit his house at the proper hours for cleaning purposes? Is it the idea that all other amenities which are afforded to the people living in town areas should be denied to the zamindars? If they are not to be denied these amenities, is it fair or equitable that they should not bear a proportion of the burden of the cost of these amenities? Can the honourable member urge that because a person pays local rate on land which he possesses or pays land revenue, therefore he should be exempted from contributing his share of the cost which is incurred by the town committee for providing these comforts? If my learned friend's argument is to be accepted there is no reason why a person who pays income-tax in a town should not claim similar exemption? I am sure the honourable mover of this Bill does not contemplate exemption of income-tax payers from this burden. There seems to be some misapprehension in the mind of the honourable member as appears from the statement of objects and reasons he has appended to the Bill. For, it says referring to zamindars —

They, in common with other owners and occupiers of houses, also contribute to the finances of the committee under sub-clause (i), clause (a) of section 21. But a small town committee can and does impose additional tax on their income from the land under sub-clause (ii), clause (a) of section 21 of the Punjab Small Towns Act for which there is not the least warrant or justification.

This seems to be based on a misunderstanding as the fact is that out of 114 or 115 town committees this double taxation prevails only in six places. My honourable friend knows that that can certainly not be a ground for amending the Act. Even in this respect I may inform the honourable member that Government issued instructions some time ago that town committees should be advised to restrict themselves only to one kind of taxation, that is, either property tax or personal tax. These instructions are going to be sent to all town committees in the province, so that the result would be that even those six committees would cease to levy double taxation and would confine themselves either to property tax or to personal tax. Thus, one of the chief reasons given in the statement of objects and reasons will disappear. In other places, as I have already submitted either property tax is levied or a personal tax. That certainly cannot be relied upon as any valid grievance.

The statement of objects and reasons is defective in another respect also. The honourable mover seems to be under the impression that "there are certain residents in the towns who carry on a particular profession, art, business, trade or calling outside the limits of the towns within an area under the jurisdiction of a district board and have to pay a professional tax or, what is commonly known as hasiyat tax but under sub-clause (ii), clause (a) of section 21 of the Punjab Small Towns Act they are liable to pay another tax which certainly is a great hardship upon them." In the first place this is wrong. Hasiyat tax is levied only on people who live within the jurisdiction of the district board area for at least, 180 days in a year. Therefore this would not apply to people whose residence is within the town areas and who carry on business outside. But I would go further

[ Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang. ]

and say that if they are actually carrying on business outside the town area jurisdiction and have their residence within the town area, it is only meet and proper that they should pay for the amenities that they enjoy both inside the town and outside the town. If the district board could be permitted to impose any tax on them such as haisyat tax, it is only right. In all civilised and organised life people have to bear the burdens to make themselves civilised to keep themselves in a state of civilisation and comfort and I do not think any honest man should grudge paying the taxes which are levied either by the Government or by local bodies to promote convenience and comfort and welfare of the people. I may further submit that we have already in contemplation to amend this section 21 by a very simple device. If Sardar Arjan Singh would look at section 21 (a) (i) he will find that there is a semi-colon at the end of (i) (a) and if that semi-colon is removed and the word "or" is substituted, it would serve his purpose. This we have already been considering and I assure him that if the instructions that we have issued are not acted upon, then this section of the Small Towns Act may be amended on these lines, and if there is any grievance at all on that score, it would disappear.

What I want to say further on this point is that opinions were collected on this Bill and the weight of opinion is against it. I would particularly draw the attention of the House to the opinions of the Judges of the High Court than whom no more qualified persons can be found here. The Judges are unanimous in giving their opinion against this Bill. It would also interest my honourable friend and other members of the House to glance at the opinion at page 16 of the Small Town Committee of Majitha which is a very well-known town in the Amritsar division, after which some of our Sardars are known. Eighty per cent. of the population of this town consists of zamindars and yet this is the opinion that is recorded by them.

It is unjust to enforce the said amendment. The Town Committee, Majitha, propose the following reasons mentioned below for favour of consideration :—

- (1) The population of small towns in the Punjab generally consists of 80 per cent. of agriculturists.

I believe this is correct ; that is the general proportion of population—

- (2) If this class of population, i.e. (agriculturists) is exempted from the said tax the income of the town committee will be tremendously reduced and shall cause a great difficulty in the upkeep and maintenance of the towns and will ultimately be a great hindrance in the management.
- (3) The non-agriculturists are not in a position to subscribe sufficiently towards the tax which would meet the expenses.
- (4) Moreover, the income derived from the source is generally expended on the maintenance of public roads, drains, watch and ward, street lighting, and other sanitary improvements of the towns whereby every class of inhabitants, agriculturist and non-agriculturist, is equally benefited, therefore each class is supposed to share such expenditure which is realized in the form of this tax.
- (5) The district board is realising local rates from the agriculturists who form a part of the population of small towns and are within the limits of such towns. In view of the fact that district board has stopped aids to the schools, hospitals and roads, etc., which lie within the limits of the towns, the local rate should not be paid to the district board, but should come to small town committee funds.

This is another suggestion made by them because the tendency of the district boards is to stop any contribution towards schools and dispensaries situated in the town committee area and the whole burden falls on the committees—

- (6) The small town committees in the Punjab have levied only one of the taxes under section 21 of the said Act either 21-A (1) or 21-A (2). Nowhere both the taxes are levied simultaneously, hence the amendment is absolutely unnecessary.

This statement is slightly incorrect, because in six out of 114 committees this system of double taxation prevails. But the statement is substantially correct and they point out that in view of these facts the amendment is absolutely unnecessary.

There is one thing probably which is lurking in the mind of the honourable mover. I expect he has no grievance whatsoever where the majority of the population consists of zamindars because there he naturally thinks that the zamindars can look after themselves. Probably he is anxious to guard the interest of zamindars in town committees where they are in a minority and he apprehends that the non-zamindars might impose too heavy a burden on the minority community consisting of zamindars. After what the Majitha committee has said and what I have learnt from other sources, the apprehension of Sardar Arjan Singh is not well-founded. But even if there are a few towns where the zamindars happen to be in a minority, I do not think it is a sufficient ground for bringing forward this amending Bill. If he wants I can give him this assurance that we will go into this question and if it is possible to ascertain, we will ascertain whether the number of small towns where the population of zamindars is in a minority is sufficiently large to require any special relief. I think with this assurance and in view of the various circumstances to which I have drawn his attention and in view of the fact that the consensus of opinion is against this Bill, Sardar Arjan Singh will not press his motion.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural): I have listened with patience to the speeches that have been made in opposition to the motion under discussion. What has surprised me most is the attitude that has been adopted by the Government. Unfortunately issues have been sought to be clouded and confused. There is so much confusion that I will have to go over the same ground just in the very way in which the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government has addressed the House. But I am afraid that in these days nothing is easier than to mislead the Government by bringing in the least tinge of communalism in any motion, legislation or resolution. All that is needed to mislead the Government is to say that favours are being sought by members representing the zamindar class and that is sufficient to bring the Government on to the view that some of the members of the House are anxious to secure some favour for their community. In this way the question is not examined on its merits and this is a plea on which the Government make up their attitude and they want to stick to that attitude by all sorts of argument, good, bad or indifferent. This is exactly the position with regard to the proposed legislation. I must make myself very clear that no favours are being sought in this legislation at the hands of the Government or any other body. This legislation has been

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brought forward in the name of justice and law. The law is that the produce from the land should not be taxed. That is the general principle. Therefore, this tax, I must make it clear, is altogether illegal. The second ground is that it is unjust inasmuch as already a local rate is paid to the district board and the district board looks after the amenities of life in that small town the inhabitants of which have already paid local rate to the district board. Therefore they must get something in return for what they have already paid. This tax which is imposed by small town committees upon the land-owners—I shall not use the word “zamindar,” because as soon as that word “zamindar” is uttered much is made of it in the press and also in this House—is a levy for the third time on the income from land. Because under clause (a) (i) everybody, whether a zamindar or a non-zamindar, is made to pay a tax and this Bill does not touch that tax. I have been twitted by the Honourable Minister that we should have brought forward an amendment seeking to amend the property town rate also. I think there must be some consistency. On the one hand I am told that I am bringing this legislation the result of which would be to reduce the income of the committee and on the other hand I am told that it would have been consistent and just in the fitness of things if legislation had been introduced abolishing the property town rate also. It must be quite clear

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that what I seek to abolish is not the tax under part (i) As regards part (ii) also I have limited myself to only that part of the income which is derived from land. Therefore under part (i) everybody pays the tax and under part (ii) zamindars as well as non-zamindars are taxed according to their circumstances.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** That is wrong because they pay only one tax and not two. I have quoted from the reports that it is only in 6 places in the whole province that both these taxes are paid, in others they either pay one or the other. So the Bill is confined to 6 places.

**Sardar Arjan Singh :** It is quite clear that a full lakh of rupees is paid in one form of taxation and a little below one lakh is collected in the other form of taxation, but they do not co-exist, as the Honourable Minister has himself admitted. This is my grievance that they do not co-exist and, therefore, no amendment in that direction would in the least affect the finances of the committees. That is what my grievance is that the taxes do not co-exist and, therefore, if a portion of the tax from one class is abolished that would not in any way materially affect the finances of the small town committees and, therefore, there is not much fear of the finances of the committees being reduced. That is the chief ground why the landlords should not be taxed thrice. They already pay tax twice and they are glad to do it.

Next, I will deal with some of the criticisms that have been offered against this legislation. I must refer to the speech of my honourable friend the Raja Sahib. His speech reminds me of a story of an old woman who was abusing and cursing the *amin* on the top of her voice. The *amin* chanced to pass that way and he asked her, if she had any grievance against him, if she had been affected by any act of his, if she possessed any land



which has been overtaxed or if she had been made to pay excessive land revenue. She said, no, neither has any of her relatives been affected by any of his action. "Then why are you cursing me?" asked the *amin*. The reply was that she was doing that in order to keep company with others. You will find that Raja Narendra Nath has made two statements and he will excuse me if I say that both of them are wrong. He says that the largest amount of income is derived from land within the limits of the municipal areas and that the legislation seeks to abolish that source of income from the municipal areas. Now, this is entirely wrong. In the first place this legislation only deals with small town committees and it has absolutely nothing to do with the municipal committees and it does not touch the land which lies within the limits of the municipal committees. Land, house or any other property within the limits of small town committees falls under clause (i) of part (a) and that part is not touched. No attempt has been made to make any amendment in that part of the existing law. Therefore, to say that we want to abolish any form of tax upon any land in any area within small town's jurisdiction is absolutely wrong, because that part is left untouched and, therefore, the lands which lie within the small towns, houses and buildings whether of zamindars or of non-zamindars are liable to tax and nobody grudges it. Therefore, when my friend tried to make that point, I am afraid he did not carefully study it. Another criticism has been offered by my friend Lala Bhagat Ram. He says that he has got some experience of the administration of a small town committee. I think I must quote him in order to satisfy the Honourable Dr. Sir Narang because the Honourable Doctor says that this legislation would be impracticable. He says it would be very difficult for the small town committees to ascertain the exact amount of property or income that is derived from land or from other source of income, but Lala Bhagat Ram who claims some intimate knowledge of the administration of a small town committee has replied to Dr. Gokul Chand's greatest objection. He says that no difficulty is at all felt when we impose this tax because nobody even takes into consideration the income that is derived from land. If no consideration is paid or no account is taken of the income that is derived from land, then why should he oppose it at all? It is in practice, according to him, unworkable as the income from land is never taken into account. Then why not try to bring the law in conformity with the practice that is obtaining already in small towns? Again, I have one word to say about the speech of my friend from Sargodha to which reference has already been made by the Honourable Dr. Sahib. The Honourable Doctor quoted him with approval.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** And with admiration and with appreciation.

**Sardar Arjan Singh :** Yes, with admiration, but that admiration will disappear if I bring to the notice of the House the fallacious nature of the argument on which my friend based his speech. In the first place he says that land revenue is paid to Government. He probably considers that that amount is paid to a stranger, for, that is how he seems to describe the Government. But he also conveniently forgets that that is not the ground on which exemption is sought. The ground is quite different and that he has not touched. Local rate, apart from land revenue paid to Government,

[ S. Arjan Singh. ]

is paid to the district board and the district board can by no stretch of imagination be considered a stranger to these small towns. Government contributes nothing to the funds of the small towns but the district board does. Therefore, the exemption which is claimed is on the ground that local rate is paid to the district boards and not because of land revenue paid to the stranger as he would describe the Government. District board in its turn provides educational facilities and also dispensaries to the small towns and, therefore, that direct taxation is already being paid and that is the ground on which this exemption is claimed in this legislation.

Although Nawab Sahib and Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan had fully met the arguments of the opposition I have also considered it worth while to briefly refer to the arguments that have been advanced. I cannot leave the speech of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to go un-replied. In the first place Dr. Sahib has tried to impress upon the House that this legislation would be impracticable. But it has already been explained by Lala Bhagat Ram that there would be absolutely no difficulty in differentiating between the income derived from land and income from other sources. Then the Honourable Doctor says that it is altogether unnecessary. He says it is unnecessary because the mover of the legislation has not asked for the total abolition of all taxes that are paid by the zamindar. That is an argument to which I think no reply need be given. It is so self-evident that I need not take the time of this House in discussing that point. Then we are told that the tax is only just. That is not an argument which has been put forward for exemption of a certain class of property from local taxation. I would submit that this legislation should be considered on its own merits and that the House should not be led by these commonplace slogans and shibboleths. In the very name of that fair play and justice to which reference has been made so often I make an appeal to the House to consider, discuss and examine this Bill on its own merits and abolish this unjust, inequitable and illegal tax that is imposed upon that unfortunate class. With these words I press my motion to the acceptance of the House.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the Punjab Small Towns (Amendment) Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Rai Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,

Mian Nurullah,

Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan,

Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan,

Sardar Bishen Singh,

Mr. J. D. Anderson,

The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang,

A nominee of the Honourable President, and

The mover.

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*The Council divided : Ayes 30, Noes 31.*

## AYES.

Afzal Haq, Chaudhri.  
 Ahmad Yar Khan Daulatana, Khan Bahadur Mian.  
 Akbar Ali, Pir.  
 Allah Dad Khan, Chaudhri.  
 Arjan Singh, Sardar.  
 Bishan Singh, Sardar.  
 Buta Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.  
 Chhottu Ram, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri.  
 Fazl Ali, Khan Bahadur Nawab Chaudhri.  
 Habib Ullah, Khan Bahadur Sardar.  
 Jawahar Singh Dhillon, Sardar.  
 Kesar Singh, Rai Sahib Chaudhri.  
 Mamraj Singh Chohan, Kanwar.  
 Mazhar Ali Azhar, Maulvi.  
 Mubarak Ali Shah, Sayad.  
 Muhammad Fusoof, Khwaja.

Muhammad Hayat Qureshi, Khan Bahadur Nawab.  
 Muhammad Yasin Khan, Chaudhri.  
 Muzaffar Khan, Khan Bahadur Captain Malik.  
 Nathwa Singh, Chaudhri.  
 Noor Ahmad Khan, Khan Sahib Mian.  
 Nur Khan, Khan Sahib Risaldar Bahadur.  
 Nurullah, Mian.  
 Pancham Chand, Thakur.  
 Riasat Ali, Khan Sahib Chaudhri.  
 Roberts, Mr. W.  
 Sampuran Singh, Sardar.  
 Ujjal Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar.  
 Umar Hayat, Chaudhri.  
 Zaman Mehdi Khan, Khan Bahadur Malik.

## NOES.

Abdul Ghani, Shaikh.  
 Anderson, Mr. J. D.  
 Bahadur Khan, Sardar.  
 Bhagat Ram, Lala.  
 Bourne, Mr. F. C.  
 Boyd, The Honourable Mr. D. J.  
 Chetan Anand, Lala.  
 Dobson, Mr. B. H.  
 Fazl Ilahi, Khan Sahib Shaikh.  
 Firoz Khan Noon, The Honourable Malik Sir.  
 Gokul Chand Narang, The Honourable Dr. Sir.  
 Gopal Das, Rai Sahib Lala.  
 Hearn, Mr. J. W.  
 Janmeja Singh, Captain Sardar Bahadur Sardar.  
 Jogendra Singh, The Honourable Sardar Sir.  
 Labh Chand Mehra, Rai Sahib Lala.

Marsden, Mr. P.  
 Mayadas, Mr. Ernest.  
 Mukand Lal Puri, Mr.  
 Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, Khan Bahadur Mian.  
 Muzaffar Khan, The Honourable Nawab.  
 Narendra Nath, Diwan Bahadur Raja.  
 Ogilvie, Mr. C. M. G.  
 Rahim Bakhsh, Maulvi Sir.  
 Rahman, Khan Bahadur Dr. K. A.  
 Ramji Das, Lala.  
 Sanderson, Mr. R.  
 Sewak Ram, Rai Bahadur Lala.  
 Shave, Dr. (Mrs.) M. C.  
 Sheo Narain Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.  
 Tate, Mr. T. B.

## THE PUNJAB VILLAGE PANCHAYAT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** (Ambala-cum-Simla, non-Muhammadan, Rural): Sir, I beg to move—

That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following:—

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali,  
 Sardar Jawahar Singh, Dhillon,

[ Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan. ]

Sardar Arjan Singh,  
Lala Bhagat Ram,  
Thakar Panoham Chand,  
The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The mover.

In moving my motion I wish to make a very short speech. I would in the first instance like to refer to the opinions that have been received on this Bill. A cursory view of the opinions will show that an overwhelming majority of them is in favour of the proposed amendment to the Act. I shall, therefore, confine myself to meeting the objections that have been raised in the opinions against this Bill. The amendment proposed by me has been misunderstood in some quarters and I have been criticised as intending to challenge or uproot the spirit of the Act.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Can I raise a preliminary objection now ? I beg to draw your attention to the wording of section 31 which is sought to be amended by the addition of this proviso in clause (8) of the Bill. The section reads like this :—

The panchayat shall not be competent to cancel, revise or alter any sentence or decree or final order passed by it under this chapter, saving *ex parte* decrees or orders ; and, subject to the provision of section 31-A, no sentence, decree or other order of a panchayat passed by it under this chapter shall be subject to appeal, revision or review at the hands of any court or other authority.

This is the section. The proviso reads like this :—

The Commissioner may upon a representation made by at least 20 inhabitants of an estate within the jurisdiction of any panchayat direct that the order of that particular panchayat shall be subject to revision by the deputy commissioner of the district.

Now, this proviso says “ direct that the order of that particular panchayat shall be subject to revision by the deputy commissioner of that district.” My submission is that the proviso suffers from meaninglessness and if it is passed it will not be intelligible and will be of no effect whatsoever. It says that the order of that particular panchayat shall be subject to revision. But what order ? As I have pointed out, it leads to no sense.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** May I also know which Act this Bill is intended to amend ? It is intended to amend Act III of 1922 which is the Act now in force. The Bill which has been circulated to us is a Bill further to amend the Punjab Village Panchayat Act IV of 1921. I have not been able to find that Act anywhere among the books that I have. If there is no Act IV of 1921, then the Bill is an amendment to an Act which does not exist.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** A point of order has been raised by the Honourable Minister that the amendment proposed in the Bill will not exactly fit in with the wording of the section which already exists. This is a matter for consideration by the select committee. It is not a valid objection against the reference of the Bill to a select committee. The exact wording of the amendments can be decided there and the wording in the Bill may be added to or subtracted or replaced by suitable words and perhaps

I myself can suggest more suitable wording. Had it been an amendment to the report of the select committee then the objection by the Honourable Minister would be valid but at this stage the principle underlying the amendment should alone be considered.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** I have raised the point whether a Bill can amend an Act which does not exist and whether such a Bill can be taken into consideration.

**Mr. President :** The gist of the objection of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government is that in the proviso the honourable mover has used the word "order." This word occurs thrice in section 31 of the Village Panchayat Act. Does the honourable member mean to amend the Act only with regard to "orders" referred to in section 31 and not as regards "decrees" and "sentences" ?

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** I mean the word "order" to include sentences and decrees and other orders too. If the language of the Bill is not correct, my meaning may be made specific and clear in the select committee.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please read the preamble ?

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** A sentence or a decree is consequential upon an order which is pronounced by the panchayat and if the order is revised, a revision of the sentence or decree naturally follows. Merely because a particular clause does not include all the words it does not mean that it does not include them inferentially. If an order is open to revision, any consequential order, sentence or decree passed upon that order is *ipso facto* to be revised. Therefore I think my honourable friend is correct in his language but if it needs any further explanation it is always open to the legislature or to the select committee to make things clearer.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** My objection does not seem to have been understood. The proviso as drafted by the mover of the Bill refers to "the order" and if you use the words "the order," the meaning is absolutely vague.

**Mr. President :** This is a proviso to section 31 of the Act and the section refers to certain orders. Consequently, when the proviso contains the words "the order," *prima facie* the reference is to the orders referred to in the section.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** There are several orders there. (*An honourable member :* The mover means really an order).

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** May I point out one matter in section 31 as it stands at present ? The wording is, "and subject to the provisions of section 31 (a), no sentence, decree or other order of a panchayat passed." I do think the word "other" is important. Apparently it is arguable, at least that order includes sentence and decree. Otherwise the word "other" would appear to be unnecessary. That I think is in favour of the honourable mover of the Bill.

It is true, as regards the other matter raised, that by some mistake whether of the printer or of the drafter the number of the Act which it is

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sought to amend has been wrongly described. But I think you will find that the number of an Act is a matter of comparatively small importance, provided that it is clear that one may name the Act easily and without doubt. In this case I think there is really no doubt about the intention of the honourable mover and I do not think the House has been misled in any way. I am inclined to advise that there is nothing here which a select committee cannot put right.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani :** I beg to differ from the opinion of the Honourable Legal Remembrancer. According to the ordinary law of the land "order," "decree" and "sentence" are separate terms and used to denote separate decisions of the courts. According to the Civil Procedure Code there are orders which are appealable and there are orders which are not. In all proceedings before civil and criminal courts and even before revenue courts there is a well defined legal division between an order and a final order which is not termed an order and which is a sentence or decree or call it by whatever appropriate name. Similarly, in this case there are three things enumerated in the section, "orders," "decree" and "sentence." To say that order would include all the three different determinations of the court would be going beyond all accepted legal principles. When we refer to the order, the order means the final order which is specifically mentioned there, the order which is there for the first, second and third time and it would in no case include sentence or decree. To say that order includes the final adjudication of a suit before the panchayat is really going too far. I think the objection of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government is very sound. If you put this amending Bill on the Statute Book you would render section 31 of the Act meaningless. If we take the meaning put by the honorable mover that he wants to include a sentence and a decree also within the term "order" it would be too vague and he cannot be permitted to argue that order includes all the three various terms used in the section. It is thus vague, indefinite and against all accepted legal principles, and as it stands it does not convey any meaning. Further on, the amending Bill says : "The Commissioner may at any time withdraw an order passed under the first part of this proviso." Here again the whole thing is meaningless. The order in the first clause of the proviso and an order in the second clause with reference to each other have no meaning at all.

**Mr. President :** There can be no two opinions that the Bill, as it stands, is not very happily worded. But in view of the fact that non-official members are not trained in the art of drafting and that they do not receive any help from officials in drafting their Bills, I think we should not be too rigid or technical. If we become too technical and throw out or reject private members' Bills on the ground that an article is missing here or the grammar is wrong there, I am afraid we shall have to give a go-by to all private Bills. I, therefore, hold that the Bill can proceed and that the select committee or even the Council, after the Bill emerges from the select committee, can pay attention to its language and improve it, if necessary.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** The amending Bill refers to the Panchayat Act of 1921. How can a Bill amend an Act which does not exist ?

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** The Panchayat Act was passed in 1921 and amended in 1930. I think the honourable member refers to the original Act.

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** May I point out that in section 1 of the Act it is described as the Punjab Village Panchayat Act, 1921, whereas it is Punjab Act No. III of 1922 ?

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** I shall now resume my speech. I wish to be intentionally short in my speech to-day. Section 31 of the Act is a section which deals with the powers of revision, review or appeals by a competent court. The section gives finality to the orders of a panchayat and that finality has been abused in so many cases. The officials and non-officials who have been pleased to express their opinion have been pleased to remark that there is certainly required some sort of control upon the working of the panchayats. Now, the control which vests in higher authorities is laid down in section 43 of this Act which I hope you will allow me to read :

- (1) The Deputy Commissioner may in the public interest by written order suspend the execution of any resolution or order of the panchayat or prohibit the doing of any act which is about to be done or is being done under cover of this Act.
- (2) The Deputy Commissioner shall forthwith send to the Commissioner a copy of the order with a statement of his reasons for making it, and with such explanation as the panchayat may offer. The Commissioner may thereupon confirm, modify or rescind the order.

This section which is placed in the chapter dealing with miscellaneous provisions applies to all orders of the panchayat whether they are judicial orders or whether they are orders other than judicial, in their executive capacity as panchayats. This is not confined to judicial orders. My amendment is confined to section 31 which deals with judicial orders only. Some-time ago I referred in my speech to definite instances of miscarriage of justice due to the accused never being called before the panchayats or never being served with an order to appear before the panchayats, and *ex-parte* proceedings taken against them. When an application was made to the district magistrate, he simply refused to interfere because he held that it was not a matter of public interest.

Section 43 only applies to cases in which the aggrieved party, who has undertaken to draft an application and engaged a lawyer to argue the application for him and then paid the court fee and copying expenses is again asked to say that the matter is in public interest. That is a great hitch in the way of litigants residing in the villages against whom the powers are abused. The deputy commissioners hesitate to interfere and I believe rightly when they have to make out a case that the grievance of the petitioners who have appeared in the court is to be taken in the public interest.

Again, when the deputy commissioner has been pleased to suspend or rescind an order of the panchayat he has at once to report the matter to the commissioner and in a way to call the commissioner to sit in judgment upon him to see whether the commissioner confirms his order or modifies his order or cancels his order absolutely. This is the law at present which I would like to make very clear to the Honourable Minister in charge of the Department, that is, the law now existing only applies to cases where a person has been able to show that it is in the public interest when he is moving the court. Such being the case there have been several cases which I can definitely

[ Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan. ]

quote which were brought to the notice of a deputy commissioner in which the deputy commissioner himself may have been prepared to interfere had he been given revisional powers, but as he has to report the matter to the commissioner he hesitates to interfere and thus withholds the ordinary justice which he otherwise would have done.

My second point is whether the deputy commissioners are competent persons or judicially trained persons to deal with these cases. Nobody would deny that they are. A deputy commissioner has to hear appeals as a collector and as a district magistrate. When he can go very deep into a case and weigh the evidence, and see whether a certain evidence is admissible or not and whether any document is admissible or not, and whether any evidence is to be relied upon or not, when he can go into the intricate question of fact and acquit himself very honourably, why is he not competent to do the work of revision in these petty cases where there is a manifest flaw.

There is another objection which says that powers should be vested absolutely in the deputy commissioners. But I am against it. They should vest in the deputy commissioner only if the commissioner and the panchayat agree that these powers should vest in him. When a panchayat is working smoothly there is no question of the deputy commissioner using those powers. So, when the deputy commissioner says that these powers should no longer vest in him then the circumstances demand that they should be withdrawn and then the commissioner should be authorised to withdraw those powers. My amendment that the deputy commissioner should not be given absolute power of revision will result in no abuse by the litigants. The panchayats must have very liberal powers to act, but their activities, when they abuse their powers, should be checked.

I pointed out in my first speech while introducing my Bill that there have been cases in which those panchayats do exercise their powers which do not vest in them by the Act. Section 26 of the Village Panchayat Act gives them these powers and it clearly shows that the panchayat will only hear a case when the defendant resides or carries on business or personally works for gain within the limits of the village and the plaintiff similarly resides or carries on business or personally works for gain within the limits of the tahsil in which the village is situated. There are so many limitations upon the jurisdiction of the panchayats. A person may go there occasionally but not work there or reside there for gain. There are other circumstances enumerated in this Act and there is every likelihood of a panchayat abusing its powers, that is, exercising those powers against a person against whom it has a grudge. Again section 26 (a) provides for limitation of cases.

**Mr. President :** What has that to do with the present Bill? The honourable member is criticising the whole of the Panchayat Act.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** I was only illustrating how the powers under the Panchayat Act were being abused. I

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do not, however, propose to go into any further details. Coming to my argument, my submission is that some sort of control is needed in regard to these panchayats. It is said by some that the sort of control which I suggest in this Bill is not a proper control and that the Panchayats may rather be abolished and their powers withdrawn. I submit that this is



going too far. My submission that instead of abolishing the panchayats altogether it is better if the deputy commissioner is asked to exercise his control.

Another objection is that the litigants should not be made to have recourse to too much law. I suggest a simpler law than the one which has been enacted at present. According to the present law the deputy commissioner when he wants to interfere in the decisions of the panchayats has got to report to the commissioner and to await the powers of the commissioner before he can take final action in the matter. What I suggest is that the deputy commissioner should have power to interfere if a reasonable number of inhabitants of the village think his interference worth while. Again, I may say that I object to the revisional powers given to deputy commissioners absolutely and permanently, because it will be a great burden upon the deputy commissioners as well as upon the litigants who happen to be the petitioners. There will be too many petitions and a great many petitioners will waste their money in revision petitions. With these remarks I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved :

That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali,  
Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon,  
Sardar Arjan Singh,  
Lala Bhagat Ram,  
Thakar Pancham Chand,  
The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokal Chand Narang,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The mover.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural) : There seems to be some misapprehension in the mind of the honourable mover of this amending Bill. If he reads the existing Act carefully he will find that according to section 31-A if the decision of a panchayat is not unanimous but only by a majority, that decision is subject to revision by the deputy commissioner. Again, according to section 43, if there is miscarriage of justice and miscarriage of justice may be interpreted to involve public interest the deputy commissioner has every right to refer the case to the commissioner for revision. With these powers given to the deputy commissioners there is hardly any need to provide any further safeguards against miscarriage of justice. I claim to have some experience of the working of the Panchayat Act in several districts. I admit that there have been cases in which there has been miscarriage of justice. But can any one in this House or outside say that there is no miscarriage of justice in civil or criminal cases in courts? In some cases there is miscarriage of justice and that is why appellate courts have been provided. It is but natural that in the beginning these panchayats composed of men having no knowledge of law and procedure are liable to commit mistakes and the only remedy in grave cases of abuse of power by these panchayats is for the deputy commissioner to take away their powers by reporting the matter to the Minister for Local Self-Government. There have been several such cases within

[ K. B. Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan. ]

my knowledge and I have referred several cases to Government for withdrawal of such powers because certain panchayats were not competent to exercise their powers.

The whole object of the Panchayat Act was to enable the poor villagers to settle petty civil and criminal cases in the villages themselves, instead of having to go to tahsils or district headquarters where they had to spend a good deal by way of travelling and other expenses. There is a general complaint in this House as well as outside that the people of this province are labouring under an unbearable burden of indebtedness. The total debt of the people amounts to a stupendous figure of 270 crores. This is due to the ignorance of the people and the complicated nature of the machinery of the Law Courts. Everybody knows what a lot of money one has to spend in going to a tahsil or district headquarters submitting to all sorts of inconvenience in travelling 40 or 50 miles, how one has to pay for petition-writers, to the chaprasis of courts and so on. So, to obviate all this sort of trouble and expense a simple machinery for deciding petty village suits was set up by this Panchayat Act. It was also considered that this machinery would suit the temperament and habits of the ignorant villagers. Now, as I have already said there are sufficient safeguards against miscarriage of justice by this machinery and this amending Bill seems to be unnecessary. Moreover if the Bill is adopted, it will not be very difficult for any body who has got a grudge or grievance against a particular panchayat to manage to get twenty persons to make a representation to the commissioner and this will only add to the work of the commissioners and deputy commissioners. I submit that the existing law is sufficient for the needs of the ignorant and illiterate villagers and I therefore oppose the motion before the House.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muham-madan, Rural): I rise to support the motion of my honourable friend the member from Ambala. The honourable member for Sheikhpura, who has just sat down has quoted his experience for opposing this motion. He said that the existing safeguards under sections 31-A and 43 of the Panchayat Act were quite sufficient. I may point out that not a single deputy commissioner has ever attempted to apply section 31-A. The honourable member did not say whether he ever resorted to this extreme method provided in sections 31-A and 43. (*Honourable members:* He did.) I may submit that the sections are impracticable and impossible of application. The framers of the Act had evidently this strange notion in their minds that the panchayats should be free to do as they liked in order that they might act up to the old traditions that existed in the beginning of civilization when the old ancestors decided cases of their children and of their families. They also made a provision for revision of their decisions but the procedure suggested for the purpose was so complicated that no use could be made of it. What is that provision? If a deputy commissioner finds that a decision or order of a panchayat is wrong or illegal he can refer the case again to the same panchayat either alone or in conjunction with another panchayat of a contiguous village. Now it is not difficult for the original panchayat to collude with the other to give the same wrong or illegal decision. It is for this reason, that so far as my knowledge goes, no deputy commissioner has ever attempted to apply this provision of the Act. The honourable member

for Sheikhpura says that he has made use of this provision as a deputy commissioner but he has not cited any instance. (*An honourable member* : You will find details of such cases in the annual reviews of Government giving examples of its use each year.) Then the honourable member is an extraordinary man. At least it must be admitted that the process is very elaborate and extraordinary. But why should not the process be brought into conformity with other processes. My honourable friend from Sheikhpura says that there is a process in civil and criminal law. Why then should the Government be perturbed with this kind of process in the case of panchayats ? Here there is no court of appeal or revision and my honourable friend from Ambala gave specific instances in which the panchayats intentionally miscarried justice and everybody who knows about the village life knows that this is the easiest way for these people of the panchayat who have enmity with other people to wreak vengeance on them with the weapon of the Panchayat Act. There are many people who do injustice and the deputy commissioners are helpless. In the first place the deputy commissioners are generally in the habit of filing every paper which causes inconvenience to them. They are not to blame. They do not realise how much a panchayat is capable of. For these reasons the amending Bill is very useful. Those members of the House who have been deputy commissioners and who know the working of these panchayats, must give their wholehearted support to this Bill, especially in view of the instances of miscarriage of justice quoted by my honourable friend. The objection that this will be restricting or interfering with the powers of the panchayats and the work of the panchayats will suffer is only an imaginary apprehension. Why should it make the panchayat less competent if you have a power of revision over their actions ? On the other hand if they know that there is a power of revision or appeal over their decisions, it will be an incentive to them to act more properly and more honestly. The very fact that there is going to be an appeal from their decisions will make them be more just. In this connection I am reminded of a deputy commissioner who during the days of the Rowlatt Act went out with his friends with a revolver in his hand and said that he did not intend to harm anybody but only kept it so that everybody might be afraid of him. So, this is a very salutary measure. If, however, it is considered that it will interfere with the freedom of the panchayats, just a trial may be given for this measure, say for 4 or 5 years. The very fact that so many panchayats have been abolished now shows that people are not satisfied with the way in which the powers are used by the panchayats. People have made representations that they do not want the panchayats. For this reason many of the panchayats have ceased to exist. But rather than destroy the institution of panchayats, we can develop and increase the activities of the panchayats and make them more useful to the public by accepting the proposed measure. With these words I support the Bill under consideration.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** : The honourable member from Sheikhpura was pleased to oppose my motion. He has been pleased to admit that miscarriage of justice does often take place in the working of these panchayats and yet he says that the existing law is quite sufficient to deal with them. The remedy provided in the existing law is this. The deputy commissioner should take action in a matter of public interest and report

[ Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan. ]

to the commissioner. But when a miscarriage of justice has taken place, how can anybody know about it unless the individual concerned represents his case? The deputy commissioner might say that it is not in the public interest to interfere with the decision given by a panchayat. The deputy commissioner himself cannot take any final action, but he has to report the matter to the commissioner. When he can hear appeals or revisions as provided in the Criminal Procedure Code, why should he not be allowed to interfere in the case of panchayats? For these reasons I think the proposed Bill should be accepted.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): I shall be very brief in discussing this Bill. I appreciate the motives which prompted the honourable mover to move this Bill as I am sure he has been influenced by some cases of manifest injustice and hardship that came to his notice in connection with the decisions given by particular panchayats and in that he has my full sympathy. But I am afraid that the method he has adopted is not a very efficacious one and if he had consulted some of the people who have greater experience of these things, some better method might have been suggested. But now we have this Bill before us and I regret that I am unable to accept the Bill for various reasons. In the first place I have pointed out that the language he has used is extremely defective and vague. In addition to what I have said by way of preliminary objection it does not appear whether he wants that once 20 persons apply to the commissioner that the order of a certain panchayat should be open to revision by the deputy commissioner it would mean that the door of revision should be open for all time or the revision will be allowed in particular cases or in a particular case for which an aggrieved party approaches 20 persons for their signatures. His object is not at all clear from the wording he has used. As the clause stands it means that once 20 persons have approached the commissioner for an order that a particular decision of the panchayat should be open to revision, the decision of that panchayat should be open to revision for all times. This means that the object of having a panchayat, to have a simplification of judicial trials and disposals will be absolutely defeated and it will be against the recognised policy of the Panchayat Act. Perhaps he does not mean this. He probably means that in particular areas, this should be the rule. If so, he ought to have used different language altogether. My next objection is this and I am sure that Kanwar Sahib will recognise it. This does not really afford any relief to the persons concerned. Under the Panchayat Act the jurisdiction is very limited. In certain criminal cases fines can be inflicted only to the extent of Rs. 10 and in certain other cases not more than Rs. 25. In civil cases the jurisdiction is only up to Rs. 50. Now suppose a man who is found stealing a little sugarcane from Kanwar Sahib's field is challaned before a panchayat and is fined say Rs. 2—anything more will be manifest injustice. Does Kanwar Sahib really think that in case the panchayat proceeded in an irregular fashion and did not observe any rules of evidence and gave the decision which was manifestly illegal, the convicted person should go round and request 20 persons of his village to sign a representation on his behalf so that he may approach the commissioner and ask him to declare that the order of the panchayat is open to revision by the deputy

commissioner? Then the person concerned will certainly have to incur a much heavier expenditure in securing the signatures of these 20 people and going to the commissioner to present the petition, paying something to the petition-writer and various other persons including probably lawyers, because the appearance of lawyers is not prohibited under this Bill. All that expenditure he will incur and the commissioner may say the matter too trifling and that he is not going to interfere. If he does not interfere it only means he declares that the matter may be taken on revision to the deputy commissioner. Then the aggrieved person goes to the deputy commissioner, files a regular revision through some lawyer brother of Kanwar Sahib. Probably two or three hearings are given and ultimately he gets a decision which may or may not be in his favour. The whole thing becomes useless and most troublesome. Again I may use the same expression, the game will hardly be worth the candle. I may say that an ordinary villager will not mind paying a fine of Rs. 2 or if he is challaned for assault or for some such things and fined up to Rs. 25, he will not mind if he can pay it. He will pay it if he can instead of going to the commissioner and deputy commissioner after having incurred the obligation of twenty fellow citizens of his. The thing is too petty and too trivial to be bothered about and villagers do not care paying the fine. It does not really impose any disability on them. As we find in section 32, no disqualification arises from a conviction before a panchayat, either for purposes of election to the district board, to the Council or to any other body. I do not think it brings any blot on one's character if in the heat of the moment one gives a blow to someone and is fined Rs. 10. In this connection I may quote a learned judge of the High Court when a similar case went before him. It was pleaded before him that the person involved was a very well-to-do and respectable man and that even a fine of Rs. 10 would leave a stain on his character. The learned judge remarked: "If I knock down a man in an angry moment and I am fined for it, it will leave no stain on my character whatsoever." So that from no point of view will it be worth one's while to go to the commissioner or deputy commissioner. And in civil matters the highest decree that can be passed is for Rs. 50. No one is going to trouble himself about this amount and no decree is being passed in utter disregard of the laws of procedure or evidence. I, therefore, assure the honourable mover that the Bill even if it is passed will serve no useful purpose. I assure him further that we are already aware of some cases of possible miscarriage of justice and in connection with that instructions have already been issued. I may bring to the notice of the honourable member a letter which was issued to the Commissioner of Lahore division in 1933 and which was endorsed to all other commissioners. In that letter we explained what public interest meant, for that I understand, was the difficulty of the honourable mover. Otherwise under section 43 power has already been given to the deputy commissioners to interfere where there has been a miscarriage of justice, in public interest. The only question is what the words 'public interest' mean. In the letter to which I have referred we explained the position thus:

Section 31 of the Act gives (subject to the provisions of section 31-A) finality to a panchayat's decision, and the special powers of interference under section 43 should not be utilised unless the Deputy Commissioner is satisfied that the public interest requires interference. It is difficult to lay down any hard and fast rules for the guidance of deputy commissioners exercising their discretion under this section. But there is no doubt that it empowers deputy commissioners to take action whenever a panchayat in judicial proceedings has made a

[ Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang. ]

patently illegal order such as one imposing a sentence not warranted by section 22 or section 24 of the Act, or one involving a usurpation of jurisdiction, always provided that he is satisfied that the public interest (as opposed to the private interest of the person affected) justifies interference. It should also be brought to the notice of deputy commissioners that in the case of orders passed by panchayats in non-judicial proceedings deputy commissioners are justified in employing section 43 if such orders are manifestly contrary to the public interest, even though they may not be illegal.

In the face of these instructions I think section 43 is sufficient to meet all such cases as the honourable mover has in his mind, and no amending Bill is required.

I am sure the honourable mover, after this explanation, would not press his motion. His object is really served by bringing to the notice of honourable members here and through this Council to the notice of all concerned that section 43 can be invoked in all such cases and the deputy commissioners have been advised to interfere in cases of gross miscarriage of justice and in cases where the panchayats have exceeded their jurisdiction and have passed orders which are *ultra vires* of their powers.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the Punjab Village Panchayat (Amendment) Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Chaudhri Riasat Ali,  
Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon,  
Sardar Arjan Singh,  
Lala Bhagat Ram,  
Thakar Pancham Chand,  
The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The mover.

*The motion was lost.*

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by the Deputy President.)*

## THE PUNJAB SUPPRESSION OF IMMORAL TRAFFIC BILL.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadian, Rural) :  
I move—

That the Punjab Suppression of Immoral Traffic Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave,  
Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,  
Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah,  
Mr. Muhammad Din, Malak,  
The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon,  
Mr. Manohar Lal,  
Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath,  
Sardar Sampuran Singh,  
Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh,  
Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh,  
The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd,  
Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
Nominee of the Honourable President, and  
The mover.

I do not intend to make a long speech in connection with this Bill. Honourable members might have seen that there is overwhelming support for this measure throughout the province. I just want very briefly to place

before the House an abstract of the opinions that have been received. Out of 26 deputy commissioners, one deputy commissioner alone has considered the Bill as not wanted. Out of five, one commissioner has doubted the utility of this Bill. Unfortunately the legal department is rather opposed to this Bill. Out of seven, four have opposed while the other three have supported it. Out of Superintendents of Police, one has supported and one has opposed the measure. The three magistrates have unanimously supported this measure. Two bar associations have supported it while one has opposed. The High Court Judges have generally supported it. All the district boards have supported the Bill; all the municipal committees and small town committees have done likewise. Religious institutions whether Islam, Hindu, Dev Samaj or Christian have given their support. Similarly, associations like the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association have expressed themselves in its favour. Notified area committees have also supported it. Thus we see there is overwhelming support throughout the province. Ladies' Associations have already held meetings in various places and have welcomed this Bill. As a matter of fact, in Lahore the ladies have shown great energy in collecting Rs. 18,000 for founding a rescue home for girls. In this way there is a general desire throughout the province for a Bill of this kind especially when we see that in many provinces of India and in many Indian States legislation on similar lines has been passed. As I said on a previous occasion this is part of an international effort for the suppression of immoral commercialised vice. Some people expressed their misapprehensions that the Bill really aimed at bringing about morality by means of legislation. This is not the aim of the Bill at all. It does not attempt to enforce morality by means of legislation. Honourable members who have carefully read the provisions of the Bill know that what is really aimed at is that people who keep brothels and live on the earnings of girls and who abduct girls for immoral purposes, people of this kind are brought within the purview of the Bill. On the strength of public opinion I submit that this Bill should be referred to a select committee. I should be very glad if any honourable member offers his services on the select committee. I am not going into the details of the Bill, but because some gentlemen have considered one particular clause of the Bill as too harsh and others have supported it, I want to read only two opinions. They are the opinions of the learned judges of the High Court and they show how there can be a difference of opinion with regard to certain measures. For example, the Honourable Mr. Justice Agha Haidar says—

The evil which is sought to be removed by this Bill is disgusting, but the punishment of whipping is just as disgusting, if not more, as the evil itself. I would eliminate it entirely from the Act.

The Honourable Chief Justice Sir J. D. Young says—

With the possible exception of section 12 (4) I am entirely in favour of the Bill. Whipping is too good for these blackguards who live on women or force them to prostitution. The fact that the custom is age long makes it none the more savoury.

There are views given by prominent gentlemen on all sides and they will receive proper attention in the select committee.

With these few words I place the Bill before the House and I hope that it will be referred to a select committee.

**Mr. Deputy President :** Motion moved is—

That the Punjab Suppression of Immoral Traffic Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave,  
 Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,  
 Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah,  
 Mr. Muhammad Din Malak,  
 The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon,  
 Mr. Manohar Lal,  
 Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath,  
 Sardar Sampuran Singh,  
 Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh,  
 Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh,  
 The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd,  
 Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
 Nominee of the Honourable President, and  
 The mover.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : I have already expressed my opinion which is contained in this blue book containing a collection of the opinions. I am heartily in support of the principle which underlies this Bill and have the greatest possible sympathy with the object which the honourable mover of the Bill has in view. I do not want to make any long speech in support of the Bill at present. What I wish to make clear is the position of my party. We have not made voting on this Bill a party question. It is a very complex question on which opinions may easily differ. Therefore every individual member of the party will have the right to speak and vote as he likes.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural) : Before pondering over or discussing the provisions of the Bill I would submit that no outside influences of any kind should have any effect on us. We should not believe that those who are in favour of this Bill are heroes of the present age and that those who are against it are condemned for all times. As has been made clear by the honourable Leader of our Party, opinions are bound to differ at least in details if not on principle. So far as the principle underlying the Bill is concerned I wholeheartedly associate myself with it and I appreciate the motive which prompted the honourable mover of the Bill to bring it up before the House. But the question as I see it, is whether there is not sufficient provision already in the existing law to meet this vice. I would submit, as I did yesterday, that this blessing or vice as you may call it confines itself to important municipal towns and has not been carried to the rural areas fortunately. Those people simple as they are in the methods of living are simple in this respect also and there are no intricate questions of bad places, brothels and restaurants and hotels there, and if some one misbehaves it does not affect the society so much as it does in big cities like Lahore and Amritsar. It is true that restaurants and hotels here abound in vice and our young men and students and others are being attracted by these bad places and all that has a bad effect on their morals, but, as I have already said we have to see whether there are sufficient remedies in the law already or not. I have made it clear that the



places where remedy is required are municipal towns to which sections 152 and 153 of the Municipal Act apply. These two sections have been amended up-to-date and I find that section 152 of the Municipal Act is a sufficient provision to cope with this misfortune or vice. Section 152 reads—

- (1) The committee may, by public notice, prohibit in any specified part of the municipality—
  - (a) the keeping of a brothel;
  - (b) the residence of any person who practises prostitution.
- (2) Whoever after the date specified in the public notice issued under sub-section (1)—
  - (a) keeps or manages or acts or assists in the management of a brothel within the prohibited area, or
  - (b) being the tenant, lessee or occupier of any premises knowingly permits such premises or any part thereof to be used a brothel or for the purposes of habitual prostitution within the prohibited area, or
  - (c) being the lessor or landlord, of any premises, or the agent to such lessor landlord, lets the same or any part thereof, within the prohibited area with the knowledge that such premises or some part thereof, are, or is used as a brothel, or for the purposes of habitual prostitution, or is wilfully a party to the continued use of such premises as a brothel or for the purposes of habitual prostitution, or
  - (d) being a practising prostitute resides within the prohibited area, shall be punishable with imprisonment of either description, for a term which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees or with both.

So you will see that so far as a good number of the provisions of this Bill are concerned they have been sufficiently provided for in the Punjab Municipal Act. I would like to add that recently some changes have also been made in this section which have improved it. For example, now a public notice to prostitutes is sufficient. Before this the notice had to be handed over personally to individuals and the question of the difficulty of service or the evasion of service has now been finally decided inasmuch as it has been made clear that a public notice by a committee is sufficient for the purpose of this section. Another change that has been made is that in the previous Act the words "public prostitution" were there. Now the word "public" has been removed.

Then there is another step forward and that is that sub-clauses (a), (b) and (c) now render liable those persons who keep brothels. The fourth improvement is that punishment also has been increased. In view of all these things which have been added to section 152, I think the section as it now stands is a sufficient remedy for the vices so far as they are concerned and so far as they exist in big cities.

Next I come to section 153 which reads :

On the complaint of the committee or of three or more inhabitants of a municipality that a house within the limits of the municipality is used as a brothel, or by disorderly persons of any description, to the annoyance of the respectable inhabitants of the vicinity or that any such house is used as a brothel in the neighbourhood of a cantonment or of an educational institution or boarding-house, or of any place of worship, any magistrate of the 1st class having as such jurisdiction in the place where the house is situated, may summon the owner or tenant of the house, and on being satisfied that the house is so used and that it is a source of annoyance or offence to the neighbours, or that it is in the neighbourhood of a cantonment or of an educational institution or boarding-house, or of any place of worship, may order the owner or tenant to discontinue such use of it; and if he shall fail to comply with such order within five days, may impose upon him a fine not exceeding twenty-five rupees for every day thereafter that the house shall be so used.

[ K. S. Ch. Riasat Ali. ]

In view of this provision which gives power to a committee or to three inhabitants of any *muhalla* to make a complaint, in view of the fact that this provision gives jurisdiction to the magistrate to call upon any man to vacate the house used as a brothel and to impose fines if he does not do so within the prescribed period, and further fines for recurring negligence on his part, I think that this provision along with the provision which I have quoted already is a sufficient check over the evil which the present Bill seeks to remove.

Now another thing which I want to submit is that I do not believe that the mere provision of any punishment for an evil is sufficient to eradicate that evil. There is the capital punishment for murder and there is the transportation for life for murder, yet who can in this House say that the offence of murder has decreased? It is on the other hand on the increase. This reminds me of a sentence in Mr. Justice Agha Haider's speech delivered at the prize distribution of the Islamia College on the 16th February. This one sentence is very significant on that point. He says—

It is want of proper education which is responsible for so many murders and crimes in the Punjab. On the average two murders a day take place in the Punjab. That is a dreadful thing. Education is the only cure to put an end to all these social evils.

Until the condition of society improves, until a higher sense of morality is created in the people, any amount of legislation will not do. This might lead my colleagues here to think that it is totally unnecessary to have any legislation. I do not say so. You see so many prisoners go to jail for burglaries and dacoities, but many of them when they come out of it are spoilt even more, but movements like the Prisoners' Aid Society or the Borstal institutions are more effective in purifying these people than the mere sentence of punishment. When these prisoners are in jail, they learn certain *dastkari*, weaving or carpentry or smithy and when they come out they are helped to earn their livelihood; in the same way the Prisoners' Aid Society has the chance to come across these ex-prisoners and help them to earn an honest living and it is only on account of the existence of these institutions that these people are set right and not on account of the fact that there is a provision in law for the punishment of these people.

This brings me to clauses 7, 8 and 10 of the Bill. This Bill—I do not mean any disrespect to the honourable mover—seems to be like a string of ordinances. There are punishments for all the offences enumerated therein—seven punishments for seven different offences. If we study the provisions of the Indian Penal Code it will be very clear that all these offences are provided for there. Section 361, as every one knows here, is the definition of kidnapping, section 362 of abduction, and then sections 363, 365, 366; 366-A, 366-B, 368, 372 and 373, all these sections provide sufficient punishment to check any sort of vice contemplated by this measure. But there is one point and that is that more severe punishment is provided for in these sections than is provided for in the present Bill. For example, seven years is the punishment in section 363 for any man who kidnaps a minor girl. A minor girl under the Indian Penal Code is a girl under 16 years, while under this Bill it is a girl under 18 years. Under this Bill the punishment for kidnapping is only 3 years. Then comes the punishment for abduction. Ten years is the punishment for abduction and even more under the Indian Penal Code.

while under the Bill it is only 3 years. This means that heavier punishment is provided under the existing law, so that the passing of this measure will be either unnecessary or redundant. I do not propose to read all these sections, but one or two things I would like to quote on the floor of this House. In this Bill provision has been made for the detention of a girl in brothel. I would draw the attention of the House to section 365 of the Indian Penal Code. It reads—

Whoever kidnaps or abducts any person with intent to cause that person to be secretly and wrongfully confined, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.

This is so far as minor girls are concerned. Then we come to section 368—

Whoever, knowing that any person has been kidnapped or has been abducted, wrongfully conceals or confines such person, shall be punished in the same manner as if he had kidnapped or abducted such person with the same intention or knowledge, or for the same purpose as that with or for which he conceals or detains such person in confinement.

This deals with the sections so far as they are provided for in this Bill for cases of detention or wrongful confinement for an immoral purpose. So far as the taking away of girls under the age of 16 years is concerned I have already quoted that section 363 of the Indian Penal Code provides seven years' imprisonment. Then comes the case of women over the age of 18 years. In regard to that, as I have already said, section 366 provides—

Whoever kidnaps or abducts any woman with intent that she may be compelled, or knowing it to be likely that she will be compelled, to marry any person against her will, or in order that she may be forced or seduced to illicit intercourse, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

Then comes the question of procuration. Even for that there is a section, and the remedy for it in the Indian Penal Code is section 366-A.—

Whoever by any means whatsoever, induces any minor girl under the age of 18 years to go from any place or to do any act with intent that such girl may be, or knowing that it is likely that she will be, forced or seduced to illicit intercourse with another person shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to ten years.

This is for procuration of minor girl which is provided for in two sections of the present Bill.

Next comes the importing of girls. In this respect I may invite the attention of the House and of the honourable member in charge of the Bill to section 366-B. I need not read that section here. Section 372, Explanation I, says—

5 P. M.

When a female under the age of eighteen years is sold, let for hire, or otherwise disposed of to a prostitute or to any person who keeps or manages a brothel the person so disposing of such female shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to have disposed of her with the intent that she shall be used for the purpose of prostitution.

and the punishment for such offence under this section is ten years' imprisonment. Then again, there is section 373. All these go to prove that provisions already exist for the prevention of immoral traffic in women. What is salient in this Bill is that it gives power to the police to enter the premises or places defined as brothels. But even in this respect there is already a provision in existence in the present law. The police have powers to enter and search any house where any cognisable offence against property

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or person is said to have been committed. Section 23 of the Police Act provides for this. I shall only read the relevant portion of that section for the information of honourable members—

It shall be lawful for every police officer, for any of the purposes mentioned in this section, without a warrant, to enter and inspect any drinking shop, gaming-house or other place of resort of loose and disorderly characters.

This section is sufficient for a police officer to authorise him to enter all those places as are proposed in the present Bill. This goes to establish my contention that all those powers which the honourable member in charge of this Bill wants to give magistrates and other agencies are already in existence.

There is one point more which I should like to refer to in this connection, and that is about the sort of double procedure provided in this Bill. The clauses preceding clause 12 make it penal for all those people who offend against those provisions, and there is another procedure prescribed for those people under clause 12. Of course there is a provision in sub-clause 9 that against those people against whom proceedings have been taken under clause 5 no proceedings shall be taken under this clause. While I agree with the principle of the Bill I submit that one of the two procedures is quite sufficient, that is, either the procedure prescribed in clause 12 and the following clauses or the procedure prescribed in the clauses preceding clause 12. I do not think any better results can be expected by having both the remedies in this Bill.

So far as opinions are concerned, retention of sections 152 and 153 of the Municipal Act has been suggested by a majority of people who are supposed to know the law on the subject well. I may invite attention to opinions Nos. 4, 24, 50, 55, 59 and 60. All these opinions go to support the statement which I have made that if sections 152 and 153 are allowed to remain intact in the Municipal Act, that is sufficient. Again, so far as my contention regarding the provisions in the Indian Penal Code is concerned, I will only point out that opinions Nos. 17, 33, 35, 45 and 54 go to support my contention that the existing provisions are sufficient and further remedies are uncalled for.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** I do not wish to interrupt the honourable member, but I fear he is going too much into the details of the Bill which he cannot do at this stage.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** I want to make a special reference to clause 9 because it does not fall under the categories which I have already mentioned. Clause 9 provides for soliciting any person to his annoyance or exhibition of indecent signs in public places. I would like to submit that for this purpose section 509 of the Indian Penal Code already exists, and everybody knows or at least lawyers know that there is a provision for any person who makes indecent gestures or utters indecent words in the presence of women in public places. If I have gone a little into all these details it is only to see whether all these provisions are necessary and, if not, which of them are necessary and to what extent.

Next, I come to the trial of offences. Even in this respect many of the cases I have referred to are triable under the present law by section 30 magistrates, whereas the present Bill provides that the offences should be tried by first class magistrates. In this connection I shall read only two sentences from the opinions of two commissioners. The Commissioner, Ambala division, says—

These measures are not possible here and the public has not yet been educated into realising that it is not the prostitute who is so bad as the social system that permits the existence of prostitution.

The Commissioner, Lahore division, says—

It is in my opinion impossible to establish universal morality by legislation, and it appears to me that the framer of the Bill has gone too far in this direction.

Prostitution and immorality generally cannot be abolished by law, and an improvement in public morals must depend on public opinion rather than on legislation.

The only thing which I want to bring to the notice of the honourable mover of this measure at this stage is that we should take care to see, if this commercialised vice is to be eradicated from certain quarters, that the prostitutes and people of that sort are not allowed to settle in some particular quarters. So, whatever we do with regard to this legislation, if we segregate these prostitutes and provide for their medical examination and for such others details, there would be no danger of the vice creeping into society where we do not like it.

I have already referred to the stringent provisions in the Bill. There is a provision in the Bill that those people who abet this prostitution should also be penalised. This means that the fathers and servants of the prostitutes and other persons who depend upon the income of the prostitutes will be punished. That would be very bad law. I should, therefore, request the honourable member to consider coolly and calmly the several provisions of the Bill, because they involve very delicate and intricate questions of social reform. The members of the select committee should proceed with an open mind and see that this Bill does not do more harm than good as it would certainly do if it were carried to unlimited dimensions.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated non-official): We have received this blue book which gives a lot of information about this matter under discussion to-day. We have received the opinions of a great many officials and local bodies from all over the Punjab. This book tells us that innocent girls of immature age and judgment are decoyed into brothels where they are compelled to live a life of shame and misery. If that is so, can we sitting here be watching these things and fail to send this Bill to the select committee? When women are compelled against their will to sell their bodies, and young men, on whom the future of our country depends, are being tempted, and in some cases ruined, can we, as members of this Council, fail to send this Bill to the select committee for discovering a remedy for these happenings? Many people who have sent their opinions have added that the present legislation is not sufficient, and that something more is wanted. It has also been told us that even the League of Nations is of the opinion that the existing legislation is not sufficient.

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

[ Mr. E. Mayadas. ]

They too are seriously considering what steps should be taken. If the existing legislation is not sufficient and it is possible that even after what the select committee has to say or what the Council might ultimately approve even then the problem may remain partially unsolved, but even so it will be a step in the right direction. One of the persons who has given his opinion says that the present legislation is miserably inadequate to check the growing evil, and that is also the opinion of the League of Nations. Why should there be any objection in proceeding with this legislation when we find that in other provinces the same has already been done? For instance, in Bombay, Bengal, Burma, Madras and the United Provinces similar legislation has been already made, and we have been left behind. Therefore it is all the more necessary that we too should make a move in this direction.

My honourable friend who has just sat down has said that there should be public opinion before any action is taken. But if you want public opinion, here it is. What other public opinion is wanted? Is this not public opinion which is contained in this blue book? If public opinion has been received, and overwhelmingly received, then it is time to take up legislation. I would very briefly refer to two opinions of the Judges of the High Court. Mr. Justice Skemp says that this should be tried and the Chief Justice says that he is entirely in favour. As for the various points raised by the previous speakers they are of such a nature as can be examined by the select committee. With these words I support strongly the motion that this Bill be referred to a select committee.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General): I am very grateful to my honourable friend from Gujranwala for the very lucid speech which he has made and in which he has fully explained his attitude. But there is one thing which he has overlooked and to which no reference was made even by the honourable member who wanted the Bill to go to the select committee, but to which some reference has been made by my honourable friend who has just resumed his seat. Against every clause in the Bill there is a reference to an analogous provision in the law passed in other provinces. My friend from Gujranwala contends that the Bill is unnecessary because we have sufficient safeguards in the Indian Penal Code and in the Municipal Act. The Indian Penal Code is a general statute applicable to the whole of India, and a thorough examination of the provisions of this Bill with the sections quoted by my friend will show what the difference between the provisions already existing in the Indian Penal Code and the provisions made in the Bill are. Had they not been different, other provinces would not have adopted the clauses to which reference has been made in the Bill. Secondly it has been said that section 152 of the Municipal Act contains sufficient provision against the existence of brothels. The Municipal Act applies only to municipal towns, and although I am prepared to admit that the evil exists more in towns than in villages, and that it is at present non-existent in rural areas, yet what about the small towns and notified areas which are in every respect becoming what bigger towns are? A provision of this kind will be applicable to the whole of the Punjab or to the whole of the tract to which the measure is applied. I think this Bill is necessary. With regard to the other points raised by my friend, I think they deal with matters of detail which can be taken up by the select committee.

I am glad that he does not oppose a reference to the select committee. When the Bill goes to the select committee it will be necessary to have before us the laws passed by other provinces and other Councils. We will then be in a position to examine how far the provisions which are proposed in the Bill are necessary in view of the existing law embodied in the Indian Penal Code. However, these are matters which may be taken up by the select committee and the motion to refer the Bill to a select committee need not be opposed. In fact I am glad that the honourable member from Gujranwala is not opposed to it, and I strongly support the motion of my honourable friend from Hoshiarpur.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the Punjab Suppression of Immoral Traffic Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave,  
 Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,  
 Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah,  
 Mr. Muhammad Din Malak,  
 The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon,  
 Mr. Manohar Lal,  
 Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath,  
 Sardar Sampuran Singh,  
 Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh,  
 Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh,  
 The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd,  
 Mr. J. D. Anderson,  
 A nominee of the Honourable President, and  
 The mover.

*The motion was carried.*

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** I propose that the name of Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali be added to the list of members on the select committee.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** I have no objection.

*The proposal was agreed to.*

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P.M. on Monday, 25th February, 1935.*

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## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, 25th February, 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 3 P. M. of the clock. Mrs. President in the chair.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

\*4001—\*4002.—Cancelled.

#### NOMINATIONS TO THE PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICES.

\*4003. **Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** : Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that nominations to the P. C. S. are also made from amongst the ministerial establishment of the Punjab Government ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that selection in this line has so far been made from the personal assistants of the Honourable Members and Ministers and the clerks of the Civil Secretariat to the exclusion of candidates from other offices ; if so, reasons for the same ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in past years several matrics and non-matrics have been taken in preference to graduates ;
- (d) whether Government has given any consideration to the claims of the statutory agriculturists in this line of selection ;
- (e) whether Government intends to give due consideration to the claims of the candidates other than those of the Civil Secretariat and the claims of the statutory agriculturists ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** (Chief Secretary) : (a) Yes ;

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) Does not arise.

#### SADAR BAZAR, AMBALA CANTONMENT MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

\*4004. **Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) when the newly constituted Sadar Bazar, Ambala Cantonment Municipal Committee, is going to be made a full-fledged elected Committee ;
- (b) what will be its total strength ;
- (c) what will be the number of elected members on it ;

[Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan.]

- (d) how many wards will there be in it ;
- (e) whether the members will be returned by joint electorate or separately by each principal community ;
- (f) whether any separate representation will be granted to the depressed classes ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) The new committee (of elected appointed members) will come into existence as soon as possible after the formation of wards of the municipality.

- (b) Sixteen members.
- (c) Twelve.
- (d) Proposals are awaited from the local officers.
- (e) There will be joint electorate.
- (f) No.

#### CONSTABLES IN AMBALA DISTRICT.

**\*4005. Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) how many persons have been taken as constables in the Ambala district in each of the last 3 years ;
- (b) how many of them belonged to Ambala district in each year ;
- (c) how many of them, referred to in (b), in each year were Hindus and how many of them Hindu agriculturists ;
- (d) what reasons led the Government to discourage the recruitment of Hindu agriculturists, especially Rajputs, Jats and Gujars of the district ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a), (b) and (c) A statement is laid on the table.

(d) Government does not discourage the recruitment of Hindu agriculturists and would be glad to recruit more of them, provided they are of the requisite standard.

#### Statement.

Year.	Number of constables recruited in the Ambala district.	NUMBER OF CONSTABLES RECRUITED WHO BELONGED TO THE AMBALA DISTRICT.		
		Total No.	Number of Hindus.	Number of Hindu agriculturists.
1932 .. ..	29	12	3	..
1933 .. ..	21	16	..	..
1934 .. ..	29	14	1	1

\*4006—\*4017.—*Cancelled.*

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RURAL RE-CONSTRUCTION.

\*4018. **Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the number of—

- (a) statutory agriculturists, and  
(b) those who are not statutory agriculturists, employed in the establishment of the Commissioner for Rural Re-construction and also the designation of their posts giving also the total of the monthly salaries drawn by the—

- (a) statutory agriculturists ; and  
(b) others ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of statutory agriculturists and "others" employed in the office of the Commissioner, Rural Re-construction, Punjab.*

Pay. Rs.			
(i) <i>Gazetted Establishment.</i>			
1. Personal Assistant	.. ..	420 + 50	Agriculturist.
(ii) <i>Non-Gazetted Establishment.</i>			
2. One Superintendent	.. ..	350	Non-agriculturist (European).
3. One Assistant	.. ..	125	Non-agriculturist.
4. One Stenographer	.. ..	127	Ditto.
5. One Senior Clerk	.. ..	68	Ditto.
6. Ditto	.. ..	63	Ditto.
7. One Junior Clerk	.. ..	38	Agriculturist.

NOTE.—The establishment mentioned at serial Nos. 1—5 have been imported from other offices.

\*4019—44.—*Cancelled.*

OFFENCES REPORTED AT POLICE STATIONS.

\*4045. **Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the number of offences reported at police stations in the districts of Rohtak, Gurdaspur and Ludhiana from the 15th of September to the 31st of December, 1934. ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :**

Rohtak	.. ..	282
Gurdaspur	.. ..	414
Ludhiana	.. ..	815

## ABSCONDERS.

**\*4046. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the number of absconders on the 15th of January, 1935, in the districts of Gurdaspur, Ludhiana and Rohtak, specifying the number of absconders charged with the offences of (a) murder, (b) dacoity, (c) robbery, (d) burglary and (e) other offences?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

District.	Total No. of absconders.	NUMBER OF THOSE CHARGED FOR				
		Murder.	Dacoity.	Robbery.	Burglary.	Other offences.
Gurdaspur ..	102	6	1	..	15	80
Ludhiana ..	144	19	4	..	4	117
Rohtak ..	66	12	2	3	7	42

## ADDITIONAL POLICE IN ROHTAK DISTRICT.

**\*4047. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the following particulars about the 84 villages which are to bear the cost of additional police in the district of Rohtak :—

- population ;
- culturable land ;
- land commanded by irrigation ;
- land not so commanded ;
- the average area, (i) irrigated and (ii) *barani* sown in each of the two harvests during the year ending with the *rabi* of 1934 ;
- the area, (i) irrigated and (ii) unirrigated sown with *kharif* and *rabi* in 1934-35 ;
- land-revenue assessed on the estate in which the village concerned is situated ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The required information in respect of the villages in the Rohtak district, excluding the three *mohallas* of Rohtak town, which are to bear the cost of the additional police, is

contained in the statement which is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

Population.	AREA OF LAND.			AVERAGE AREA OF LAND.		Sown in the harvests of	AREA OF LAND SOWN WITH Kharif in 1934.		Land revenue assessed on the estate.
	Culturable.	Commanded by irrigation.	Not so commanded.	Irrigated.	Barani.		Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Rs.
68,101	1,09,159	45,433	62,064	21,542	52,915	Kharif 1933 ..	13,236	54,591	1,47,487
..	..	..	..	9,867	77,609	Rabi 1934 ..	..	..	..

NOTE.—Information in regard to rabi 1935 is not yet available.

PUNITIVE CHARGES IN RESPECT OF ADDITIONAL POLICE.

**\*4048. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram:** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- the amount of punitive charges due in respect of the additional police force stationed in Amritsar in 1919 and 1920 in consequence of the conduct of the inhabitants of the town during the political disturbances of 1919 and 1920;
- the amount of punitive charges assessed on the inhabitants of Rawalpindi town and some other localities on account of the arson and plunder in which they indulged or which they were believed to have abetted a few years ago;
- whether any portion of the punitive charges referred to in (a) and (b) were remitted; and, if so, in what proportion?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd:** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

BALKU'S GANG, MEMBERS OF THE CRIMINAL TRIBE.

**\*4049. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state in respect of the 27 persons declared members of a criminal tribe under the name of Balku's gang in the Rohtak district the following particulars—

- how many of them belong to land-owning families;
- apart from the alleged offences in respect of which they were unsuccessfully prosecuted or in respect of which prosecutions against them were withdrawn in 1931 and 1932; the number of non-bailable offences with which each of them was charged in a court of law or in respect of which a first information report was lodged at a police station against each of them during the 5 years immediately preceding 1930;

[R. B. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

- (c) whether any, and, if so, which of these 27 persons was bound down under section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code at any time during the 5 years immediately preceding 1930;
- (d) whether any of these 27 persons was mentioned by name or by residence or by description of general appearance in any of the first information reports made at police stations in respect of the dacoities with which he was charged;
- (e) whether any, and, if so, which of these 27 persons, has been challaned and convicted;
- (f) how long each of these 27 persons was kept as an under-trial prisoner before the case under Section 400 of Indian Penal Code was withdrawn against them;
- (g) what time has elapsed since they were declared members of a criminal tribe or challaned for any breach of the rules to which they are subject under the Criminal Tribes Act;
- (h) whether any, and, if so, which of these 27 persons has been prosecuted, (i) successfully or (ii) unsuccessfully, for any offence after he was declared a member of a criminal tribe;
- (i) whether any written report or complaint of any misconduct was made against any of them, and, if so, against which of them, since they were declared members of a criminal tribe?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) 25.

(b) Two were convicted and one was mentioned in a first information report.

(c) None.

(d) Seven members were mentioned in the first information report.

(e) Twenty-four of them were challaned in 52 cases, of which 17 ended in conviction, 34 in acquittal or discharge and 1 is pending.

(f) This information is not at present available.

(g) They were declared members of a criminal tribe by a notification, dated the 21st September 1932, and seven of them were prosecuted for breach of the rules made under the Criminal Tribes Act in the years 1933 and 1934.

(h) Seven of them were prosecuted in 11 cases, of which 7 ended in convictions, 3 in discharge or acquittal and 1 is pending.

(i) There has been no complaint in writing though oral complaints have been received.

#### CHAUKIDARS.

**\*4050. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state whether any of the deputy commissioners in the Ambala division has reduced either the number of chaukidars in his district or lowered the scale of their pay since the time when the Local Government gave them discretion to do so, and, if so, what is the number of chaukidars reduced or the amount of reduction in pay effected in their districts?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :—**

*First part.*—Yes.

*Second part.*—A statement is laid on the table—

*Statement.*

District.	Number of chowkidars reduced.	Amount of reduction in pay.
Hissar .. ..	32 (including one dafadar)	<i>Nil.</i> (The pay of a chowkidar does not exceed Rs. 7 per mensem.)
Rohtak .. ..	51	Rs. 2 per mensem in the pay of a jamadar and 5 chowkidars.
Karnal .. ..	17	<i>Nil.</i>
Ambala .. ..	23 (including one dafadar)	<i>Nil.</i>

RAINFALL IN ROHTAK DISTRICT.

**\*4051. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- the average annual rainfall at Rohtak, Sonapat, Gohana, Jhajjar, Beri and Salhawas in the Rohtak district ;
- the amount of rainfall from the 1st January, 1934, to the 31st of December, 1934, at the places referred to in (a) ;
- the usual time when the monsoon recedes from the south-eastern districts of the province ;
- the last date on which rainfall of half an inch or over occurred at any of the places referred to in (a) in 1934 ;
- the usual time when winter rains take place in the south-eastern districts of the Punjab ;
- whether rainfall of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or over took place during the present winter at any of the localities referred to in (a) up to the 15th of January, 1935, if so, where and to what extent ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :—**

	Rohtak.	Sonapat.	Gohana.	Jhajjar.	Beri.	Salhawas.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
(a)	19.68	23.00	20.56	19.70	18.81	16.53
(b)	18.05	17.35	16.98	19.19	9.15	5.97
(c)	28-8-34	19-8-34	20-8-34	28-8-34	19-8-34	19-8-34

(d) About the middle of September.

[Hon'ble Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

(e) The probable dates are from the 25th November to the 20th December.

(f) Not up to 15th of January, 1935. There has been good rain since.

#### KHARIF CROP IN ROHTAK AND HISSAR DISTRICTS.

**\*4052. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state in respect of Rohtak and Hissar districts—

- (a) whether the last *kharif* crop either failed or was distinctly below the average ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that cotton was seriously damaged and gave a poor yield ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that sugarcane was attacked by pyrrilla ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that severe frost on the nights of 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th of January, 1935, did material damage to the standing crop of sugarcane ;
- (e) whether Government has received any proposals from district officers for the suspension or remission of any part of land-revenue in the Rohtak district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :—**

(a) *Hissar*.—The crop was below average.

*Rohtak*.—No.

(b) *Hissar*.—No.

*Rohtak*.—No.

(c) *Hissar*.—No.

*Rohtak*.—Yes ; but the pest was brought under control.

(d) *Hissar*.—It did damage to a small extent in Hansi tahsil only.

*Rohtak*.—A considerable portion of the crop had already been cut and pressed, but what remained standing was damaged.

(e) Rs. 48,484 have been suspended and Rs. 51,294 remitted under the rules given in Financial Commissioners' Standing Order No. 80.

#### SHRINKAGE IN WHEAT AREA.

**\*4053. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state the shrinkage in the area sown with wheat in the Punjab in consequence of short supplies of water in various canals, the shrinkage of water to be calculated with reference to the annual average acreage during the last five years ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement showing the areas under wheat and cotton with average prices of each, and supplies utilized at canal heads in *kharif* and *rabi* year by year from 1929-30 to 1933-34 is laid on the table.



*Statement.*

Year.	Total area irrigated (excluding India State Canals and channels).	Area under wheat.	Area under cotton.	Average price of wheat per maund.	Average price of cotton per maund.	TOTAL DISCHARGE AT HEAD OF CANAL LESS VOLUME ESCAPED IN CUSPERS DATS.	
						Kharif.	Rabi.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		
1929-30 ..	11,687,622	3,715,442	1,917,749	3.0	11.8	8,172,231	5,570,474
1930-31 ..	11,487,243	3,457,033	1,918,105	1.4	7.8	9,055,572	4,899,804
1931-32 ..	10,960,606	3,093,359	1,888,331	2.1	9.5	8,397,321	5,007,184
1932-33 ..	10,527,926	2,971,804	1,627,913	2.7	10.1	7,957,206	4,784,416
1933-34 ..	11,354,114	3,125,907	2,108,386	2.0	8.4	7,805,682	5,134,766
Total ..	56,027,511	16,363,545	9,460,484	11.2	47.6	41,388,012	25,396,044
Average ..	11,205,502	3,272,709	1,892,097	2.2	9.5	8,277,602	5,079,329

EXPENDITURE ON IMPROVEMENT OF SANITATION AND WATER-SUPPLY.

**\*4054. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the amount of money spent on (a) urban areas and (b) rural areas during the last 5 years on the improvement of sanitation and water-supply respectively ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A statement furnishing the required information is placed on the table.

*Statement showing the amount of money spent by Government in the form of grants-in-aid during the last 5 years on the improvement of sanitation and water supply in (a) urban areas and (b) rural areas.*

Serial No.	Year.			Amount spent on urban areas.	Amount spent on rural areas.
				Rs.	Rs.
1	1929-30	..	..	3,82,510	99,685
2	1930-31	..	..	2,93,500	24,617
3	1931-32	..	..	2,80,948	19,032
4	1932-33	..	..	1,90,445	1,864
5	1933-34	..	..	1,34,909	66,468
	Total			12,82,312	2,11,581

## OFFENCES REPORTED AT POLICE STATIONS.

**\*4055. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the average number per thousand of population of the offences reported at police stations in the Punjab during 1933 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** 1·67.

## ABSCONDERS.

**\*4056. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the average number per district of absconders in the province on the 15th of January, 1935, and how it compares with the number of absconders in the Rohtak district on the same day ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The statement laid on the table will probably give the honourable member the information that he requires.

*Statement showing number of absconders in each district on the 15th of January, 1935.*

Hissar .. .. .	254	Gurdaspur .. .. .	102
Rohtak .. .. .	66	Lyallpur .. .. .	87
Gurgaon .. .. .	149	Montgomery .. .. .	206
Karnal .. .. .	107	Sheikhupura .. .. .	53
Ambala .. .. .	36	Campbellpur .. .. .	44
Jallundur .. .. .	88	Rawalpindi .. .. .	41
Ludhiana .. .. .	144	Jhelum .. .. .	57
Hoshiarpur .. .. .	54	Gujrat .. .. .	155
Simla .. .. .	4	Sargodha .. .. .	74
Kangra .. .. .	38	Jhang .. .. .	43
Ferozepore .. .. .	354	Multan .. .. .	103
Lahore .. .. .	488	Dera Ghazi Khan .. .. .	49
Amritsar .. .. .	416	Mianwali .. .. .	33
Gujranwala .. .. .	113	Muzaffargarh .. .. .	64
Sialkot .. .. .	102		

## BALKU'S GANG, MEMBERS OF A CRIMINAL TRIBE.

**\*4057. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state the population of each of the villages to which members of the criminal tribe known as Balku's gang in the Rohtak district belong, and the number of offences reported from these villages at their respective police stations since the time when these persons were declared members of a criminal tribe, up to the 15th of January, 1935 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement giving the required information is laid on the table—

*Statement showing the population, etc., of certain villages in the Rohtak District.*

Serial No.	Name of village.	Population.	Number of offences reported between 21st September, 1932 and 15th January, 1935.	Name of Police Station.
1	Jasor Kheri .. ..	1,490	5	Sampla.
2	Nllothi .. ..	1,414	4	Do.
3	Aahrapur Matindo .. ..	919	4	Do.
4	Rohna .. ..	1,200	5	Do.
5	Kheri Sampla .. ..	1,436	6	Do.
6	Morkheri .. ..	919	3	Do.
7	Gochni .. ..	1,690	6	Beri.
8	Chhichrana .. ..	1,170	6	Baroda.
9	Kharar .. ..	2,002	2	Bahadurgarh.
10	Chhara .. ..	4,067	11	Do.
11	Jhajjar .. ..	12,912	59	Jhajjar.
12	Kharkrah .. ..	401	9	Mehm.

#### GRANTS TO LOCAL BODIES.

**\*4058. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the total amount of grants made from provincial revenues to the municipalities of Lahore, Simla, Amritsar, Multan, Rawalpindi and Sialkot on the one hand and of the district boards of the province on the other, during the years 1930-31, 1931-32, 1932-33, 1933-34, respectively?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Statements giving the required information are laid on the table.

*Statement showing the total amount of grants to certain Municipal Committees from 1930 to 1934.*

Municipal Committees.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Simla .. ..	30,670	28,012	30,288	27,546
2. Lahore* .. ..	1,61,793	1,63,576	96,609	2,11,320
3. Amritsar .. ..	79,433	88,897	85,679	1,00,835
4. Sialkot .. ..	27,445	26,992	27,323	27,900
5. Multan .. ..	27,524	30,032	29,569	29,932
6. Rawalpindi .. ..	20,961	22,383	14,193	35,883

\*This includes the grant of Rs. 60,000 given in lieu of old jagir, for improvement of new abadis.

[Hon'ble Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

*Statement showing the total amount of grants to District Boards of the Punjab from 1930 to 1934.*

						Rs.
1930-31	..	..	..	..	..	1,15,38,817
1931-32	..	..	..	..	..	1,03,63,131
1932-33	..	..	..	..	..	97,68,700
1933-34	..	..	..	..	..	99,54,824

#### UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, LECTURERS, ETC.

**\*4059. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state community-wise the number on 1st January, 1935, of professors, lecturers, demonstrators and research scholars employed by the University of the Punjab in the various branches of teaching, stating also the total of salaries drawn by members of each community?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A statement showing the required information is laid on the table.

#### Statement.

	HINDU.		MUHAMMADAN.		SIKH.		CHRISTIAN.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Professors ..	7	6,875	2	2,250	..	..	1	1,250
Lecturers ..	22	5,750	14	4,110	5	1,200	2	400
Demonstrators ..	9	1,094	6	800	5	485	..	..
Research Scholars.	18	1,775	6	410	1	75	..	..

#### UNIVERSITY EXAMINERS.

**\*4060. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state community-wise—

- the number of head-examiners in the various examinations of the Punjab University for the year 1934;
- the number of sub-examiners for 1934;
- a list of persons who were examiners, head or otherwise, in more than one examination of the Punjab University for 1934 with their academic qualifications and the institutions, if any, to which they belong and the subjects in which they are examiners?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to the Council question is not ready.

## EXPORT OF GRAINS AND COTTON.

**\*4061. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- what grains have been exported from the Punjab during each of the last ten years and in what quantities ;
- the amount of cotton exported from the Punjab during each of the last ten years ;
- the average price in the province of each of these commodities for each year ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) No figures of export of grains and cotton from the Punjab, prior to 1st April 1933, are available. Statement A showing the figures of export of these commodities since 1st April 1933 is placed on the table.

(c) Statement B showing the average harvest prices (per maund) of various crops grown in the Punjab, during the ten years ending 1933-34, is placed on the table.

*Statement A showing export of grains and cotton from the Punjab since 1st April, 1933.*

Period.	GRAINS AND PULSE (MAUNDS).			COTTON RAW (MAUNDS).		
	Rice in the husk.	Rice not in the husk.	Wheat.	Other sorts.	Kapas.	Purea bales.
1st April, 1933 to 31st March, 1934 (12 months).	10,462	882,831	Wheat.	5,582,913	45,600	6,566,318
			Wheat flour.			
			1,370,496			
1st April, 1934 to 31st August 1934 (5 months).	5,393	351,168	Wheat.	6,364,590	1,687	1,490,605
			Wheat flour.			
			1,013,943			

[Hon'ble Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

Statement B showing the average harvest prices per maund of various crops grown in the Punjab during the past ten years.

Serial No.	Name of crop.	PRICES DURING THE YEARS										REMARKS.
		1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1	Rice (unhusked)	*	*	3 9 0	3 8 0	3 13 0	3 4 0	1 12 0	1 11 0	2 2 0	1 11 0	*Prices not given in the Season and Crop Reports.
2	Wheat	5 3 0	4 15 0	4 8 0	4 6 0	4 6 0	3 2 0	1 9 0	2 1 0	2 11 0	2 2 0	
3	Gram	3 11 0	4 2 0	3 14 0	3 13 0	4 12 0	3 12 0	1 14 0	1 13 0	2 4 0	1 12 0	
4	Rapeseed	7 10 0	7 15 0	7 7 0	7 3 0	7 3 0	5 12 0	3 13 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 5 0	
5	Cotton unginned—											
	(a) Desi	13 5 0	10 2 0	7 14 0	10 13 0	10 0 0	6 15 0	4 7 0	5 7 0	5 10 0	4 4 0	
	(b) American	16 3 0	13 0 0	9 6 0	13 12 0	13 0 0	8 15 0	5 9 0	6 10 0	6 14 0	5 6 0	

## EDUCATIONAL GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

**\*4062. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly lay on the table a statement showing the educational Government grants given to each district board of the province in the years 1938-34 and 1934-35, and also the percentage which this grant bears to the total yearly educational expenditure of each board ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A statement showing the information relating to the year 1938-34 is laid on the table. The information for the year 1934-35 is not yet available.

*Statement showing the grants paid to the District Boards during the year 1938-34.*

Serial No.	District Board.	Total Government grants for education.	Percentage of grants to total yearly expenditure of the board on education.
		Rs.	
1	Hissar .. .. .	1,95,914	64.1
2	Rohtak .. .. .	2,66,203	67.9
3	Gurgaon .. .. .	2,88,478	92.1
		(includes Rs. 32,250 as arrear grant).	
4	Karnal .. .. .	1,61,621	62.5
		(includes Rs. 15,827 as arrear grant).	
5	Ambala .. .. .	1,73,437	64.5
6	Simla .. .. .	54,847	100
7	Kangra .. .. .	3,62,894	75.2
8	Hoshiarpur .. .. .	3,81,075	70.2
9	Jullundur .. .. .	2,32,524	52.0
10	Ludhiana .. .. .	2,53,664	68.3
11	Ferozepore .. .. .	2,43,900	75.3
12	Lahore .. .. .	2,47,032	68.2
13	Amritsar .. .. .	2,64,707	68.5
14	Gurdaspur .. .. .	2,40,842	61.0
15	Sialkot .. .. .	2,89,931	63.3
16	Gujranwala .. .. .	2,41,517	72.6
17	Sheikhpura .. .. .	2,45,137	65.4
18	Gujrat .. .. .	2,48,676	66.8
19	Shahpur .. .. .	2,69,200	63.2
20	Jhelum .. .. .	3,76,455	83.8
21	Rawalpindi .. .. .	4,17,572	86.9
22	Attock .. .. .	3,37,327	94.8
23	Mianwali .. .. .	2,56,736	84.0
24	Montgomery .. .. .	3,49,157	65.4
25	Lyallpur .. .. .	2,95,990	43.7
26	Jhang .. .. .	2,21,690	69.7
27	Multan .. .. .	2,49,409	61.5
28	Muzaffargarh .. .. .	1,87,610	66.6
29	Dera Ghazi Khan .. .. .	2,79,463	89.8

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

\*4063. **Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of A, B, C and D class co-operative societies in each district of the province in a tabular form on 1st July, 1934, or any convenient date in 1934 ;
- (b) the number of liquidated societies in each district (i) within last five years, (ii) beyond five years, since the date of their introduction in the province ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(b) It is presumed that by 'liquidated societies' is meant 'societies under liquidation.' The figures by districts as on 31st July, 1934, are laid on the table, as also the provincial figures from 1907. Provincial figures before 1907 and figures by districts are not available.

*Statement showing the classification of Societies in the Punjab as on 31st July, 1934.*

Serial No.	District.	AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETIES.				NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.			
		A.	B.	C.	D.	A.	B.	C.	D.
1	Hissar .. ..	3	15	435	186	..	2	45	2
2	Rohtak .. ..	..	10	337	145	..	1	21	6
3	Gurgaon .. ..	1	17	514	319	..	1	17	11
4	Karnal .. ..	..	7	321	67	..	..	13	1
5	Ambala .. ..	17	145	477	39	2	5	35	1
6	Simla .. ..	..	3	..	..	17	3	1	..
7	Kangra .. ..	6	77	316	7	1	3	9	2
8	Hoshiarpur ..	32	216	666	23	1	5	20	..
9	Jullundur ..	52	192	748	36	4	15	39	2
10	Ludhiana ..	18	145	322	41	2	8	21	6
11	Ferozepore ..	19	73	602	100	2	2	30	7
12	Lahore .. ..	5	41	512	93	13	19	62	5
13	Amritsar ..	7	71	448	61	1	5	60	5
14	Gurdaspur ..	7	106	754	111	3	17	71	17
15	Sialkot .. ..	3	52	594	204	6	8	96	30
16	Gujranwala ..	6	37	471	47	5	9	35	6
17	Sheikhupura ..	5	22	485	61	2	2	17	3
18	Gujrat .. ..	11	38	419	33	1	2	23	2
19	Shahpur .. ..	8	30	495	123	..	4	15	6
20	Jhelum .. ..	24	74	309	34	2	2	10	1
21	Rawalpindi ..	9	88	320	33	1	6	24	5
22	Attock .. ..	8	60	329	52	..	1	8	3
23	Mianwali .. ..	..	16	352	64	..	..	13	1
24	Montgomery ..	10	44	363	66	1	..	4	..
25	Lyallpur .. ..	36	98	472	55	1	3	27	6
26	Jhang .. ..	8	22	150	33	..	1	9	1
27	Multan .. ..	7	23	288	52	..	2	18	2
28	Muzaffargarh ..	..	12	138	37	..	..	5	..
29	Dera Ghazi Khan	..	26	200	17	..	2	12	..
Total .. ..		302	1,760	11,837	2,139	65	128	760	131



*Statement showing the number of societies under liquidation as on 31st July, 1984.*

Serial No.	District.						Number.
1	Hissar	..	..	..	..	..	19
2	Rohtak	..	..	..	..	..	60
3	Gurgaon	..	..	..	..	..	68
4	Karnal	..	..	..	..	..	36
5	Ambala	..	..	..	..	..	33
6	Simla	..	..	..	..	..	1
7	Kangra	..	..	..	..	..	12
8	Hoshiarpur	..	..	..	..	..	22
9	Jullundur	..	..	..	..	..	26
10	Ludhiana	..	..	..	..	..	27
11	Ferozepore	..	..	..	..	..	51
12	Lahore	..	..	..	..	..	73
13	Amritsar	..	..	..	..	..	20
14	Gurdaspur	..	..	..	..	..	85
15	Sialkot	..	..	..	..	..	103
16	Gujranwala	..	..	..	..	..	33
17	Sheikhupura	..	..	..	..	..	52
18	Gujrat	..	..	..	..	..	26
19	Shahpur	..	..	..	..	..	45
20	Jhelum	..	..	..	..	..	24
21	Rawalpindi	..	..	..	..	..	25
22	Attock	..	..	..	..	..	21
23	Mianwali	..	..	..	..	..	8
24	Montgomery	..	..	..	..	..	32
25	Lyallpur	..	..	..	..	..	40
26	Jhang	..	..	..	..	..	16
27	Multan	..	..	..	..	..	43
28	Muzaffargarh	..	..	..	..	..	44
29	Dera Ghazi Khan	..	..	..	..	..	6
Total						..	1,051

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

*Provincial figures for societies under liquidation from 1907.*

1907	..	..	10	1921	..	..	153
1908	..	..	34	1922	..	..	220
1909	..	..	34	1923	..	..	231
1910	..	..	47	1924	..	..	264
1911	..	..	1	1925	..	..	307
1912	..	..	35	1926	..	..	259
1913	..	..	52	1927	..	..	375
1914	..	..	62	1928	..	..	436
1915	..	..	14	1929	..	..	518
1916	..	..	104	1930	..	..	579
1917	..	..	136	1931	..	..	735
1918	..	..	142	1932	..	..	873
1919	..	..	169	1933	..	..	965
1920	..	..	168				

## CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIP.

**\*4064. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the total number, community-wise, of approved candidates for public prosecutorship in the province on the 1st January, 1935, specifying the number of statutory agriculturists among the candidates of each community and also give similar figures for the same date of those on the Crown lists of the High Court who are legal advisors or counsel to the Income-tax Commissioner or other public departments?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

	HINDUS.		MUSLIMS.		SIKHS.		CHRISTIANS.	
	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.
Candidates for public prosecutorship in the Province.	5	64	29	21	8	11	..	4
List of Crown Counsel.	Hindus. 7		Muslims. 16		Sikhs. 2		Others. 2	

Government have no information on the question which of the Crown counsel are statutory agriculturists. Nor have they information regarding the legal advisors or counsel to the Income-tax Commissioner. The public departments under the Punjab Government have no separate legal advisors.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>This answer has subsequently been corrected,—*vide* answer to Council question No. \*4102, pages 167-8 *infra*.

CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIP AND COUNSEL FOR  
DEFENCE.

**\*4065. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to —

(i) state the total number, community-wise, on the 1st January, 1935, in the Lahore district of—

(a) approved candidates for public prosecutorship ;

(b) those whose names were on the defence list of the court of sessions, and

(ii) give a list of those whose names are on both these lists, specifying for each community the number of statutory agriculturists in each list ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

SECURITY FROM THE *Pratap*.

**\*4066. Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a new declaration was filed by the new printer and publisher of the daily *Pratap*, Lahore, on the 19th November, 1934, which was accepted on the 15th January, 1935, i.e., after one month and 27 days ;

(b) whether the declarations of the papers are normally accepted after such a long delay or whether there were certain special reasons for this abnormal delay in the acceptance of the declaration of the *Pratap* ;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is nothing on the record of the police against the new printer and publisher of the *Pratap* ; if so, why the security has been demanded from him ;

(d) whether Government before demanding the security took legal advice ; if so, whether the legal advice recommended the taking of security, even when there was nothing against the new printer and publisher in the police records ;

(e) whether there are any special reasons why the maximum security permissible under the law has been demanded from the new printer ; if so, what are those reasons ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) The honourable member is confusing "an application for permission to file a new declaration" with a "declaration" itself. The Managing Proprietor of the *Pratap* applied for permission to file a new declaration on the 19th November, 1934. After the usual enquiries had been made, permission was granted. The old printer and publisher filed a declaration that he had ceased to be the printer and publisher on the 15th January, 1935; and on the same date the declaration of the new printer and publisher was accepted.

(b) Declarations are normally accepted on the date they are presented, as in the case to which this question relates.

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

(c) *Part I.*—It is not in the public interest to disclose the contents of confidential police records.

*Part II.*—For the reasons why security was demanded, the honourable member is referred to the District Magistrate's order dated the 15th January, 1935, a copy of which is laid on the table.

(d) *Part I.*—It is the District Magistrate who demands security, not Government.

*Part II.*—The Government are not prepared to reveal the advice given by their law officers. Government are satisfied that the District Magistrate's action was legal.

(e) The honourable member is referred to the District Magistrate's order, dated the 15th January, 1935 (below).

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** How long does it take normally before leave is given to file a declaration?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** If a case is quite simple, I should say about a week. The antecedents of the persons who wish to file a declaration must be ascertained and also the history of the paper, but it should not take more than a few days.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Did it take about two months in this case?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I require notice of this question.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** The answer given by the Honourable Member shows that application for leave to file a declaration was made on the 19th of November and the leave was granted on the 15th of January. May I ask if the Government consider this time reasonable for disposal of the application for leave to file a declaration?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It all depends upon what was done in between. Without the facts before me I could not say whether it was reasonable or not, but I believe it was reasonable.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** May I ask the Honourable Finance Member to let us know the procedure followed in these cases before leave is granted?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** As I have said already antecedents of the person who wishes to make an application and the antecedents of the paper are considered.

#### ORDER.

Nanak Chand Naz, publisher of the Daily "*Partap*," Lahore, was called upon by Government to deposit security in the amount of Rs. 3,000. He has now filed his ceasing declaration; and application has been made by the managing proprietor of the daily "*Pratap*" that Wazir Chand may be declared as publisher of the paper in place of Nanak Chand Naz. In view of the previous history of the paper it is necessary to demand security from the new publisher. I, therefore, direct that Wazir Chand shall deposit security within ten days from the day on which the declaration is made, in the sum of Rs. 3,000 under section 7 (i) of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act in money or the equivalent thereof in securities of the Government of India as the said Wazir Chand may choose.

#### 8. PARTAB,

The 15th January, 1935.

District Magistrate, Lahore.

## EASTERN CANAL, SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

**\*4068. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that at the time when the Eastern Canal (Sutlej Valley Project) running in the Ferozepore district was originally started, hopes were held out to the people that it would run from 1st April of every year to 15th October ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that now the said Canal owing to the scarcity of water cannot be made to run on the above dates, unless there be surplus water over and above that required for the Bikaner perennial canal ;
- (c) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, whether the question of giving water by rotation to Bikaner and Eastern Canals has been considered by the authorities ; if not, whether the Government now intends to consider the question of giving water by rotation to the above canals ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No. There are no canals in the Punjab that flow continuously from 1st April to 15th October ;

(b) The Eastern Canal is non-perennial and replaces older inundation canals, the supply of which was less favourable than now obtaining on the Eastern Canals. Bikaner Canal is a perennial canal and its supplies are fixed on different considerations.

(c) Does not arise.

## EASTERN CANAL, SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

**\*4069. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) the amount of water which was originally promised to be given to the owners and occupiers on the Eastern Canal (Sutlej Valley Project) ;
- (b) whether there is any proposal before the Government to reduce that amount ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No promise was given fixing amount of water to be given to Eastern Canal. Sutlej Valley Project Canals run by rotation according to the water distribution programme.

(b) Does not arise.

## MURDERS.

**\*4070. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please lay on table a statement showing —

- (a) the number of murders annually committed in the province during the last 10 years ;
- (b) the number of Muslims annually murdered during the last 10 years ;
- (c) the number of Muslims murdered by non-Muslims during the last 10 years ;
- (d) the number of non-Muslims murdered by Muslims during the last 10 years ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

(a) and (b).

STATEMENT.

Year.	Number of murders.	Number of Muslims murdered.
1925 .. .. .	712	388
1926 .. .. .	709	363
1927 .. .. .	824	426
1928 .. .. .	810	442
1929 .. .. .	832	435
1930 .. .. .	911	493
1931 .. .. .	931	497
1932 .. .. .	981	493
1933 .. .. .	997	516
1934 .. .. .	993	502

(c) 809.

(d) 370.

MURDER CASES.

**\*4071. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please lay on the table a statement showing the number of murder cases during the last 10 years—

(a) in which the culprits were Muslims and victims non-Muslims—

(i) in which capital punishment was awarded,

(ii) in which imprisonment or fine or both were awarded,

(b) in which the culprits were non-Muslims and victims Muslims, and—

(i) in which capital punishment was awarded,

(ii) in which imprisonment or fine or both were awarded ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that I am unable to give the information asked for as the labour and time involved in collecting it would be out of all proportion to the value of the information. To obtain it, it would be necessary to examine not less than 5,000 cases in the High Court and also to make enquiries from all districts.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, GURDASPUR.

**\*4072. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the contribution, if any, made by the Government towards the maintenance of the District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur ;
- (b) the contribution made by the District Board, Gurdaspur, towards the maintenance of the District Medical Officer of Health ;
- (c) the number of sanitary inspectors employed respectively by—
  - (i) the District Board, Gurdaspur,
  - (ii) by any municipal committee, small town, or notified area in the district of Gurdaspur ;
- (d) whether Government contributes anything towards the maintenance of sanitary inspectors employed by district boards or municipal committees in the province ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur, is a Government servant and his salary is paid by Government.

(b) Nil.

(c) (i) No sanitary inspector is employed by the District Board, Gurdaspur.

(ii) The only local bodies in the Gurdaspur district which employ a sanitary inspector are the following Municipal Committees, each of which employs one :—

Gurdaspur.  
Dalhousie.  
Pathankot.  
Batala.

(d) No.

MUNICIPAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, DALHOUSIE.

**\*4073. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the total population of Dalhousie sub-division ;
- (b) the total population of Dalhousie town,
  - (i) during the winter,
  - (ii) during the summer ;
- (c) whether the Municipality of Dalhousie has ever engaged the services of a Municipal Officer of Health ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The information is not available.

(b) (i) The total population of Dalhousie town during winter months is 1,030.

(ii) The information is not available.

[Hon'ble Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

(c) The Municipal Committee of Dalhousie has not so far been able to engage the services of a whole time Medical Officer of Health for want of funds, and has had to content itself with the part time services of the District Medical Officer of Health, who by virtue of Municipal Act, section 3 (15), is *ex-officio* Municipal Medical Officer of Health.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, GURDASPUR.

**\*4074. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the summer the District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur, shifts his headquarters to Dalhousie ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that it is only now and then that from Dalhousie he goes to Gurdaspur to attend the meetings of the District Board ;
- (c) whether the statistics show that it is during the summer that various epidemics break out in the plains ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the District Medical Officer of Health is appointed to look after the sanitation of the entire district, especially areas more prone to catch and propagate the infection ;
- (e) whether health conditions in Dalhousie require his presence there in preference to other areas in the Gurdaspur district ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Yes, since the year 1933.

(b) The District Medical Officer of Health leaves Dalhousie to attend to his work elsewhere in the district whenever necessary.

(c) Gurdaspur district is generally free from epidemics during the summer. The District Medical Officer of Health makes arrangements to meet the malaria epidemic which is always expected after the end of the hot weather.

(d) The District Medical Officer of Health is in charge of the entire district except towns where there are separate Medical Officers of Health.

(e) The increasing popularity of Dalhousie as a summer resort and its crowded state render the presence of a Medical Officer of Health on the spot very necessary. Adequate measures are taken for the other areas of the district not to suffer by this arrangement.

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** What about those other adequate arrangements ? What are they ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The Medical Officer of Health sees that all the vaccinators and other staff are working properly and whenever he hears of any complaint anywhere he goes immediately to attend to the complaint.



## DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, GURDASPUR.

**\*4075. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the reason for allowing the District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur, to remain at Dalhousie during the summer ;
- (b) whether the District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur, is required to look after the sanitation of the Dalhousie town ;
- (c) if so, the authority under which a servant of the District Board is detailed to work for a municipality ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur, is permitted to transfer his headquarters to Dalhousie during the summer months in order that he may concentrate on that part of his duties, which relate to Dalhousie. From 1929 the services of a whole-time District Medical Officer of Health were lent to the Dalhousie Municipal Committee for 7 months in a year, but in 1933 the existing arrangement was introduced on account of shortage of Medical Officers of Health.

(b) During the cold weather the District Medical Officer of Health is *ex-officio* Medical Officer of Health for Dalhousie, as is laid down in section 3 (15) of the Municipal Act. During the hot weather, when the Government requires him to reside in Dalhousie town instead of in Gurdaspur town, he is expected to pay more attention to the sanitation of Dalhousie than when his residence is elsewhere.

(c) The District Medical Officer of Health is not an employee of the District Board, Gurdaspur, but is a Government servant.

## VOTING STRENGTH IN LOCAL BODIES.

**\*4076. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please lay on the table a statement showing—

- (a) the population of Muslims and non-Muslims—
  - (i) in each municipality, small town, or notified area in the province,
  - (ii) in each district minus the population of municipal towns, small towns and notified areas ;
- (b) the respective voting strength of Muslims and non-Muslims—
  - (i) in various district boards,
  - (ii) in various municipal committees, small towns and notified areas ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** It is regretted that the information asked for cannot be supplied as its collection would entail an amount of labour out of proportion to the value of the information.

## MUNICIPAL INSPECTORATE.

**\*4077. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government contemplate appointing an inspectorate under the Punjab Municipal Act ;
- (b) if so, the composition of the inspectorate ;
- (c) the duties of the inspectorate ;
- (d) the staff to be engaged for the inspectorate ;
- (e) the approximate annual expenditure of the inspectorate ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) The inspectorate will, for the present, consist of 2 inspectors.

(c) The duty of the inspectorate will be to advise, assist and supervise the local bodies, by means of the powers specified in section 231 of the Municipal Act.

(d) One clerk, one typist and one peon for each inspector.

(e) Rs. 35,000.

## MUNICIPAL INSPECTORATE.

**\*4078. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (i) (a) whether it is a fact that Government contemplate engaging the services of two extra assistant commissioners to constitute the inspectorate under the Punjab Municipal Act ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the extra assistant commissioners proposed to form the inspectorate are both non-Muslims ;
- (c) whether Government has taken into consideration the fact that the Muslims are the majority community in the province ;
- (ii) if replies to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, the reasons for not employing Muslims in the inspectorate ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (i) (a) Yes, one European, one Hindu.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(ii) The most suitable extra assistant commissioners available have been chosen.

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Is it implied that not a single suitable Muslim extra assistant commissioner was available in the province ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The Honourable Minister in charge of the department is not here, I am only reading out the replies for him.

## MUNICIPAL INSPECTORATE.

**\*4079. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state whether in appointing the inspectorate under the Punjab Municipal Act, Government intend to so arrange its composition as would ensure the Muslims getting their due share of the appointments in it ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to Council question No. 4078 (above).

## DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, GURDASPUR.

**\*4080. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a Civil Surgeon at Dalhousie during the summer, at any rate ;
- (b) whether it is proposed to employ one or more Sanitary Inspectors working under the direct instructions and supervision of the Civil Surgeon to look after the summer sanitary arrangements of Dalhousie ;
- (c) whether Government propose to discontinue the practice of District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur, passing his summer at Dalhousie, if not, why not ?

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

(b) No.

(c) Not till the local body arranges to appoint a separate Medical Officer of its own. It is an important station, and should not be left without proper health arrangements.

## AUCTION OF LORRY STANDS.

**\*4081. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) in what districts the system of auctioning lorry stands is in force ;
- (b) whether lorry stands are regulated by any rules or bye-laws ; if so whether such rules and bye-laws encourage the turn system which is in force at many stands ;
- (c) whether the fee recovered by the contractors is an authorised fee ; if so, the rates prevailing at the various stands in the various districts of the Lahore division ;
- (d) whether the contractors are authorised to recover this fee from those using the stand or from vehicles leaving even from private places within the municipal limits ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1058--1062. *Cancelled.*

## REMISSION OF LAND REVENUE.

**1063. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) when the Dobson formula regarding the remission of land revenue was introduced owing to fall in prices of agricultural produce ;
- (b) whether remissions of land revenue are granted by Government strictly according to that formula in all the districts of the Punjab ;
- (c) if not, why not ;
- (d) the amounts of remission of land revenue as calculated by the deputy commissioners according to the Dobson formula, and the amounts granted by Government for all the districts of the Punjab from *kharif* 1931 to *rabi* 1934 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a), (b) and (c). It is presumed that by the "Dobson formula" the honourable member means the instructions for the adjustment of the land revenue demand to meet exceptional falls in the prices of agricultural produce that were prepared by Mr. B. H. Dobson, I. C. S., as officer on special duty, and issued by Government with effect from *kharif* 1931-32. The object of these instructions, which have been varied from time to time in the light of experience, was to provide Government with accurate data, as far as possible, for determining at every harvest what relief, if any, it was necessary to give in the land revenue demand on account of the fall in prices. As the honourable member is no doubt aware, no hard and fast rule is prescribed and various considerations are taken into account.

(d) Government do not consider it in the public interest to disclose the recommendations of local officers in such matters ; but the special remissions sanctioned by Government on account of the fall in prices from *kharif* 1931 to *rabi* 1934 are as follows :—

			Rs.
<i>Kharif</i> 1931-32	..	..	21 lakhs.
<i>Rabi</i> 1932	..	..	19 lakhs.
<i>Kharif</i> 1932-33	..	..	Nil.
<i>Rabi</i> 1933	..	..	9 lakhs.
<i>Kharif</i> 1933-34	..	..	8 lakhs.
<i>Rabi</i> 1934	..	..	16 lakhs
<i>Kharif</i> 1934-35	..	..	8 lakhs (approximately).

## LAND RECORDS.

**1064. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the land records of the province are kept up-to-date ;
- (b) whether changes relating to soils, crops, rents, proprietors and tenants are incorporated in quadrennial *jamabandis* ;

- (c) whether the field maps (*shajras kishthwar*) are also kept up-to-date according to Financial Commissioners' Standing Order No. 16 ;
- (d) whether statistics relating to soils, crops, rents, alienations, etc., are to be found in village note books ;
- (e) if replies to (a), (b), (c) and (d) are in the affirmative, the reasons for starting new settlements ;
- (f) whether the object of ordering a new settlement is the revision of assessment ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (c). The procedure prescribed by the Government has the object of achieving these purposes. Experience, however, has shown that a more thorough revision of maps and records is often desirable after the lapse of a period of years. Settlement operations furnish this opportunity, and as the honourable member is aware accuracy of revenue records is of great importance to the people.

(b) and (d) Yes.

(e) and (f). The honourable member's attention is invited to paragraph 5 of the Settlement Manual.

#### ENHANCED AND ADDITIONAL FEES FROM BOYS IN SCHOOLS.

**1065. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) why enhanced fees are levied from boys whose parents' annual income is Rs. 2,000 or more, when such boys get the same education for the same time as other boys ;
- (b) why an additional fee of 4 annas is levied from students taking science in the high classes ;
- (c) the object of levying this additional fee ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The first grade fee is not the enhanced rate of fee. It is the normal rate, while the second grade is a concession to the students whose parents are in receipt of an annual income of less than Rs. 2,000.

(b) and (c). The object is to cover the cost of the replacement of broken science apparatus.

#### ABIANA.

**1066. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) on what principle is *abiana* (water rate) levied ;
- (b) the prices of various crops when *abiana* was levied in the first instance on all the canals in the province ;
- (c) whether the rate of *abiana* for all crops is uniform on all canals ;
- (d) if not, why not ;
- (e) when rates of *abiana* were revised and why ;
- (f) the original rates of *abiana* for various crops and the revised rates for the various crops ;

[K. B. Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan.]

- (g) (i) capital invested on the construction of each canal in the province ;
- (ii) net income from each canal from the date of working to the end of year 1933 ;
- (iii) total amount spent on the repairs of each canal from its beginning to the end of year 1933 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The honourable member is referred to the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act and the rules framed thereunder and to the Departmental Annual Administration Reports from the year 1873 onwards.

**1067—1069.** *Cancelled.*

#### BHAKRA DAM PROJECT.

**1070. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) what progress has been made in eliciting agreement of the Bombay Government that the construction of the Bhakra Dam will not adversely affect the inundation canals in Sind ;
- (b) whether the Nicholson Trench Committee report has been accepted by the Punjab and Bombay Governments ;
- (c) if not, the causes of delay in arriving at a decision in this respect and reaching some form of agreement ;
- (d) what steps the Punjab Government has taken to arrange the transfer of the proposed site of the Dam and reservoir from the Bilaspur State ;
- (e) whether the Punjab Government has done anything for the further consideration of the financial prospects of the project in the light of the receipts to be anticipated ;
- (f) with reference to the reply to question No. \*3136 (c)<sup>1</sup> that further survey work was then held in abeyance for certain reasons, when this survey work is going to be taken up ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The Bombay Government have agreed that the construction of the Bhakra Dam will not adversely affect the inundation canals in Sind.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The methods by which compensation can be given to Bilaspur State in return for the transfer of the proposed site of the Dam and the Reservoir is still under the consideration of Government.

(e) and (f). Until a satisfactory decision has been arrived at as regards (d) and certain main principles in the project have been accepted by the States concerned, Government does not propose to incur further expenditure on either working up the financial prospects of the project or on further survey work.

**1071.** *Cancelled.*

**BHAKRA DAM PROJECT.**

**1072. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) what progress has been made in eliciting agreement of the Bombay Government that the construction of the Bhakra Dam will not adversely affect the inundation canals in Sind ;
- (b) whether the Nicholson Trench Committee report has been accepted by the Punjab and Bombay Governments ;
- (c) if not, what are the causes of delay in arriving at a decision in this respect and reach on some form of agreement ;
- (d) what steps the Punjab Government has taken to arrange the transfer of the proposed site of the Dam and reservoir from the Bilaspur State ;
- (e) whether the Punjab Government has done anything for the further consideration of the financial prospects of the project in the light of the receipts to be anticipated ;
- (f) with reference to the reply to question No. \*3136 (c)<sup>1</sup> that further survey work was then held in abeyance for certain reasons, when this survey work is going to be taken up ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The Bombay Government have agreed that the construction of the Bhakra Dam will not adversely affect the inundation canals in Sind.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) The methods by which compensation can be given to Bilaspur State in return for the transfer of the proposed site of the Dam and the Reservoir is still under the consideration of Government.
- (e) and (f). Until a satisfactory decision has been arrived at as regards (d) and certain main principles in the project have been accepted by the States concerned, Government does not propose to incur further expenditure on either working up the financial prospects of the project or on further survey work.

**INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE IN AMBALA DISTRICT.**

**1073. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state if he has received the copies of resolutions passed by the Municipal Committee, Rupar and District Board, Ambala, from time to time requesting Government for opening an Intermediate College in Ambala district ; if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter from time to time since 1924 to 1934 ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** In 1928 a resolution on the subject was received from the District Board, Ambala, but Government is still of the opinion that another College in the Ambala division is not needed for the reasons explained in part (d) of the reply to the starred question No. 1237<sup>2</sup>, asked by L. Jyoti Parsad in 1932.

<sup>1</sup>Vol. XXIV, page 926.

<sup>2</sup>Page viii, Appendix to Volume XXI.

## MARKETING OFFICERS.

**1074. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether he has advertised for the posts of the marketing officer and assistant marketing officers in the Punjab ;
- (b) if not on what basis the selection of candidates for the posts proposed is to be carried out ;
- (c) whether Government is taking into consideration the claims of senior qualified Hindu agricultural assistants who have already served in the Department with credit ?

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

(b) Persons best qualified for the purpose have been selected from among those already in Government service.

(c) Yes. A Hindu has been appointed as one of the three assistant marketing officers.

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HINDUS IN AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

**1075. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether there is any Hindu deputy director of agriculture or extra assistant director of agriculture (direction) in the Department of Agriculture ;
- (b) if not, what steps he intends to take to give Hindus their full share in the services of this Department ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) No ; but on several occasions a Hindu has officiated as extra assistant director of agriculture in temporary vacancies.

(b) 18 posts, out of a total of 56 gazetted posts in the Agricultural Department, are held by Hindus. Due regard is always paid to the claims of all communities when making appointments to these and other posts, provided suitably qualified candidates are available.

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HINDUS IN AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

**1076. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to—

- (a) lay a statement upon the table of agricultural assistants community-wise of between 5 and 15 years' service ;
- (b) give the names of those who have been promoted community-wise to provincial II grades in the last 20 years ;
- (c) state what steps he proposes to take about the senior Hindu agricultural assistants who have not yet been promoted ;
- (d) state what steps he proposes to take as regards Hindu agricultural assistants who possess necessary qualifications for promotion ?



**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) The number of agricultural assistants, arranged by communities, of between 5 and 15 years' service is as follows:—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	59
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	55
Hindus	..	..	..	..	39
Others	..	..	..	..	1

(b) Three lists, showing the names of those who have been promoted to the Provincial Service (1) permanently, (2) temporarily or in an officiating capacity, (3) on probation, temporarily or in an officiating capacity, but have since reverted, are attached.

(c) and (d). The qualifications of all agricultural assistants, including senior Hindu members of the service, receive due consideration when appointments are being made to Provincial Service posts from time to time.

*Agricultural assistants who have been promoted to Provincial Service (Class II) permanently.*

*Muslims.*

- (1) Khan Sahib Chaudhri Muhammad Abdulla.
- (2) Khan Sahib Agha Yusuf Ali Khan.
- (3) M. Mukhtar Nabi.
- (4) Q. Sami Ullah.
- (5) M. Muhammad Hassan Khan.
- (6) M. Abdul Ghani Khan.
- (7) Khan Sahib M. Ali Muhammad.

*Sikhs.*

- (1) S. Arjan Singh.
- (2) Bhai Sucha Singh.
- (3) Bhai Lakh Singh.
- (4) Bhai Nand Singh.
- (5) S. Kartar Singh.

*Hindus.*

- (1) Dr. Ramji Narain.
- (2) The late Dr. Kirpa Ram.

*Agricultural assistants who have been promoted to Provincial Service (Class II) on probation or in an officiating capacity or temporarily, but have since reverted.*

*Muslims.*

- (1) M. Sadiq Hussan.
- (2) M. Sultan Ali.

*Sikhs.*

- (1) Bhai Harnam Singh.
- (2) Bhai Gurdial Singh.
- (3) Bhai Gajinder Singh.
- (4) Bhai Chanda Singh.
- (5) S. Gambhir Singh.
- (6) Bhai Puran Singh.
- (7) Bhai Kartar Singh II.
- (8) Bhai Balwant Singh.

*Hindus.*

- (1) Lala Tehl Ram.
- (2) Lala Dina Nath.
- (3) Lala Dea Raj.
- (4) N. C. Ahuja.

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

*Agricultural assistants who have been promoted to Provincial Service (Class II) in the officiating capacity or temporarily.*

*Muslims.*

- (1) M. Sardar Khan.
- (2) Dr. Abdus Sattar.
- (3) M. Muhammad Afzal.
- (4) Chaudhri Karam Rasul.

*Sikhs.*

- (1) Bhrai Bal Singh.
- (2) S. Harbans Singh.

*Hindus.*

- (1) P. Lal Chand.
- (2) Lala Krishan Gopal Bhandari.

Id DINNER IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, LYALLPUR.

**1077. Raja Muhammad Sarfaraz Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the articles in the *Inqilab*, dated the 25th January, 1985, and the *Ehsan*, dated the 23rd January, 1985, about the grievances of the Muslim students of the Government College, Lyallpur, about the Id dinner which was cancelled at the eleventh hour owing to the Principal's order of disallowing meat to be served ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action the Honourable Minister has taken in the matter ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that meat was served in the dinner given to the Inspection Committee from the Old Boys in the Government College, Lyallpur, on the 8th December, 1984 ;
- (d) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, why meat was disallowed in the Id dinner ?

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

(b) An enquiry was made from the Principal whose report is reproduced below :—

The students of this college celebrate religious festivals by the holding of common subscription dinners or evening tea parties, in which all three communities—Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs join whether the festival belongs to one community or another. On each of these occasions students form a small committee of three members, one from each community. This committee makes the arrangements for the function and issues invitations to a few friends of the College. The dishes served in these dinners have always been vegetarian, whether the occasion was Id, Guru Nanak's Birthday or Basant. This has enabled us to avoid food difficulties and all sit together at the same table.

The committee decided to celebrate the Id function on the 15th January, a week after the Id which fell on the 7th January, but later a difference of opinion arose among the students regarding the dishes to be served at the Id dinner. Some of them were in favour of having meat. The professor in charge, M. Hashmat Khan, told the students that there was no fun in having the Id dinner when they could not come to an agreement on this point and decided to cancel the dinner for the present. He had also suggested that the students might compromise by having egg and fish dishes. A majority of students agreed to this but some did not. The Id dinner could not, therefore, be held on the 15th January.

It will be clear from the above that this dinner was to be organised by students belonging to all communities and if the students could not come to an agreement on the dishes to be cooked the Principal is not to blame. There has been no interference in religious matters.

(c) Yes. Meat was served when the Inspection Committee were entertained in the Government College, Lyallpur, and this shows that the Principal has no prejudice against meat being cooked on the College premises.

(d) Does not arise.

#### MUSLIMS ON STAFF OF GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, LYALLPUR.

**1078. Raja Muhammad Sarfaraz Ali Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Muslims on the staff of the Government College, Lyallpur, and their ratio to the non-Muslim members on the staff ;

(b) whether it is a fact that since the inauguration of the Government College, Lyallpur, no Muslim Principal has been appointed there ;

(c) if so, what action he intends to take to redress the grievances regarding the paucity of Muslims on the staff of the College at Lyallpur, a district which is predominantly populated by Muslims ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The number of Muslims on the staff of the College is nine. Their ratio to the non-Muslims is 84.6 per cent., if only teaching staff is taken into account, otherwise 80 per cent.

(b) No. The College had a Muslim Principal for a few months when it was started.

(c) The number of Muslims can be raised only by fresh recruitment and this course is naturally slow.

#### PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

**Mr. President :** Under rule 8 of the Punjab Legislative Council Rules I nominate the following four gentlemen to form a panel of chairmen for the current session :—

Mr. J. D. Anderson ;

Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah ;

Mr. Labh Singh ; and

Pir Akbar Ali.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : I must begin with an acknowledgment of my indebtedness to my predecessor, Sir Henry Craik, for leaving the province in a sound financial position when he gave

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

over charge less than a year ago. Sir Henry with the aid of the Finance Department had to nurse the finances of the province through a very trying period. For three successive years before he took office there had been deficits in the revenue account of the province amounting to as much as 88 lakhs in the third year. These deficits occurred at a time of comparative economic prosperity, although prices had begun to fall. The full force of the economic blizzard fell in the first year of Sir Henry's tenure of office. In that year, however, the deficit was 68 lakhs or 20 lakhs less than in the preceding year: in the second year it was reduced to 4 lakhs only, while in the third year, by adopting a policy of severe retrenchment and stringent economy, he was able to achieve a surplus of 84 lakhs, and to estimate for a surplus in the present year of 51 lakhs. While the estimated surplus is, for good reasons, which will be explained later, not likely to be realized in full, the revised estimate is that there will be a surplus in the current year's account of 31 lakhs.

Another debt which I have great pleasure in acknowledging is to my late colleague, Sir Miles Irving, who built up the financial system of the province after the introduction of the Reforms of 1921 on foundations that have successfully stood the test of time and the strain of severe financial depression. Prior to the Reforms the system of provincial finance was entirely different from the present system. The various heads of income, such as land revenue and irrigation, were shared with the Government of India in varying proportions, and the province was, therefore, under the financial tutelage of the central Government. We had no real experience of financial control, and our system of accounts did not sufficiently distinguish between revenue, extraordinary receipts and capital. It was mainly due to the work of Sir Miles that order was evolved out of the confusion, and he has left behind him a code of financial procedure that has greatly lightened the task of a hard-worked department and has enabled Government and the Legislative Council to get a clear view of the financial position of the province. At the same time he supplied the Council each year with lucid budget memoranda, in which the dry bones of finance were garnished with those touches of imagination and humour which formed one of his most prominent characteristics.

I envy the Chancellor of the Exchequer whose budget speech is made some weeks after the opening of the financial year, whereas we in India have to submit our forecasts before the commencement of the period to which they relate. The Chancellor of the Exchequer knows the actual results of the working of the previous year, and can place before Parliament figures of actual income and expenditure instead of mere revised estimates. Consequently he need not concern himself with more than two years, the year that has actually closed and that to which the budget relates, while I must trouble you with figures of three years—1933-34, 1934-35 and 1935-36.

Speaking in February 1934 my predecessor estimated that the revenue of the year then closing (1933-34) would be 10.41 lakhs, while the expenditure would be 10.18 lakhs, leaving a surplus of 23 lakhs. The actual position turned out better than he expected. Revenue fell 3 lakhs below his estimate, but expenditure was 14 lakhs less than anticipated, and there was an actual surplus of 34 lakhs.

The budget estimate of the present year anticipated a surplus of 31 lakhs, but, so far as can be seen, the surplus will be 20 lakhs less. This is not due to any excess of optimism on the part of the Finance Department, but to the fact that after the budget was framed the Government decided to reduce water-rates by an amount that in a normal year would cause a drop of 86½ lakhs in this source of revenue. At the same time special remissions of land revenue amounting to over 20 lakhs have been granted, whereas only 15 lakhs of special remissions were anticipated.

On the expenditure side the budgeting was extraordinarily close. Disbursements will probably be only a lakh and-a-half above the budget estimate, and Mr. Ogilvie and the Finance Department have scored a distinct success in achieving such a close approximation to the actual result. When we study the agricultural character of the current year, I think we may congratulate ourselves on having come out of it so well. In character it closely resembled the conditions of the year 1932-33, when there was a serious shortage of water in the rivers during the critical months from April to June, and an almost complete cessation of the monsoon before the end of August. The wheat crop of 1934 was disappointing, and the desi cotton crop was disappointing in some districts. Fortunately prices kept up better than had been anticipated, and cotton prices especially were satisfactory, so that taking outturn and price together the cotton crop of 1934 worked out at least as well as in the previous year, when the crop was a bumper one but prices were poor. Although the climatic conditions of the closing year closely resembled those of 1932-33, we hope to end up the year with a surplus of 31 lakhs as against a deficit of 4 lakhs in the earlier period. While we may claim credit for achieving a surplus in spite of the reduction of water-rates and of special and ordinary remissions of land revenue amounting to 25 lakhs, we have had the benefit of a windfall of 7½ lakhs as the result of the conversion of loans bearing a high rate of interest into loans at a lower rate, and a further windfall of 3 lakhs due to reduction in the rate of interest charged by the Government of India on certain outstanding loans.

The surpluses of the past two years and the expected surplus of the present year have only been attained by the exercise of rigid economy. I think the House are already aware that in addition to the cut in salaries, which has been continued up to the end of the current financial year, the pay of all recruits to the provincial and subordinate services appointed after the 1st of January, 1931, has been reduced by 15 per cent. as a temporary measure until revision of the pay of these services can be completed, and all appointments have been made on a temporary basis, so that we shall be free to apply the revised scales when the revision is complete. The Government were at one time inclined to think that in view of the uncertainty as to the course of prices it would be better to retain this temporary basis for a considerable period, but it has now been decided to fix new scales of pay as soon as possible, and the scales of several branches of the service have actually been determined. The new scales of pay are considerably below those prevailing before the 1st of January, 1931, and will eventually result in a considerable reduction of our bill for establishment: but their full force will not be apparent until all officials permanently appointed before the 1st of January 1931, have retired. As an illustration of the continued anxiety of Government to economize wherever possible, I may invite the attention of the House

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to the fact that an examination of the establishments of district offices throughout the province has recently been completed by the Financial Commissioners with the result of an immediate saving of 1½ lakh in the bill for district establishment,—a very substantial economy. There is one economy, however, which will no longer be open to us, and that is the 5 per cent. cut in pay. As honourable members are doubtless aware, the Secretary of State has decided not to renew the cut in the case of services under his direct control, and the Government of India have announced that they will not re-impose the cut on the central services. Other local governments are following the same policy, and the Punjab Government have decided that it would be out of the question to continue the cut in the case of the services whose pay is entirely within their own control. The saving effected by the 5 per cent. cut was Rs. 16 lakhs *per annum*, and the next year's budget of expenditure will be increased by approximately that amount because of the decision to abolish the cut.

Before discussing the budget of 1935-36, a brief review of the principal heads of income and expenditure will, I hope, be of interest to members of the Council. I do not propose to enter into much detail; the Memorandum is the place for that; but if honourable members will kindly refer to the circular graph of revenue receipts for 1935-36, which is appended to the Memorandum, they will find that our income is derived from four main sources—land revenue, irrigation, excise and stamps. In the year 1933-34 these four heads provided 86 per cent. of our income, and it is well to examine their future prospects.

Land revenue is not an elastic source of income except when new canals are made and a large area of waste land can be brought under the plough. For the present, however, it looks as if we had come very nearly to an end of our colonization schemes. The only project of which there is any hope in the near future is the Haveli scheme, which would bring something like 9½ lakhs of acres of waste land under cultivation and would provide about 120,000 acres of Crown land for sale. The financial prospects of this scheme, however, require further investigation, and in any case its fate will depend to some extent on the decision of the claims of the Punjab, Bahawalpur and Sind to the waters of the Indus—a matter that has not yet been finally decided. The only prospect of any early extension of cultivation that can be foreseen at present lies in the full development of the Pakpattan perennial canal, which will probably bring from 80,000 to 1 lakh acres of waste land under cultivation and provide some 130,000 acres of Crown land for sale. This should furnish a welcome addition to our income from land revenue and water-rates. On the other hand, the settlement of the Lyallpur district, which is now in progress, is likely to result in an appreciable loss of revenue unless and until prices again rise. A decrease of even a small percentage in the assessment of that district is a serious matter, for it must be remembered that Lyallpur is much the largest revenue paying district in the province. The average receipts from land revenue since 1927-28 have been 257½ lakhs. The revised estimate for the current year is 283 lakhs, and the budget estimate for 1935-36 is 272 lakhs. This sum, however, includes 17 lakhs of receipts from rents for temporary cultivation, which from 1926 to 1934 were credited to extraordinary receipts. Apart from this addition, the

estimate would have amounted to 257 lakhs only. Even this figure would have appeared optimistic a month ago, but the recent excellent rainfall has practically ensured a good outturn of wheat and a large area under cotton.

Irrigation goes to a great extent *pari passu* with land revenue. In fact nearly 2 crores of receipts credited to irrigation consist in reality of land revenue on land which would not have come under cultivation but for the canals. The average income from irrigation since 1927-28 has been 387 lakhs: the revised estimate for the current year is 414 lakhs. We propose 409½ lakhs for 1935-36—an estimate that appears justified in view of the large area that is likely to be sown with kharif crops after the recent rain and also of the fact that river supplies are likely to be satisfactory.

Excise has been a disappointing source of revenue in recent years. In 1928-29 it produced 121 lakhs, but since that year it has fallen steadily till it touched bottom at 92 lakhs in 1932-33. In 1933-34 there was a slight increase to 94 lakhs. We are becoming accustomed to attribute all our difficulties to that convenient whipping-block, economic depression, and to it is generally ascribed the fall in our excise revenue. Doubtless it is in part the cause. We may hope too that there has been a growth of temperance among the people, but the prevalence of illicit distillation makes it a little difficult to accept this explanation, and we might hope to get back a lakh or two of what we have lost in recent years if the campaign against illicit distilling could be made more successful. Possibly a mistake was made in cutting down the preventive staff as a measure of retrenchment, and possibly local authorities have gone too far in the way of depriving moderate drinkers of facilities for obtaining licit liquor. After all intemperance in the matter of drinking is about the last charge that could fairly be laid against the people of the Punjab as a whole, and agitation against the moderate facilities that exist is hardly reasonable. The average income from excise since 1927-28 has been 105 lakhs: the revised estimate for the current year is 98½ lakhs. We may hope for 99 lakhs in the coming year.

The income from stamps is on the whole fairly steady. It was 121 lakhs in 1928-29, but fell to 103 lakhs in 1933-34. Obviously economic causes are largely responsible for the fall in this source of income, but it has been suggested to me recently that a mistake was made when we doubled the stamp fee on conveyances on immoveable property in urban areas in 1924. The result has been that the stamp duty on conveyances of valuable urban property is very heavy and people have naturally sought a way of evading it. I am not going to advertise methods of evasion by entering into details, but the Council will appreciate the seriousness of the matter when I say that a loss of duty amounting to Rs. 6,560 altogether has occurred in two concrete cases which have come to notice, and enquiry has shown that in the Lahore and Amritsar cities alone the monthly loss of stamp duty due to evasion is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000. These figures give food for thought, and some means such as the application of the Transfer of Property Act must be found to obviate this loss.

The average income from stamps during the last six years has been 113 lakhs. The revised estimate for the current year is 107 lakhs: we expect a slight increase to 110 lakhs next year, mainly as the result of the gradual improvement in the economic position.

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If honourable members will now kindly refer to the circular graph of revenue expenditure for 1935-36, they will see that our expenditure is spread over a large variety of subjects. Irrigation, including working expenses and interest on capital expenditure, absorbs the lion's share and accounts for roughly 332 lakhs of expenditure of which 187 lakhs is debitable to working expenses and 187 lakhs to interest on debt. Next comes the Education Department with a total expenditure of 160 lakhs; Police cost 122 lakhs; General Administration 109 lakhs; Administration of Justice 55 lakhs; Jails 30 lakhs, and so on.

In the General Abstract of the budget the total expenditure on Irrigation is somewhat obscured, because working expenses are not shown as expenditure but are entered on the receipt side of the account as a deduction from income. The items shown on the expenditure side are interest on debt and miscellaneous expenditure. But if we add all three items together, we find that the average expenditure of the last six years has been 353 lakhs; the revised estimate for the current year is 327 lakhs. We estimate an expenditure of 332 lakhs in the coming year. This is 21 lakhs below the six years' average, but 5 lakhs more than this year's revised estimate. The excess over the revised estimate occurs entirely in working expenses and is due to special provision for drainage schemes to cope with water-logging.

If we confine attention to the expenditure side of the budget only, it would appear that irrigation is our largest item, but irrigation produces a very large net income, and undoubtedly it is the Education Department which is responsible for the lion's share of our net expenditure. Honourable members will have noticed in the press that the Government of India have recently directed the attention of local Governments to their policy in the matter of education, and have suggested that it might be given a more practical turn so as to prepare youths for technical and industrial careers and not merely to furnish them with a literary education. This policy appears to have been endorsed generally in the press, but the approval is sometimes conditioned by a caveat that there should be no contraction of the present general education. It will be seen from the Memorandum accompanying the budget that expenditure on education is again approaching the level of the pre-depression years, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to extend the sphere of compulsory education and to make up the great leeway that exists in female education. Every one will admit that the latter at any rate is a crying need, and one way of providing the means for it, which has sometimes been suggested, is that all higher education should be made self-supporting, that is to say, that the charges made for higher education should be enough to cover its cost, liberal provision being made at the same time for scholarships to help poor youths of exceptional promise. This policy would at least have the merit of checking the growth of unemployment amongst graduates. I have brought this suggestion, which is of course by no means a new one, to the notice of honourable members in the hope that they will think out some means of dealing with the problem of the continued increase of expenditure on education. We do not want to limit it, but some means must be found of solving the financial problem.



The average expenditure on education during the last six years has been 162 lakhs, the revised estimate for the current year is 158 lakhs: we are estimating 160 lakhs for 1935-36.

The expenditure upon police has been very steady since 1929-30 except in the year 1930-31, when it rose suddenly by 6 lakhs owing to the Civil Disobedience Movement. Since then it has remained almost constant, though there was a drop of 1½ lakhs last year. Each year the Inspector-General is reducing the numbers of the extra police. In the coming year, however, we propose to make provision for a further instalment of the additional permanent establishment recommended by the Punjab Police Committee of 1925. This accounts for an increase of Rs. 81,760. Altogether the Police budget shows a rise of 1 lakh in expenditure as compared with the revised estimate of the current year. It must be remembered that the population of the Punjab grows apace, at the rate of about 1 per cent. per annum. Cities are increasing in size: the use of motor-cars and motor-buses is spreading rapidly; and these facts make an increase in expenditure on police inevitable.

There are increases under the heads General Administration and Administration of Justice, mainly owing to the discontinuance of the cut in salaries. Other variations are too slight to require notice, but I would draw attention to the fact that the beneficent departments are getting 7 lakhs more than the revised estimate of the current year.

An item of particular interest connected with next year's expenditure is the continuance of the appointment of the Commissioner of Rural Reconstruction for another year and the provision of 1 lakh for schemes that may be approved in connection with this movement. I think the Punjab may congratulate itself on being the home of the rural reconstruction movement. Long before it has become fashionable with either official or non-official agencies to try to improve the surroundings of the villager and to provide him with extra means of livelihood and with some recreation after his unceasing toil. Mr. Brayne had taken the work in hand with characteristic energy, and he was soon followed by several other district officers in the Punjab. He has outlived the initial period of criticism and ridicule, and now the whole of India is following his lead. In this connection you will find that it is proposed to increase the expenditure on agriculture by about 3½ lakhs over the current year's revised estimate. It must be remembered that agriculture is the only rural industry. The efforts of the department in discovering types of wheat, cotton and sugarcane suited to the different soils of the province have put many lakhs of rupees into the pockets of our zamindars. A considerable part of the extra expenditure now proposed is intended for the propagation of good seed, and a vigorous campaign with this end in view has been inaugurated. I am sure the House will agree that the extra expenditure proposed is thoroughly justified.

In connection with the Administration of Justice, honourable members are doubtless aware of the efforts made by the Honourable the Chief Justice, backed by the other Honourable Judges, to wipe off the arrears of appeals in the High Court. These efforts have been singularly successful, and we are providing in the budget for a reduction, with effect from the vacation, of two of the extra Judges who were recently appointed, while it is hoped

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that in time it will be possible to reduce the number of Judges in the High Court to something near the sanctioned cadre.

Another item of interest in the programme of expenditure for next year is the provision of half a lakh for the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty's reign, of Rs. 30,000 for Jubilee scholarships and of 3 lakhs for the new Council Chamber.

To revert to the subject of Irrigation, the Council will doubtless wish to know the position with regard to the Sutlej Valley Project. The cumulative capital outlay at present is 9·24 crores. The cumulative interest is 4·51 crores. The cumulative net revenue is 2·03 crores, and the resulting sum at charge is 11·72 crores. The position ten years hence may probably be as follows: cumulative capital 9·01, cumulative interest 9·89, cumulative net revenue 7·51, sum at charge 11·39 crores. In the year 1944-45 the Project will be paying 5·3 per cent. as against about 3·8 per cent. at present, and it is calculated to pay 6 per cent. in the year 1946-47. In 1931-35 we hope to assess 12·8 lakhs of acres irrigated; and in 1944-45 we hope to assess 13·61 lakhs, a comparatively small rise owing to the fact that the water available at the sowing season is limited.

The total direct expenditure is 31 lakhs of rupees, and it is not likely to increase over an average of years. The direct receipts in the year 1933-34 were 44·8 lakhs. This was favourable owing to good river supplies and the estimated direct receipts ten years hence are only about the same. The additional revenue that may be expected in future years from the Sutlej Valley Project is small, but capital payments for moderate land sales will help a little. Heavy fluctuations in irrigated areas and in revenue from year to year in the Sutlej Valley Project must be expected, because the water supplies in the river during sowing periods fluctuate considerably.

The other great project of the province about which the Council will desire to be informed is the Hydro-Electric Scheme. This scheme has cost 626 lakhs, of which 42 lakhs represent expenditure on local distribution. To this sum of 626 lakhs we have to add the enormous sum of 123 lakhs as accumulated interest charges, so that the total capital expenditure charged against the scheme comes to 749 lakhs. A considerable proportion of the interest charges, however, consist of purely paper calculations, because part of the capital was provided by extraordinary receipts on which Government has not paid any interest whatever. Moreover, the interest rates charged require revision, and I hope that it will be possible to reduce the enormous accumulated interest debit of 123 lakhs to an appreciable extent. In the year 1933-34 working expenses were 3 lakhs and revenue 5 lakhs; in 1934-35 expenditure will be between 6 and 7 lakhs and revenue between 11 and 12 lakhs, and each year it is anticipated that the position will get better and better. The Chief Engineer estimates that in the year 1938-39, after paying interest, depreciation and all operating expenses, there will be a profit of Rs. 1,40,000. Perhaps we should allow for a little natural optimism, but the Ministry is satisfied that the growth of load has been phenomenal, and there is good reason to hope that the Mandi scheme will lead to a definite industrial development in this province, which has hitherto relied almost

exclusively upon agriculture. At the present moment a survey is in progress to investigate the possibility of a system of tube-wells for irrigation purposes to be worked by power from the Mandi scheme. In this way Government hope that the rural population will share to some extent the undoubted benefits and amenities which the project has conferred upon residents of the towns.

I have now examined the main heads of revenue and expenditure, and it is time to look at the total result. For the year 1935-36 our estimate of total ordinary revenue is Rs. 10,89,16,000, which is less than the revised estimate of the current year by 8½ lakhs and is only one lakh above the actuals of 1933-34. We expect to spend Rs. 10,88,60,000 or Rs. 56,000 less than we receive. We have been able to estimate only for a barely balanced budget, and all proposals for future new expenditure will have to be jealously watched. But while economy must be observed, it would be a mistake to cut out of the schedule of new expenditure items such as the extra expenditure required for rural reconstruction and the propagation of the use of good seed. The latter item at any rate will in time be remunerative. Nor do I think it possible to cut the extra lakh for police, the extra 2 lakhs for education, and the other small increases in the beneficent departments. In fact the position is sound, but still demands caution. The worst of the economic depression would appear to have passed and the indications are in favour of a cautious optimism.

When the present constitution came into being, the province started with an accumulated revenue balance of 66 lakhs. At the end of the present year the revenue balance will be minus 83 lakhs, so that we have spent 149 lakhs more than we have received. This would appear to be a very unsatisfactory position, but we must not forget that the recent lean years have forced upon Government special remissions in land revenue, taqavi, malikana and rent to the extent of 365 lakhs of rupees and, in addition, a reduction in water-rates amounting to 36½ lakhs annually has been sanctioned. Moreover, in the same period we have received 845 lakhs of extraordinary receipts. Of this sum 66 lakhs represent receipts from rents for temporary cultivation and are, therefore, to be regarded as ordinary income. This reduces the revenue deficit since the Reforms to 83 lakhs. The balance of the extraordinary receipts amounts to 779 lakhs and has been spent mainly on works of a capital nature, which are producing revenue and in time will produce more. The results of the revenue account since the present Reforms came into being are, therefore, not nearly so unfavourable as would at first sight appear. Our balance at the end of 1934-35 will be about 165 lakhs, of which only 12½ consists of borrowed money, so that our position is a fairly strong one.

I have not dealt in any detail with our capital account, as this speech is quite long enough already. Honourable members will find the position fully explained in the Memorandum.

The Finance Department has suffered considerable vicissitudes in the past year. Mr. Ogilvie left us for special duty in the Government of India for half the year. Since his return he has had a very strenuous time in the preparation of the budget, and I am very deeply indebted to him for the great relief that his conscientious work has afforded to me personally.

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(*Hear, hear and cheers.*) I am sure that the Council will appreciate the extraordinary accuracy with which he forecast the expenditure of the current year, and will be grateful for the lucidity of the Memorandum, in which he has explained the details of the budget. While Mr. Ogilvie was away his place was ably filled by Mr. Grindal, who has been in the past year, as always, a tower of strength to the department. (*Hear, hear and cheers.*)

We suffered a very serious loss in Mr. Staig's appointment as Financial Adviser to the Army Department. His detailed knowledge of the working of the big spending departments and the sound advice, which he always tendered to the heads of those departments, have saved Government large sums of money. If we could have replaced him by an officer of anything like equal ability and experience, I doubt whether we would have reduced the post of Financial Adviser. We miss him badly, but are confident that what is our loss has been the gain of the Army.

To all the rank and file of the Finance Department I must express my deep gratitude for the excellent work they have done throughout the past year.

Finally, I would like to mention the great help received throughout the year from the Accountant-General. I have always found Mr. Bhandari anxious to co-operate. He has gone out of his way to point out possible savings in expenditure, and his lively interest in our financial welfare has been of the greatest value to the province.

Sir, I present to the House the budget for 1935-36. (*Cheers.*)

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M. on Tuesday, 26th February, 1935.*

## **PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

**5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

*Tuesday, 26th February, 1935.*

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P. M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### **GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY, ADDITIONAL AND TOKEN GRANTS, 1934-35.**

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I have to announce that the demands printed on the order paper are being presented on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor.

#### **EXCISE.**

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,500 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, 1935, in respect of Excise.

*The motion was carried.*

#### **IRRIGATION ESTABLISHMENT.**

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member) : I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,16,730 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 1935 in respect of Irrigation Establishment.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,16,730 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, 1935, in respect of Irrigation Establishment.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) : I move—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

My object in bringing this motion is to draw the attention of the Government first to item (1), surveys for tube well irrigation with power supplied from the Uhl River Hydro-Electric Scheme, and then to the second part of the demand which is discussed in Note (2). As regards the first it is gratifying to note that on account of the pressure brought to bear by the Council and by the zamindar members, as it is said in the explanatory note of Government, Government has thought it fit to supply energy for the purposes of agriculture, and some work in that connection has been started by the Irrigation Department. This particular demand is in connection with the

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money spent for survey and other work that was recently done. But I have now heard that the Irrigation Department is considering the question of handing over this useful work to the hydro-electric branch. If it is so, I would submit that it would not be a right step for Government to take. (*Honourable Revenue Member*: It is not so.) The work should continue as it is now done under the Irrigation Department because that is the department which is in touch with the zamindars and thus will be more useful than if the scheme is left in the hands of the Hydro-Electric Department. I am assured by the Honourable Revenue Member that this is not the case, and that this work will be done under the control of the Irrigation Department. I have, therefore, nothing more to say on the matter.

As regards the second part, in connection with the re-organisation of the hill torrent establishment of the Dera Ghazi Khan district, this again, I should say, is a very useful work. No doubt Government has been taking a very keen interest in eradicating the evil of hill torrents in that part of the district. So far this problem has been handled by the Revenue Department under the control of the deputy commissioner. Now suddenly Government has risen to the necessity of giving this particular work to a special officer who has just retired from the service. No doubt that officer has been in the district for a long time and knows the district very well and probably knows the difficulty in connection with hill torrents. But the present system, I am told by the zamindars of the district, has been quite satisfactory. I visited some time ago that part of the district in particular where hill torrents are doing a lot of damage near Rajanpur sub-division. I do not see why the new procedure is being adopted. If this particular officer is retiring another irrigation officer can take his place, and he will be useful in helping the department as much as the previous incumbent. Such actions of the Government naturally give rise to the suspicion in the mind of the public that these new appointments or changes are being taken in hand merely for the purpose of providing certain people. This officer who has just retired, I understand, is also doing some missionary work in that district. I do not personally know what type of missionary work it is, but I am told it is some religious missionary work that he is doing. In the explanatory note it is said that this officer has been very popular, and he knows the district, the local people and their customs well thereby earning their confidence. My information is—I do not know if it is right, it may be wrong, and I should like to know the facts from the Government—that the same officer applied to the deputy commissioner that he was in danger of being shot down by the people and wanted some guard, and that some guard was provided for him. If that is his popularity and if that is the confidence he has got with the people I do not think he will be very useful. The problem of hill torrents again is not a new thing that Government has found out. It has been there from time immemorial, and the work that was being done by the Revenue Department was quite useful. It was done in consultation with the Irrigation Department which has always been helpful. The appointment of a new officer at this stage when Government is trying to find money for useful work in other directions does not appear to be wise. I do not know what the officer's pay will be, whether he will get his pension, or whether he will get his pension and in addition

pay as executive engineer. But howsoever small the amount may be it is high time that Government should save even that sum. I have brought certain facts to the notice of Government, and hope that in the interest of the province and also in the interest of that particular area whatever measure is adopted will be adopted wisely and with care.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : As the honourable mover has pointed out, the steps that the Government is taking to provide electric energy to zamindars for agricultural purposes deserve our commendation. In fact the Government is implementing the suggestion of this honourable House in this matter. It was urged by the honourable members on the floor of this House that the Government should take early steps to provide electric energy to zamindars, and they have very kindly consented to do so. But another thing which is very important in this connection is this that the task of providing electric energy should be entrusted to the Canal Department as the officers of that department are fully conversant with the conditions and requirements of the zamindars. There is another matter to which I want to draw the attention of the Government. Electric energy can very easily be manufactured at the *jhals* of our canals. There are canal poles and everything is ready. Only with the addition of a simple apparatus the work of preparing electric energy from *jhal* torrents can be started. We will have to bear very small expenditure in this way and the difficulty of the zamindars who complain of the paucity of canal water will be permanently solved. I hope the Government officers will carefully consider this suggestion, and will evolve a scheme of preparing electric energy from the *jhals* as soon as possible. I am sure such a scheme will be of very great help to the zamindars who do not get sufficient supply of canal water. In my own district, in the Lower Jhelum *ilaga*, there are two kinds of irrigated areas. Some receive 75 per cent. of canal water and others get only 40 per cent. Now those people who get only 40 per cent. of canal water are always crying for more water supply but in vain. The officers always return the same answer, that is, sufficient canal water cannot be made available. If my suggestion is implemented the zamindars in our *ilaga* will be saved their present troubles.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member is not speaking to the amendment before the House.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** I have simply to request the Government that the duty of providing electric energy for agricultural purposes should be entrusted to the Canal Department. As far as the other aspect of the question is concerned I have no personal knowledge about it. If the situation calls for it, the Government should certainly do the needful in this respect. With these few words I support the motion now before the House.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member) : With regard to the first portion of the honourable member's speech, he himself has admitted that I need not dwell on that as I have assured

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

him that it is not the intention of Government that the work should be handed over to the Hydro-Electric Department. The whole thing is in an experimental stage. Preliminary enquiries have been made already. The Executive Engineer has been visiting different areas of the province, he has inspected the soil in different districts in order to explore the further possibilities of improvement in this direction. The Agricultural Department will now be consulted as regards the qualities of water, and the Hydro-Electric Department is also being consulted with regard to the supply and the rates and other matters. So, that question is settled. As regards the question about the hill torrents, I think my honourable friend will realise that the catchment area in Dera Ghazi Khan extends over 2,000 square miles. It is a big area, and it is not being controlled very satisfactorily. It was on this account that a question arose about the appointment of a special officer. I do not know about the popularity or otherwise of this officer, but I will inquire into the matter again.

As far as the whole scheme is concerned, I think everyone will agree, and particularly those who come from areas which suffer from hill torrents will realise what havoc those hill torrents play in those areas. For instance, my friend Chaudhri Afzal Haq, who comes from Hoshiarpur, will realise what an immense amount of harm the *chos* do in his district. So also do I realise what difficulties we have in my district on account of the hill torrents. The position in the Dera Ghazi Khan district is the same, in fact it is much worse. Government has very carefully considered the position, and come to the conclusion that it is not a very satisfactory arrangement that the Revenue Department should do part of the work and the Irrigation Department should advise them. This system has not proved satisfactory so far. As a result the mutation and other revenue work has suffered. Similarly the Irrigation Department has its own duties and responsibilities. It is very difficult really to do the work efficiently in this way, and the idea at present is that there should be a naib-tahsildar who should tackle the work in that district. The existing system of administration of hill torrents in the district has been under the control of the deputy commissioner with a staff of naib-tahsildars and others. With the help of the Irrigation Department the technical work has been dealt with to a limited extent, but it will be impossible to do the work satisfactorily. Similarly the Irrigation Department will not be able to devote so much time to this work, and it is really necessary to employ a special staff. I would now go and inspect on the spot and find out the truth of various allegations that the honourable member has made and as to the usefulness of the method. I think it is one of the most useful schemes, particularly in the poor tracts like Dera Ghazi Khan, where irrigation is bad and cultivation is worse. I think it is very important that this work should continue by a special staff. I, therefore, oppose this cut motion.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Medhi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): There cannot be two opinions about the usefulness of the training of these hill torrents, and the hill torrents in the Shiwaliks and the *chos* in Hoshiarpur bear witness to the usefulness of that work. But there are certain arguments advanced by Government which do not seem to be



very convincing. In the first place, it has been put down in the explanatory note that in the past the whole scheme has been worked out by Mr. Claxton under the supervision of the Revenue Department. If that is so, then there can be no point in carrying out a change in that scheme.

Secondly, it has also been said that the revenue work of the district is very light. If that is so, then the revenue staff can be very usefully employed on carrying out the scheme. In fact some of the naib-tahsildars will be still on this work. The argument that the naib-tahsildars are a shifting element does not seem to be very sound. The naib tahsildars who have had the experience of this work can be detained for this work for two years more. There can be no objection to the retention of two or three naib-tahsildars for this work. There are certain other districts in which this work is carried on under the supervision of the deputy commissioner in consultation with the Irrigation Department or the Engineering Department. I think there must be some executive engineer either in the Irrigation Department or the Public Works Department who can very easily be consulted for this scheme also. So if there is any absolute necessity that is another question, but this question should be taken into consideration in sanctioning the supplementary grant.

**Khan Bahadur Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani** (Nominated, non-official) (*Urdu*): So far as the question of hill torrents in Dera Ghazi Khan is concerned, only those can speak on the matter who have first hand knowledge of the subject. It is perfectly clear that the work on the hill torrents and non-perennial canals is of an identical nature. So the officials of the Revenue Department cannot be safely relied upon in the matter of control of the hill torrents as they have no experience in this line. Mr. Claxton has been in the district for a sufficiently long period, and he has started work on the scheme after great thought and calculation. His experience of the work and his knowledge of the place in which the work is to be carried out has made him eminently fit for the post he is holding at the present time. I am not aware if the people of the *ilaga* have or have not lost confidence in him. I cannot say that the allegation that he has lost all popularity has any foundations. But as the Honourable Revenue Member has promised to go personally to ascertain the truth or otherwise of the allegations, the honourable mover of this cut should be satisfied. Indeed it would be very good if the Honourable Revenue Member goes to the place himself and looks into the matter personally. If he finds that it is a fact that the people have lost confidence in that gentleman his services, of course, can be dispensed with and another officer appointed in his place. But the useful work should be continued as it is being done now.

Then comes the question whether a separate department is required to attend to this work. I think a separate department is certainly required for this purpose. Who does not know that the officials of the non-perennial canals have to do a lot of work. Only recently the superintending engineer had reported that the staff under him was over-worked, and that they should be given extra allowances. In fact the staff on the non-perennial canals has to face a very large amount of botheration. Their work is as uncertain as the uncertainty of the river beds themselves. Hill torrents have no definite and certain quantity of water-flow; so the work

[K. B. Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani.]

of the staff engaged to look after them is not very easy. It was in view of this consideration that in the very beginning a separate staff was appointed to work this scheme. If an efficient staff is maintained to carry on the work of this department it can bear many good fruits. In the first place great waste of water coming from hill torrents can be successfully checked, and it can be supplied to the thirsty fields of the zamindars. The scheme can be made a paying concern for the Government. Therefore, a separate department like this should be provided with a separate staff of its own and should be allowed to function separately. In the end I would request the honourable mover that he should withdraw his cut in view of the assurance given by the Honourable Revenue Member.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural): I rise to support the amendment under discussion. The effect of the new scheme will be that unemployment will go on increasing if retired Government servants are re-engaged. If there had been exceptional circumstances the question might be over-looked, but in this case the note says that the existing system of administration of the hill torrents in the Dea Ghazi Khan district has for years been under the control of the deputy commissioner with a staff of naib-tahsildars, moharrirs, peons, guards, etc. If for such a long time the district staff has been doing this work, why should the necessity arise for a change when a certain officer is going to retire? Then, again, in normal circumstances there would perhaps be no objection but as the honourable mover of the cut motion has said there is already existing in the minds of the people the fear that this gentleman is a sort of a missionary. If he is appointed, it will create a suspicion in the minds of the people that this gentleman is being re-appointed on account of his missionary activities. Why should this new arrangement be made on the retirement of this gentleman? It should have been made earlier so that the employment of an additional staff might be justified. But even if additional staff having technical knowledge of the work is employed, there is no question of re-employing the man who is being retired. Why cannot the executive engineer who takes his place carry on the work. It is a slur upon him, and if this officer is re-engaged because of the experience that he has gained, then there will be no end to the period for which his services may be required, and therefore this is not a question of his being re-employed for a year or two, but for a considerable number of years. Besides, my friend from Sheikhpura has said that in the Ambala district the question of hill torrents is even of greater importance. If that is so, why is not the additional staff being engaged there? Why is a retired engineer being employed to do this work. The argument which has been put forward by the Honourable Revenue Member is not at all convincing. There is no absolute necessity of engaging this gentleman who is doing a sort of missionary work. For this reason I think the appointment should be opposed and the cut should be carried.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq**: May I ask whether Government has any information that the gentleman concerned is doing missionary work?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan**: We have heard nothing about it.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Member ascertain?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Yes, I will ascertain. But I do not think there is any truth in the statement.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** I want to make my position absolutely clear. There are no two opinions that this is an important work, and that as far as the hill torrents of this particular area are concerned they must be checked. No one has said that this work is useless and that it should be stopped. It must be done most vigorously. The question is whether the scheme that Government has put forward is worth while being put into action. The Honourable Revenue Member has stated that he will himself go to the spot and make inquiries into the matter very carefully. I will request him to enquire whether this gentleman is a missionary or not. If he is not popular, if he has asked for a guard to protect him, as he was going to be shot, in case there is any truth in this, I do not think such a man would be useful, and no purpose would be served by the employment of such an officer. The hill torrents have to be checked and there is a scheme for it. It is said that the Irrigation Department has approved of that scheme. So much the better. The officer has done his duty as an executive engineer. His suggestion should now be followed by his predecessor under the control of the Revenue Department. Our whole object is to check these hill torrents, and something must be done to allay this genuine grievance. The point is that a really good and efficient man who will be able to serve the purpose which we all have in view ought to be appointed. I hope the Honourable Revenue Member when he goes there will go carefully into the matter and see that the appointment is not made simply for the purpose of providing an officer who is doing some other work and who wants to remain in that particular area. In view of the fact that the Honourable Revenue Member has promised to go into the matter very carefully I do not want to press my motion. I accordingly beg leave to withdraw it.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,16,730 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 1935 in respect of Irrigation Establishment.

*The motion was carried.*

#### DEBT SERVICES.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd (Finance Member) :** I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,500 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 1935 in respect of Debt Services.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,500 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 1935 in respect of Debt Services.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi, (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) :** I rise to oppose the whole demand. I want to invite the attention of Government to the fact that the rate of

[K. B. Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi.]

interest at which *taqavi* loans are advanced to the zamindars, is very exorbitant. There is plenty of money in the country, and even the rate of interest charged by the bank is not high. Under these circumstances, Government has no justification for charging an excessive rate of interest on *taqavi* loans.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I am sorry to interrupt the honourable member, but is this relevant? *Taqavi* has got nothing to do with this demand.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** If that is your ruling, I would make no further observation on this point.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please speak to the motion?

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** I was only submitting that it is not fair on the part of Government to charge a very high rate of interest on *taqavi* loans. Even a small province like Delhi has reduced its rate of interest from 6 to 4 per cent. Besides, there is no dearth of money in the province. In the face of these facts, it is only just and proper that Government should charge but a very low or nominal rate of interest on the *taqavi* loans advanced to the zamindars.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie (Finance Secretary) :** This demand is in respect of certain miscellaneous expenditure on the management of the Punjab debt. We have to pay the Imperial Bank a certain fixed sum—so far as I remember it is Rs. 2,000 per crore—for the management of our loans. At the time of preparation of the budget and revised estimates last year which this sum was provided for, it was not foreseen that a number of people would fail to encash their bonds. A number of these bonds are still lying in the Debt Office, and we have had to pay additional bank charges on this account. We are liable for two half-yearly payments after the final closing of the loan. That accounts for most of this extra expenditure.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,500 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, 1935, in respect of Debt Services.

*The motion was carried.*

#### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon (Minister for Education) :** I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,75,980 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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, 1935, in respect of Medical (Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,75,980 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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, 1935, in respect of Medical (Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) :**  
I move—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 77,500, purchase of quinine tablets "taptor" from Howards.

There is no doubt that we all like to see the epidemic of malaria eradicated from this province as early as possible. In fact one of the objects of the appointment of Commissioner of Rural Reconstruction was to look after the health and to improve the sanitation of rural areas. He has started on his work in full earnest, and he has suggested that some quinine should be purchased for distribution in rural areas. But it is really strange to find that this quinine is being bought from foreign countries when the Government of India is in a position to supply it and when even in the Punjab there is a good deal of that Indian stuff available. As far as I remember there is a circular which draws the attention of local bodies in this connection. I am myself connected with a local body, and I have therefore seen that circular which says that local bodies should purchase their quinine from the jails or from the Government of India. In the face of that circular one is surprised to find that when the Government itself wants to buy quinine it neither approaches the Government of India nor does it purchase from the local jail. It at once goes to a foreign agency and spends more than Rs. 77,000 for the purpose. If it can be urged that the quinine supplied by the foreign agency is of better quality or at least is cheaper, I do not think one can seriously object. But such is not the case here. Government should always give preference to the products of our own country. In the present case I do not see any justification for the Government purchasing quinine from a foreign agency. I also understand that the Government of India has got a huge quantity of quinine in store at the present moment. It always keeps huge quantities in stock for the purpose of distribution or sale to the provinces and to people who need it. I should, therefore, like to know from the Honourable Minister as to whether he consulted the Government of India before he approached the foreign agency, and what were the circumstances under which the Government had to buy the quinine from Howards.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 77,500, purchase of quinine tablets "taptor" from Howards.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) :** I rise to support the motion of my honourable friend. In the first place I may enquire why an effort should not be made to manufacture quinine tablets in our own jails to meet our requirements. While that will give work to the jail population, which at present is without much work, it will also prevent our remitting money to foreign countries. Government has always been preaching that quinine should be purchased from jails. But, why should not the Punjab Government act according to its own preachings? Why should it go to London to purchase such a huge quantity of quinine?

Another point I am not able to understand is, why should the Government go out of its way and buy and sell quinine? It should only advise the people and the people should get it from jails or from others. The

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

manufacturers of quinine are competent to approach the people and sell their stuff to them. For these reasons I support the reduction motion.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): I feel that before the discussion proceeds further I ought to throw a little light on the subject so that honourable members may not go off the rails, because they are not quite aware of all the facts. The honourable mover and his supporter are actuated by very high and patriotic motives of support for Indian industries. In that feeling they have my entire sympathy. But unfortunately, quinine is an article which is not grown in our jails nor in this country. Ninety-nine per cent. of quinine produced in the whole world is produced in Java with the result that the whole world depends entirely on the Dutch for its supply of quinine. Quinine produced in India is produced in Bengal and Madras, and that too in such small quantities that even the needs of those provinces cannot be met by that stock. The result is that whether it be the Government of India, the manufacturers in England or manufacturers in America, everybody has to depend on one source of supply and that source is Java. Now, whether we buy quinine from England or anywhere else it does not matter, because we are not thereby withdrawing any patronage from any Indian producer.

In the past the Punjab Government purchased quinine from the Government of India who had very large stocks of it in Calcutta. But the Government of India supplied us quinine in powdered form, and that was turned into pills in the Central Jail at Lahore. Four or five years ago a case of fraud came to the notice of Government where chalk was being mixed with quinine pills supplied to hospitals in this province. Government, therefore, considered that as far as the manufacture of pills in jails was concerned, it was very dangerous to put it on the market for sale because the reputation of the Punjab Government was at stake. The Government of India refused to supply us quinine in pill form because they had no system of turning their quinine into pills, with the result that we were obliged to look to some other source for the supply of quinine in pill form, and the only source which was considered to be most reliable was this firm of Howards whose quinine is well known to all honourable members of this House. Most of our best chemists in this province also buy their quinine from them. The Punjab Government officials therefore got into touch with the Howards for this purpose and were able to get the quinine from them at a cheap rate, at a rate much lower than the rate at which it is supplied anywhere in India or in the Punjab. So, there is no question of our patronising an English firm in preference to an Indian firm. No Indian firm is able to supply quinine at a rate cheaper than Howards. I wish to point out to honourable members that this quinine was to be distributed for purposes of sale. The purchaser has to pay a price for it. Therefore we wanted to put the very best article on the market. The Government of India quinine is a little yellowish in colour, and we felt that the public opinion was in favour of absolutely pure white quinine and we also thought that in the very first year it would be very dangerous to try to put yellowish quinine on the market. This was another reason why we went to Howards, whose quinine is pure white. I am in a position to inform the house that for the future we have come to an agreement with the Government of India that the latter should

sell quinine to us in pill form. They have agreed definitely to this and there will be a definite mark of the Government of India on the outside of each pill. There will thus be no danger of adulteration or impurity. Government of India have informed the Punjab Government that quinine has to be purchased from them, whether for purposes of sale or for purposes of free distribution. As long as we get it at a reasonable rate, which is lower than the rate at which it is available in the market there is no good for Punjab Government to purchase quinine elsewhere. But this year, being the first year of our new scheme we were pressed to buy quinine quickly before the monsoon season set in and so we had to order it from Howards. I hope that in view of the great demand and need for quinine in the villages where it is impossible to buy pure quinine, our action is justified for this year. I should like to know from honourable members most of whom come from villages as to how many villagers are able to buy pure quinine? We have done something real which should go a long way towards placing pure quinine within reach of the villagers and this is being done with the help and advice of an officer whose transfer to his post was brought about by a deputation which waited on His Excellency the Governor, my friend opposite being one of the deputationists. I hope I have given sufficient reasons to show justification for our action. This scheme was placed before the Standing Finance Committee which gave its approval to the expenditure of this one lakh of rupees and if we had not spent the money we would have missed one malaria season. With this assurance I hope the honourable mover will not press his motion.

**Pir Akbar Ali** (Ferozepore, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I had no idea of making any observation on this motion, but after listening to the interesting speech of the Honourable Minister for Education, I feel I must say a few words. The Honourable Minister has condemned the Punjab Government so severely and in such unequivocal terms that we can repose no confidence in this Government any more. It has been stated that the manufacture of quinine in the Central Jail was stopped because the supervision of that work was bad. I am afraid this argument is neither logical nor reasonable. If the supervision was bad, and cases of fraud had come to the notice of the Government, the best course was to improve that state of affairs rather than to put an end to the manufacture of quinine in the jail. So far as corruption is concerned, it is found everywhere. It is present in the Irrigation Department, Revenue Department, Public Works Department, and even in the Education Department. If there is corruption in these departments, our duty is to eradicate that corruption and not to abolish these departments. It is very strange indeed that the Punjab Government is unable to manage these things in a satisfactory way, and feels obliged to get quinine from England or other foreign countries. I submit, that this line of reasoning is not sound. Instead of getting quinine from other countries it would have been far better if the Government had devoted more attention to the management of this work in the jail, and had got these quinine pills prepared here. Had there been any other reason, for instance, that quinine could be got cheaper from outside, the matter would have been entirely different.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon**: Yes, we have got it cheaper.

**Sardar Habib Ullah :** Cheaper as compared with its supply from the Government of India ?

**Pir Akbar Ali :** Again, it has been stated by the Honourable Minister that the home of quinine is Java, and it is there that quinine is prepared on the largest scale and supplied to the whole world. Why did the Honourable Minister then not try to get it from Java and why did he place his order with an English firm ? Perhaps, we could get better quinine at a much cheaper rate from Java. With these words, I support the cut moved by my honourable friend, Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd (Finance Member) :** I am very sorry to hear about the delinquencies that have occurred in the jails. But, I understand that prosecutions were lodged in connection with this very matter of adulterating quinine or selling chalk in place of quinine. What could be done was done to secure punishment for those who were guilty. With regard to the future I understand that the pill making plant in the Lahore Central Jail has been condemned as obsolete. Whether it is to be replaced or not has not yet been decided. But for the present I do not think that the Lahore Central Jail is capable of supplying the pills that are required.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** I am very glad that the Honourable Minister for Education has cleared many points in his speech. My object was to bring to the notice of the Government the mistake they have done because people may ask the local bodies as to why quinine should not be bought from European agency. If they know that the quinine is bought by the Government from other agencies, naturally they would have no faith in the quinine supplied by our jails and by the Government of India. They would certainly think twice before going to that agency because they would say that the Commissioner for Rural Reconstruction is sending out quinine made by certain foreign agencies which is not the agency of the Government. So it is in the interest of the Government that in future it must be made clear that no such means would be adopted for buying quinine or even anything else which you can find in this country. With these words I beg to withdraw my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,75,980 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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, 1935, in respect of Medical (Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### ----- AGRICULTURE.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture) :** I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 74,440 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 1935, in respect of Agriculture.



**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 74,440 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Agriculture) to defray the charges that come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Agriculture.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) :  
I move—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,820, one Provincial Marketing Officer in the Punjab Agricultural Service.

Where the Punjab Government and the Punjab Province are known for their advanced views in developing the country on different lines, there is no doubt that they are also known for starting work from the wrong end. They wanted to have the Hydro-Electric scheme and leaving their own resources just at their own door, they went so high into the hills and spent crores and crores of rupees. No doubt it is for the development of the country. They would certainly like to kill malaria, but with foreign quinine. In the same way they also like to control hill torrents, but only by very objectionable methods. Here also I would like to know the position in respect of the provincial marketing officer that Government intends to appoint. I am told that certain departments want to get rid of their officers. They have too many officers in their department, for instance the Forest Department, and they press the other departments to provide posts for these retrenched officers and I am told that the marketing officer is being appointed out of such lot and he is a forest officer. I do not know what his qualifications are. If really such people are going to be appointed as marketing officers, I hardly think that the purpose we have in view will be served. It is a very important subject and we have to press that for the development of our country and for the development

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of agricultural produce, efficient and really good people who can handle these problems should be appointed.

I have, therefore, brought this motion to know from the Government their scheme in connection with the appointment of these officers.

**Mr. President :** Motion is—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,820, one Provincial Marketing Officer in the Punjab Agricultural Service.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : The honourable member began by commending the development schemes which the Punjab Government have introduced from time to time. He was not sure whether the methods employed were correct and he cited certain examples. These examples may be characteristic not only of the Government but of the people of the Punjab and particularly of the tribe to which he and I belong. (*Laughter*). Now regarding the history of this scheme of appointing marketing officers, the slump in prices has brought home to the Government the need of finding ways and means for marketing our surplus produce. A great deal of attention has been paid to find if there is a margin which would enable us to export our produce to England. Last year it was discovered that a very small margin could have enabled us to do so. The need of studying marketing was strongly pressed upon the Government of India and the Government of India agreed to create a marketing staff at the centre. They have now appointed Mr. Livingstone who has been imported from the Ministry of Agriculture in England.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Again imported from outside ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Yes, again from outside. He has been imported to guide and control the new department. Mr. Livingstone has secured a grant for provinces to employ marketing officers. Punjab has received a grant of Rs. 20,000 a year, for the next five years. The condition of this grant is that we should provide a senior provincial officer and appoint three assistants to be provided from this grant. Now, regarding the personnel, which we have selected for these appointments, it is true, that in the beginning, services of a forest officer were utilised to prepare the ground for this scheme. This forest officer was particularly interested in economics and had been a professor at Dehra Dun. He has done a good deal of spade work. We have, however, realized that we must have an agriculturist familiar with agricultural conditions to deal with marketing of agricultural produce.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** But without any business instinct in him.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Is not that again, if Chaudhri Sahib would permit me to say, applicable to all the men whom he always recommends for appointments to these posts ?

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** We cannot share in what is going on there.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The honourable Pandit has abdicated his normal position—

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** Nobody can understand the Honourable Minister's psychology. (*Laughter*).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** That is the honourable member's fault. The officer we have secured is Sardar Kartar Singh who has been Associate Professor at the Agricultural College, Lyallpur, officiating in class I. He studied dairying in various parts of India for two years; took study leave for 13 months and joined University College, Reading, studied dairying and animal husbandry and agricultural economics there; obtained National Diploma in dairying, worked as Farm Manager, Lyallpur Agricultural Station for over two years. In 1925 he started inquiries into the "Farm Accounts in the Punjab," and carried out some very useful investigation into expenditure on various farms of the Agricultural Department, which resulted in considerable economies. He has published a thesis entitled "Notes on Dairying," "a paper on the value of cotton cake for dairy cattle," "Accounts of different systems of Farming in the Canal colonies of the Punjab," "Farm Accounts in the Punjab 1927-28" and "Farm Accounts in the Punjab 1929-30." There is no one in the agricultural service who has devoted as much attention to the marketing and economic side of the farming as he has done. Then we have selected Chaudhri Zafar Alam as one of the assistant marketing officers. He is B.Sc. in Agriculture (1925). He was engaged in oilseeds research in the Botanical Section from 1926 to 1933, when he proceeded to England for post graduate study in oilseeds botany. He is still there and hopes to obtain M.Sc., and return in July. He is the best qualified agricultural assistant in this

line in the Punjab. To the third post we have appointed Bhai Pritam Singh Diol. He is M. Sc. in Horticulture and has devoted a great deal of time to the study of marketing of fruit. For livestock we have appointed Lala Hans Raj who is F. Sc. of the Punjab University with Biology and Organic Chemistry as essential subjects. He had brilliant career at the Veterinary College, Lahore, worked in Dhani Cattle Breeding Scheme area for two years and was in charge of the slaughter-house for three years. I am sure the honourable member will recognise that we have made as good a selection as we could, from the officers that we had at our disposal. I am hoping that this department will be of great help in finding ways and means for marketing our produce. This is quite a new subject and I think it requires a great deal of interest and attention and the support of this House to be successful in its working. I trust that the honourable member will withdraw his motion.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** After hearing the Honourable Minister I do not want to say anything and I only wish to withdraw the motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 74,440 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, 1935, in respect of Agriculture.

*The motion was carried.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS (RESERVED).

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan (Revenue Member) :** I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,400 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, 1935, in respect of Miscellaneous (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS (TRANSFERRED).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture) :** I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,340 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Miscellaneous (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### CIVIL WORKS (RESERVED).

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd (Finance Member) :** I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,500 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

## CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 75,600 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works—Establishment.

*The motion was carried.*

## SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 70,260 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, 1935, in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.

*The motion was carried.*

## REFUNDS (TRANSFERRED).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I move—

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,08,900 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture, and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Refunds (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

## EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND.

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

That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,200 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, 1935, in respect of Expenditure in England (other than stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India.

*The motion was carried.*

## IRRIGATION.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member) : I move—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Irrigation Expenditure met from Ordinary Revenues.

*The motion was carried.*

## CONSTRUCTION OF IRRIGATION.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member) : I move—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Construction of Irrigation.

*The motion was carried.*

JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I move—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements.

**Mr. President** : Motion moved—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : I have read the note that is given in relation to this demand. It is rather astonishing that so much money should be needed for the surplus jail population there. We understand that in November, 1931, Government required certain camp jails for the surplus jail population. Now there is no kind of agitation going on in this province such as the one in the non-co-operation days. We should like to know why the number of prisoners has not gone down. Is it that the ordinary crime in the province has increased? What is this fact due to? As a matter of fact, it is a very sad state of affairs if ordinary crime has gone on increasing in spite of the steps taken by Government. Is it due to mismanagement of the police department that they cannot prevent crime? What is it due to? I think some explanation is absolutely essential before we approve of this demand.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala Division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : Whatever justification there may be for a jail at Shahpur, there is none for the jail at Attock. The latter jail is not a jail at all. It is an open *bara*, a cattle shed. There are no arrangements for hard labour and there is one thatch under which prisoners live. A great many hardships are borne by them during the winter season. Both the staff and the prisoners are put to trouble during that season on account of accommodation being bad, of very poor character and absolutely unfit for serving as a jail. It was definitely said in 1932 that when the Kashmir civil disobedience movement stopped, the jail would be abolished. The Inspector-General also visited the place and the movement has stopped. But for some reason or other, the Punjab Government has persisted in maintaining the jail. It is a disgrace to call it a jail. Some of the prisoners enjoy a good many amenities there being no provision for hard labour. The only hard labour that is provided is the knitting of ropes. Grinding and other things are not done. If there are a few prisoners doing this labour, the others are enjoying life. As for the jail officials who live there they find it difficult to pass their whole time in solitary isolation. For this reason the jail at Attock should be abolished. We do not see that there is overcrowding there. Possibly there are 300 prisoners—I have not got the correct figure—and they can very easily be accommodated in other jails. That will save these people, the privations to which these people are put and also a large amount of expenditure, on maintaining the extra staff and providing, howsoever, temporary sheds for the people. As for the jail at Shahpur, I think that deserves to be abolished also, if for no other reason at least for this that it used to be a tuberculosis hospital once. It has been modified and made into a jail and people there say that a large

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

number of tubercular germs lie buried under the big platform near the compound of the jail. Everyone is apprehensive of catching tuberculosis there at any time and many of the officials would run away from the place but they are not transferred. If they clamour for transfer the threat is held out that their posts will be reduced. I know of a certain mechanic who was there before but whose post has been reduced now. To keep these two jails is persistence and nothing else. As the honourable member has said there is no fear of any unlawful movement in the near future. Why then should Government continue these jails? Should there be unfortunately another movement, within a short time you can convert any building into one and use it for a jail. The honourable members who have seen these jails will endorse every word I have said. Both the officials and the prisoners pray that these jails should be abolished. They are cut off from society, they are living in a malarious place. Malaitola where the Attock jail is located is just on the banks of the Indus. A part of the Indus in fact flows through the jail compound. They say that tubercular germs though they have been buried alive for a long time they can get out. I have seen that two persons have caught tuberculosis while living there. (*Honourable Finance Member*: Is it a fact or is it only an allegation?) I can justify my statement for when I went to visit the jail I found two men suffering from tuberculosis. They were said to have been quite hale and hearty when they were taken into the jail. There were these two and I cannot say whether there were many more. Government are no doubt in possession of facts and statistics. I am giving the version of the people of the place. In many cases the people are correct and not we who are sitting here. It is the people who are actually suffering who are the best judges and not we sitting at a long distance from the place in this chamber. I hear an honourable member saying that there is no malaria at Attock. I do not think that will be supported by any one who knows the actual conditions in that jail. A river passes by and indeed passes through the jail and everyone knows that where there is abundance of water malaria is sure to abound. Mosquitoes swarm there and breed malarial germs. (*Honourable Revenue Member*: The current there is so swift that it is impossible for any malarial germ to exist.) Malaitola is the name of the basti where the Attock fort jail is located and the river flows through the jail and people take water right in the midst of the jail. How can any one maintain that the place is free from malaria when the fact is that not only malaria but cholera, mosquitoes and other epidemics and every kind of disease has visited this place. Why should Government at all insist on continuing these jails? Do they think that there is sufficient accommodation in them, that they are fully equipped with the necessities of a jail, that there are quarters for the jail staff and that the jails could be permanently continued there? Why should Government keep a temporary shelter which was meant to serve the purpose of a jail during those days when the Kashmir civil disobedience movement was in progress? Now that we are in times of peace why cannot better accommodation be provided elsewhere. I should think that it is nothing but sheer persistence upon one point of view on the part of Government in this action of theirs. This is the view held not by myself but by the inhabitants of the area. I trust that honourable members here who have seen the jails would endorse every word of mine. With these words I oppose the grant.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan** (Attock, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I belong to the Attock district and I can say with authority that there has never been any complaint of malaria in or near the jail located in the fort which is situated about two hundred yards above the river level.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit**: Does the honourable member mean to say that the germs of malaria are carried away by the river water? (*Laughter.*)

**Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan**: There is neither grass nor verdure in abundance to make the locality a breeding place for mosquitoes which may help the spread of malaria. We have never heard of any outbreak of malaria in that locality. Of course I am at one with the honourable member when he says that there is absolutely no necessity for the jail there. About that the Honourable the Finance Member has been pleased to say that he intends to visit the jail in April next and close it down if he finds the conditions there very unsatisfactory.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: Yes.

**Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan** (*Urdu*): The honourable member from Ambala has visited the jail only once and he has evidently carried with him wrong impression. As a matter of fact, there has never been any outbreak of malaria in Malaitola, District Campbellpur.

**Mr. J. W. Hearn** (Home Secretary): This Council agreed in 1933 and also last year that these two jails should be continued in view of the high population. The population on the 1st January, 1933, was 23,407, on the 1st January, 1934, it was 24,911. On the 1st January of this year the population was 23,416. In other words, it was practically the same as it was in 1933 and 1,500 less than it was in 1934. The total accommodation which is afforded by the jails, including emergency accommodation as well as permanent accommodation, is for 23,144 prisoners. In other words we are about 250 prisoners in excess of accommodation. The question whether the Attock jail should be continued or not is now under the consideration of Government. At the present moment there are 300 prisoners in that jail and I personally think that it may be possible to close it down but that requires very careful examination.

The decision already made in respect of the Shahpur Jail is that it should be continued for one year more. As regards Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan's allegation regarding the health of this jail, I may say that the medical opinion is that there is absolutely no danger whatever of contagion.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): It is not so much the question of unsuitable climate which has been raised by some of the previous speakers as a reason for closing down the two temporary jails, as of accommodation which can be made available in the permanent jails of the province for the three hundred extra prisoners now confined in these temporary jails. The House is perhaps aware that the number of prisoners in the jails of the province was much larger in 1929, the year in which Civil Disobedience Movement was started, than it is now. The Government at that time set at liberty a large number of prisoners whose

[Ch. Afzal Haq.]

term of imprisonment has not yet expired but who were due to be released after a short time. This step was taken because the Government knew that accommodation would have to be provided for many prisoners convicted in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement. The Government can take, if, of course, it so desires, that step even now and I may say that nothing is more easy than that. At this moment there are many such prisoners confined in the jails of the province who have already served about 20 years' term of imprisonment and even more. I think I shall not be wrong if I say that some of them have already spent 25 years of their lives in these jails. These prisoners ought to have been released long ago even according to a rule in the Jail Manual if that rule had been in force and if it had not been suspended by the Government in 1928. According to that rule even those prisoners who had been condemned for life, used to be set at liberty after a term of 14 years or in any case their cases were examined with a view to setting them at liberty after fourteen years. Ordinarily no prisoner used to be detained in jails after a term of fourteen years. But now since that rule has been suspended many of the prisoners are rotting in the jails for more than 20 years and one cannot say for how long more they will rot in these jails. In this unfortunate country no one cares to know or enquire why they are there for such a long time. Sometime ago when I was a non-official visitor of the jails I mentioned the cases of such prisoners in my reports and every time I went to the jails I used to enquire in my reports as to when they will be released. But it appears that my efforts in that direction have borne no fruit as I find that many of them are still confined in these jails. The Lahore Conspiracy Case prisoners who were sentenced to imprisonment for life in 1914 have not so far been released. In any case many of them are still serving their sentence although it is now more than 20 years since they were sent to jails. These prisoners ought to have been set at liberty long ago particularly when they are unable to do any work and last of all to take part in any agitation. The prisoners who were sentenced to imprisonment in 1918 and in 1919 also ought to have been released in view of the special remission that they have since earned. But no one cares for them and the Government has no sympathy for them. There is yet a large number of prisoners in the jails of the province who belong to the North-West Frontier Province and many of them can be released if the Government only feel any sympathy for them. To make room for these three hundred extra prisoners the large number of under-trial prisoners who are to be found in every jail can either be released on bail or can be tried more expeditiously only if the Government care to draw the attention of the judicial officers to their pitiable lot and to their own sense of duty. The Government, in short, can find so many ways to achieve this object only if it so desires. When it was able to find accommodation for as many as 2,500 extra prisoners in 1932, I wonder why it should not be able to accommodate three hundred extra prisoners who are now confined in these two temporary jails for which this money is being demanded. I know that when it desires to do anything it does it whether it is reasonable to do it or not. Of course, it is never prepared to do anything, however reasonable, when it is asked by the public or its representatives who, it knows, have no power to enforce their will. We also know our weakness and, therefore, prefer keeping quiet.



**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram** (Multan division, non-Muhammadian, Rural): I want only to add a few words to this debate. The expenditure of Rs. 50,000 is not very much but if it can be saved it should be saved. As a non-official visitor of the Lahore Central Jail whenever I go there I find at least 300 under-trial prisoners in that jail and I have noticed that some of them are being tried under sections 411 and 379. Although some of these offences are not bailable, they can be treated as bailable according to the discretion of the magistrate.

I have found under-trial prisoners in our jails who are being tried for sections 411, 379, 408 and 409 which are not very heinous offences, and I have always noted down that so many under-trial prisoners should not remain in such an important jail as the Lahore jail but no notice is taken of my remarks which I must have made about a dozen times at least, and still the number is just the same as ever. I mentioned this to the District Magistrate of Lahore and he thought that the number was not very high. If the District Magistrate of Lahore thinks that the number is not high, then how can he reduce it? But if a warning is given to the district magistrates especially at Lahore that there should not be kept so many as 300 under-trial prisoners in the jail, then surely the number can be reduced. One of my friends who inspects the jails of the province says that the Attock Jail is malarious. I saw the jail myself when I went to inspect it in connection with Akali cases. It is built on the top of a hill, and the prisoners have to live there in the extreme cold of the months of December and January. They are in extreme danger of getting pneumonia as they live not in any buildings but in open sheds and tents. I am sure these prisoners can be accommodated elsewhere, and this saving of Rs. 50,000 can easily be made if the Home Department can accommodate all these prisoners in other jails. This money can then be better utilised and some reduction in the *abiana* can then be made.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I sometimes think that some imp of mischief possesses my honourable friend Pandit Nanak Chand. When he raised the mischievous question, I do not think he was really interested in these two items. The real truth is that we have more prisoners than the sanctioned accommodation and they have got to be accommodated somewhere. We have had in existence the Attock Jail which was opened in a special emergency. I think during the first civil disobedience troubles and later again during the Kashmir troubles. We have had that in existence and if we abandon it, it will be very difficult to get it back again because the Attock Fort belongs to the Army. That itself is not a sufficient reason for maintaining it, but the accommodation is undoubtedly wanted. I cannot see why Attock is a worse place than any other for keeping surplus jail population. The legend that it is a malarious place has, I think, been disposed of effectively by two non-official members. Now we have had the hair raised that it is a place where prisoners would be subject to pneumonia. I do not remember hearing any complaints, there certainly were no complaints in the last winter with regard to that and I think the honourable members can understand that pneumonia is not a matter of open air or cold air, it is a matter of shut doors and windows and want of air and I think Dr. Rahman will support me there. During the War for four or five years soldiers lived in open trenches

[Hon'ble Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

with rain beating upon them and they said they were never more fit in all their lives. It is not cold and open air that gives people malaria, it is ill-ventilated rooms that give it. On the score of health there is nothing to urge against the Attock jail.

With regard to conditions there, I am not quite sure what Chaudhri Allah Dad's complaint was. He said that the prisoners had nothing to do, that there was no work for them to do and then again that they were enjoying all kinds of amenities. He complained, on the other hand, that they were suffering untold hardships. I do not know what his complaint is, but I hope to go to Attock after the session and see things there with my own eyes. If the place is really unsuitable I will take steps to have that jail closed down.

With regard to the Shahpur Jail, all I can say is that our medical advisers advise us that there is no risk whatever and I have certainly heard no complaints since I became Member that tuberculosis has been spread by putting healthy prisoners into that jail.

But there is one very important matter that I must speak about. Chaudhri Afzal Haq has just said in effect that prisoners are being illegally detained in jail beyond their time. That may have occurred once or twice possibly in ten or twenty years through some extraordinary oversight, but one can practically say with certainty that a prisoner is never detained beyond the correct time.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** There are some prisoners who have served more than twenty years.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I believe there has been only one case in which Government paid compensation to a prisoner who through some mistake was detained two or three months beyond his period. But it is a mistake that can hardly occur, because checks are ample and it is only by a most extraordinary mistake that a man can be detained beyond the period of his sentence. Perhaps Chaudhri Afzal Haq's contention is this that people sentenced to transportation for life should not be detained in jail after fourteen years.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** They should not be detained after twenty years. That was the rule before 1928.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** To begin with I think the honourable member's interpretation of the Jail Manual is totally incorrect. There is a paragraph in the Manual, paragraph 516-B, which says—

The case of every convict sentenced under sections 121, 122, 302, 311 or 396, Indian Penal Code, to transportation for life and of every convict sentenced to cumulative periods of rigorous imprisonment aggregating more than 14 years who has undergone a period of detention in jail amounting, together with remission earned, to 14 years, shall be submitted through the Inspector-General for the orders of the Local Government.

But a sentence for life is a life sentence and the local Government have legal power to detain anyone sentenced to transportation for life for the whole period, that is, until he dies. But the local Government do not do so. They review the sentence from time to time, first of all after fourteen years and then at further periods which are fixed by Government and when it is thought

fit the prisoner is released. The grounds on which Government think fit to release or not to release prisoners are a matter into which I need not enter at the present moment. But it is perfectly clear that Government has power to detain these prisoners. However, there has been no case where a prisoner has been detained beyond his legal period. Were it otherwise, the courts exist and the relatives or the sympathisers of these prisoners would have gone to these courts and got them released.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** May I rise to offer a word of explanation? What I wished to draw the attention of the Government was that before 1928 every prisoner was released as a rule after 14 years or 20 years, but after 1928 Government made this rule that these prisoners should not be released even after twenty years.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements.

*The motion was carried.*

#### CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I move—

That a token sum not exceeding 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a token sum not exceeding 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

**Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah** (Jhang, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : I rise to oppose this demand and in so doing I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that there is no pacca road connecting Jhang with the headquarters of the province.

**Mr. President :** That has nothing to do with the item under discussion.

**Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** There is a provision in this demand for metalling the Nankana Sahib-Mangtanwala Road.

**Mr. President :** What is the grievance of the honourable member which he wishes to ventilate?

**Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** My grievance is that there is no good road connecting Jhang with the head-quarters of the district.

**Mr. President :** This is not the time for discussing that matter. When the general budget is before the House the honourable member may ventilate that grievance.

**Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** I oppose the demand with a view to bring to the notice of Government that more important roads such as the one connecting Jhang and Lyallpur are being neglected by Government.

**Mr. President :** Does the demand under discussion relate to the road referred to by the honourable member?

**Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** My submission is that the money now provided for the Nankana Sahib-Mangtanwala Road should be spent for improving more important roads of the province such as, Lyallpur-Jhang road that is in Class I and connecting Jhang with Lyallpur and eventually with the headquarters of the province.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member may, if he feels so advised, oppose the grant, but he cannot propose that the amount should be spent on some other object.

The question is—

- That a token sum not exceeding 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### CIVIL WORKS (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE) (TRANSFERRED).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I move—

- That a token sum not exceeding 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Capital Expenditure) (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

- That a token sum not exceeding 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Capital Expenditure) (Transferred).

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to oppose the whole demand under consideration. The work for which Government makes this demand is not imperatively necessary at present. The amount can be provided for in the general budget for the next year. Why should the Government spend all this money within the short time that yet remains of this year in order that a few Government officers may enjoy it? Every time the Government has been professing that it does not incur expense unless it is absolutely essential. That is what the Honourable Finance Member said in his speech presenting the budget. In spite of all this it is not clear why the Government proposes to incur this expenditure in this part of the year. It is said that the expenditure has been incurred. If the work was really so urgent, I really wonder why the Government should have anticipated the vote of the Council. It could have come to the Council for sanction at any time. The Council has been sitting almost every month ever since October last and if the Government felt an immediate necessity for this expenditure it could have easily sought the sanction of the Council earlier instead of carrying out the work in anticipation of the Council's sanction. For this reason I think the expense is unfortunate and it is unfortunate that the Government has already incurred it without taking the vote of this House.

4 P.M.

This is not a new thing for the Punjab Government to incur expenditure in anticipation of the Council's vote and then come to the Council for a vote. There have been many instances of this sort. Last year I drew attention to a case where expenditure incurred some three years ago was brought forward for the vote of the Council. At that time

the Honourable Finance Member said that there were certain circumstances which prevented them from coming before the Council in time. But in this case what is there to have prevented them from coming to the House for a vote in time. Therefore in order to give a lesson to the Punjab Government that they should not anticipate our vote in this way, we should refuse this demand. Let the Government have it in their own way. They will have a guidance for the future. Let them not consider that the Council is a mere toy to be played with and twisted as they like. We must see that the Government realise their full sense of responsibility. If the Government go on spending money in this way, what are we here for? We should guard the finances of the province and it is our duty to do so. Otherwise we will be failing in our duty.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): I am sure that honourable member will agree, that at my age, I am not capable of any high jumps and if he had carefully read the memorandum supplied to him, he would not have made the remarks that he has now made. The memorandum makes the position quite clear—

The demand was not included in the previous supply estimates as it was to be determined to what extent funds for it could be found from savings reported in the second list of excesses and surrenders. The savings reported therein indicate that the full amount of Rs. 90,000 to be spent this year can be found within the existing grant under the major head. A token demand is, therefore, made for the vote of the Council.

Not only that, the sanction of the Standing Finance Committee has been obtained. The honourable member may not like to have the facility of having electric lights and fans in Government buildings, but those who work in the buildings need it. The honourable member says that the Standing Finance Committee does not represent the House.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: Is the Council bound to accept anything which the Finance Committee sanctions?

**Mr. President**: Certainly not. No one has said that.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh**: The note makes it clear, as I have said and I am sure the House will agree to its sanction.

**Mr. President**: Question is—

That a token sum not exceeding 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, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Capital Expenditure) (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh**: I move—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 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, 1935, in respect of Hydro-Electric Scheme (Capital Expenditure).

*The motion was carried.*

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M., on Thursday, 28th February, 1935.*

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## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, 28th February 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES.

**\*4082. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Veterinary Services, Punjab, is shortly proceeding on leave; and, if so, when and for how long;
- (b) whether any proposal has been made as to who will officiate in his absence;
- (c) if the proposal is to appoint the senior-most officer to officiate, whether any proposal has been made as to who should officiate for the latter officer as Professor of Medicine?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes, with effect from the 9th April, 1935, or any subsequent date he may avail himself of it.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

#### VETERINARY OFFICER, SIMLA.

**\*4083. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the gradation of the officer who is in charge of the Civil Veterinary Department at Simla;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the officer in charge of the said hospital has now been in Simla for the last ten years; and, if not, the exact length of time for which he has been there;
- (c) why no other officer has been given a chance at Simla and whether it is proposed to transfer that officer from Simla; if so, when?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) The officer at present in charge of the Veterinary Hospital at Simla is a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon in the scale of Rs. 100—10—150/10—200/10—300.

(b) No, he has been in charge of the hospital since 11th November, 1926.

(c) The question will be considered when the occasion arises.

PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, VETERINARY COLLEGE.

**\*4084. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that early in 1934 or shortly before, the post of Professor of Medicine at the Punjab Veterinary College, Lahore, fell temporarily vacant for about a year ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that an officer of the Civil Veterinary Department was deputed to work as Professor of Medicine against this vacancy ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is an Assistant to the Professor of Medicine at the Punjab Veterinary College ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the officer mentioned in (c) had officiated as Professor of Medicine on certain previous occasions ; and, if so, how many times and for how long ;
- (e) whether the said Assistant to the Professor of Medicine was on duty at the Punjab Veterinary College when the vacancy occurred ; and, if so, why the chance was not given to him ?

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

(b) Yes ; but the officer was already working in the College.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes ; on the following six occasions, in the absence of a better qualified officer :—

- (1) from 1st October, 1925, to 31st October, 1925 ;
- (2) from 6th May, 1927, to 2nd July, 1927 ;
- (3) from 13th March, 1929, to 12th November, 1929 ;
- (4) from 22nd September, 1930, to 8th April, 1931 ;
- (5) from 9th April, 1931, to 16th October, 1931 ; and
- (6) from 12th April, 1932, to 1st November, 1932.

(e) Yes, the Assistant was on duty at the time, but he was not appointed in the vacancy because a better qualified officer was available.

L. V. P.'S VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4085. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact—

- (a) that L. V. Ps. are being appointed at Rs. 51 per month in the Punjab Civil Veterinary Department ;
- (b) that the prospectus of the L. V. P. course of the Punjab Veterinary College states the grade offered to L. V. Ps. as Rs. 100—10—300 ; if so, why the latter pay is not offered to them ?

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

(b) Yes, on account of lack of vacancies in the original grade at the present time, rather than keep qualified candidates out of employment, they are appointed on this lower scale.



## L. V. P.'s VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4086. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the L. V. Ps. are considered better qualified than G. P. V. Cs.; and, if so, how many district veterinary hospitals have been allotted to the former and how many of the important hospitals?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Yes, L. V. Ps. are considered better qualified than G. P. V. Cs. Thirty-one L. V. Ps. are at present working in veterinary hospitals at district headquarters. As the word "important" occurring in the question is not clear, I regret I am unable to give an answer. All hospitals situated in rural areas are regarded as important.

## MUHAMMADAN VETERINARY ASSISTANT SURGEONS, RAWALPINDI.

**\*4087. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Muhammadan Veterinary Assistant Surgeons of Rawalpindi Circle have reported to the Director of Veterinary Services, Punjab, about the mal-treatment being meted out to them by their present Superintendent and what steps have been taken in the matter; and if no steps have been taken, why not?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** No such representation has been received by the Director, Veterinary Services, Punjab.

## VACANCIES IN P. V. S., CLASS I.

**\*4088. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a few vacancies in the P. V. S., Class I, have been recently filled for the Punjab Government by the Public Service Commission; and, if so, how many;
- (b) how many names were recommended for appointment by the Director of Veterinary Services in the first instance;
- (c) whether it is a fact that some additional names were submitted by the Director subsequently, and, if so, under what circumstances;
- (d) how many of the names mentioned in (c) were forwarded to the Public Service Commission and how many were withheld and the reasons for withholding those names?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) There were seven vacancies in the Punjab Veterinary Service, Class I, and as provided in rules 10 and 11 of the rules for the Service, names of eligible officers were submitted to the Public Service Commission for selection.

(b) Seven.

(c) Yes, some officers applied and their applications were forwarded by the Director, Veterinary Services.

(d) None was forwarded as the applications were received after the Government had referred the matter to the Public Service Commission and the names already submitted were considered sufficient.

## APPOINTMENT TO VETERINARY SERVICE, CLASS II.

**\*4089. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a post of Punjab Veterinary Service, Class II, in the Civil Veterinary Department of the Punjab has been given to a member of the subordinate service of the Punjab Veterinary College ;
- (b) whether he was the senior-most member of the subordinate service in the College or in the Department ; if not, how many have been superseded by his appointment and why ?

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

(b) In the College no ; in the district cadre yes. He superseded 5 men, but his promotion is in a temporary vacancy only and without prejudice to the claims of his seniors.

## TRAINING IN PATHOLOGY IN VETERINARY COLLEGE.

**\*4090. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an M.R.C.V.S. man is getting training in the Pathological section of the Punjab Veterinary College at Government expense ; and, if so, why and whether this privilege is being accorded to other M.R.C.V.S. men also ; and, if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Yes ; an M. R. C. V. S. is working voluntarily in the Pathological Section of the College, but he is not getting training at Government expense. On the contrary, on account of his usefulness and aptitude, Government is the gainer. Opportunities to work voluntarily at the College have always been accorded to those M. R. C. V. S. men who have expressed a wish to do so.

## SUBORDINATE POSTS, VETERINARY COLLEGE.

**\*4091. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that two subordinate posts at the Punjab Veterinary College have recently been converted into P. V. S. Class II posts ; and, if so, since when ;
- (b) whether the men who have been working against these posts have been actually promoted to the P. V. S., Class II, or not ; and, if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes, from the 16th June, 1933.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

## TIRNI TAX.

**\*4092. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that *tirni* tax is being levied from *desi gujars* and zamindars, by the Forest Department through the tahsils ;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that prior to this the *tirni* tax was either paid by the *gaddis* or *ban gujars*, who used to graze their cattle either in the reserve or other jungles ;
- (c) whether Government is aware that the zamindars and *desi gujars* do not graze their cattle either in reserve or other jungles ;
- (d) if the reply to (c) above be in the affirmative, why the poor zamindars and *desi gujars* of the Kangra district have been harnessed with *tirni* tax this time ;
- (e) what action the Government propose to remove the *tirni* tax levied now from *desi gujars*, zamindars and villagers, who do not graze their cattle in reserve forests ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REST HOUSE, KOTLA.

**\*4093. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Kotla P. W. D. Rest House in the Nurpur tahsil has been expunged from the list of P. W. D. Rest Houses ;
- (b) if so, why ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government intends to auction the building of the said Rest House ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jegendra Singh :** (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

CASUAL LEAVE.

**\*4094. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the P. W. D., Irrigation, Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, and all other offices subordinate to Punjab Government, 20 days' casual leave (i.e., ten days' sick plus ten days for urgent work) is allowed during a calendar year ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that only 10 days' leave is granted in the Punjab Civil Secretariat ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that casual sick leave is also included in the same 10 days' casual leave ;
- (d) if the reply to (c) above be in the affirmative, whether Government is aware that it is too inadequate for emergent and sickness cases ;
- (e) what action Government propose to enhance 10 days' casual leave to 20 days (both sick and emergent casual leave) alike other offices in the Punjab Civil Secretariat as well ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** (Chief Secretary) :—(a) Government have no information on this point. The rules regarding casual leave are contained in Chapter 6 of the Subsidiary Rules (Punjab Financial Handbook No. 2, Volume II), a copy of which is in the Council Library, and give entire discretion to Heads of Departments to grant such leave to their subordinates, subject to the limitation prescribed therein. Government have no reason to believe that these rules are not being uniformly applied in all subordinate offices.

(b) and (c) No.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### DUTY ON HOLIDAYS IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

**\*4095. Thakur Pancham Chand** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindu subordinates of various Departments under the Punjab Government are detailed for duty on Hindu festivals and they are consequently unable to observe the festivals ;

(b) what action Government proposes to take in the matter so that members of various communities may not be detailed on duty on their respective festivals ;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the Civil Secretariat if the duty of a Hindu falls on some Hindu festival, he has mutually to arrange with a non-Hindu for exchange, and in case of failure to arrange an exchange he has to come on duty on that festival day ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** : (a) It has very occasionally happened that Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or Christian subordinates have been required to attend office on the day of a festival which has been notified as a public or local holiday ; but as far as possible, the duty rosters are so arranged as to permit subordinates to enjoy a holiday on the day of a festival which is deemed specially sacred by the members of the community to which they belong.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of what is stated in (a) above.

#### EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS AND INSPECTORS.

**\*4096. Thakur Pancham Chand** : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of excise sub-inspectors and inspectors, selection grade, communitywise ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** :

	Muslims.	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Others.
Excise Inspectors, Selection grade.	2	1	1	Nil.
Excise Sub-Inspectors, Selection grade.	3	2	Nil	Nil.

OFFICIATING SUB-INSPECTORS OF FISHERIES.

\*4097. **Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the educational qualifications of M. Karam Bakhsh and M. Abdullah Khan, Deputy Sub-Inspectors, Fisheries, who have recently been appointed as officiating sub-inspectors of fisheries at Gurdaspur and Dera Gopipur, respectively ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these officials cannot read and write English at all, for which reason they have been held up at the efficiency bar in their substantive post of deputy sub-inspector of fisheries ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the records of the office of the sub-inspector of fisheries are maintained in English and all correspondence is conducted by these officials in English ;
- (d) if the reply to (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, why these non-English knowing men have been appointed as officiating sub-inspectors of fisheries ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) M. Karam Bakhsh has studied upto the vernacular middle standard and M. Abdullah Khan has passed the 5th primary vernacular examination.

(b) They do not know enough English at present and their fitness to cross the efficiency bar will be considered when they have acquired a reasonable standard of proficiency in English.

(c) Part of the correspondence of the sub-inspectors of fisheries is ordinarily conducted in English and part in Urdu, according to the persons to whom it is addressed and the records of their offices are maintained accordingly.

(d) They have been promoted to officiate as sub-inspectors of fisheries, because their technical work has been satisfactory and qualifies them for such promotion on the condition that they acquire a knowledge of English sufficient for the requirements of their duties.

FISHERIES RESEARCH.

\*4098. **Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) how much money has been spent on fisheries research since the appointment of the Fisheries Research Officer (including salaries of staff) ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Fisheries Research Officer has been in-charge of the fish-cultural experiments at Madhopur and Chenewan tanks ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the tanks at Madhopur were closed in 1930 on account of the failure of experiments ;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that no results of any practical value have been achieved from the Chenewan tanks upto the present ;
- (e) if replies to (b), (c) and (d) above be in the affirmative, whether there is any justification to continue spending more money on fisheries research ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Approximately Rs. 1,68,000 since 1st April, 1920, when the fisheries research officer was appointed.

(b) Yes.

(c) The experiments were temporarily discontinued on account of financial stringency.

(d) The Chenewan tanks were intended primarily for breeding carp in order to study its spawning habits and the factors which bring about successful spawning.

Spawning appears to depend almost entirely on the extent of the rainfall during the monsoon season and in years when this rainfall was low no spawning took place. The experiments are thus hampered by a factor outside control. Spawning under controlled conditions has actually taken place in three out of the twelve years since the study was begun.

These tanks have also been used for a study of the fish enemies of carp and for breeding certain species of larvicidal fish which are important in the control of malaria. Such fish have been supplied to a large number of individuals and institutions during the last three years or so.

(e) Extensive research on fish is most essential. The fisheries research officer is at present undertaking further study at Cambridge and on his return it is proposed to intensify this line of work.

#### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

**\*4099. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that prior to the post of assistant director in the Director of Agriculture's office, the work was done by Extra-Assistant Director of Agriculture ;

(b) the classification of duties between the Director and the Assistant Director of Agriculture ;

(c) whether Government proposes to take any action to reduce the status of the assistant director's post to that of extra-assistant director as it was before?

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

(b) The assistant director deals with routine, technical and administrative duties not involving matters of precedent. The Director of Agriculture deals with important cases, matters of precedent and policy, etc.

(c) No.

#### LAW COLLEGE STAFF.

**\*4100. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the present numerical strength of each community of the—

(a) teaching,

(b) administrative, and

(c) clerical,

staff of the University Law College, Lahore, stating also the number of agriculturists of each denomination in (a), (b) and (c) ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

RECRUITMENT OF DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGES.

**\*4101. Chaudhri Mohammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of gentlemen recruited from the Bar as district and sessions judges since the establishment of the High Court at Lahore, specifying the number of recruits from each community and stating how many of each denomination were statutory agriculturists ;
- (b) what proportion the appointments made from the Bar during this period bear to the appointments made by promotion of subordinate judges ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle (Chief Secretary) :** (a) Four. Two being Muslims and two Sikhs. Only one of these four was a statutory agriculturist and he was a Muslim.

(b) The ratio works out to 4 : 13.

CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIP.

**\*4102. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the provincial numerical strength of each community on January 1, 1935, on the list of approved candidates for public prosecutions, stating also how many of each denomination were statutory agriculturists ;
- (b) similar figures for the same date—
  - (i) of those whose names were on the prosecution and defence lists of the High Court ; and
  - (ii) of those who were counsels to the Commissioner of Income-Tax or to any other public department ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) and (b) (i) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the reply given to starred Council question No. 4064<sup>1</sup> asked by Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah on 25th February, 1935.

(b) (i) The numerical strength of each community on the Crown list and the defence list was as follows on 1st January, 1935—

	Crown list.	Defence list.
Hindus .. .. .	16	9
Muslims .. .. .	7	5
Sikhs .. .. .	2	1
Others .. .. .	2	0

I am to express regret that the details given for the Crown list in the reply to Council question No. 4064 (starred)<sup>1</sup> were incorrect owing to a clerical

<sup>1</sup>Page 106 ante.

[Hon'ble Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

error in the figures supplied to Government by the High Court. Government have no information as to which of the advocates on the Crown and defence lists are statutory agriculturists.

STAFF OF INDIAN LAW REPORTS, LAHORE SERIES.

**\*4103. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the number of Muslims who have been members of the reporting or editorial staff of the Indian Law Reports, Lahore Series, since January 1, 1926, and if none, why no Muslim is appointed a reporter?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

REFRESHER COURSE, VETERINARY COLLEGE.

**\*4104. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a refresher course was started at the Punjab Veterinary College, Lahore, for the benefit of veterinary assistants ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that it was originally stated that veterinary assistants could join this course at their own free will ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that contrary to (b) veterinary assistants were forced to attend it ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that veterinary assistants have to pay all the expenses incidental to this course including the coming and joining expenses and the period they spend in the course is counted as privilege leave ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that after the refresher course the veterinary assistants attending it are often transferred to other stations at their own expense, though their families may be at their previous station of posting and their children attending school there ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that in some of these transfers even joining time is not permitted ;
- (g) if the answers to parts (a) to (f) be in the affirmative, whether Government is prepared to give compensation to those veterinary assistants who have suffered in the past from this procedure ?

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

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, but they were not charged tuition or lodging fees.

(e) No ; on the contrary in cases brought to the notice of Director, Veterinary Services, where transfers had taken place after the refresher course, travelling expenses were allowed.



(f) No such case has been brought to the notice of the Director, Veterinary Services, so far.

(g) Does not arise.

#### HOSTEL SUPERINTENDENTS.

**\*4105. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the allowances of the hostel superintendents of all the government educational institutions were stopped two years ago owing to financial stringency ;

(b) whether Government is prepared to consider the question of restoring the boarding house superintendence allowances in view of the importance of the duties involved ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Superintendents of hostels or boarding houses receive no special pay, but are provided with free quarters where such quarters exist, or where such quarters do not exist, with an allowance in lieu of rent-free quarters not exceeding ten per cent. of their pay.

(b) In view of the financial stringency Government regrets that it cannot reconsider the question of special pay to the superintendents of boarding houses.

#### LAW REPORTING COMMITTEE.

**\*4106. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state how the Law Reporting Committee of the Lahore High Court is constituted and what functions are assigned to it at present ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### STAFF OF INDIAN LAW REPORTS, LAHORE SERIES.

**\*4107. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the rules governing appointments to the editorial and reporting staff of the Indian Law Reports, Lahore Series, and state the length of time for which it is contemplated by the rules that each appointment should be made ;

(b) whether reporters are allowed to take advantage of their official position to report for newspapers cases to which they owe their access in their official capacity ;

(c) whether an instance of such abuse as is mentioned in (b) has been brought to the notice of the authorities and whether any disciplinary action is being taken against the offender ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## EXAMINERS IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES.

\*4108. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq** : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the present examiners in deputy commissioners' offices in the Punjab were appointed on Rs. 40 and Rs. 80 per mensem, respectively, on the distinct understanding that their grades will be fixed later on ;
- (b) if so, whether the grades have been fixed ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** : (a) The reply to the first part is "yes." The reply to the latter part is that the intention merely was to reconsider these appointments on the general revision of salaries. There was no understanding that the rate of salary would be increased as a matter of course.

- (b) Does not arise.

## COPYISTS IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES.

\*4109. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq** : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the copyists in most of the districts in deputy commissioners' offices are getting higher pay than the present examiners ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the examiners in sessions courts are getting 10 per cent. on the whole of the copying fee ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the examiners in the High Court establishment are working on Rs. 75-5-125 per mensem ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that in tahsils, the attesting officers of copies are getting 10 per cent. on the whole of the copying fee in addition to their pay ;
- (e) if the answers to the above questions are in the affirmative, the reason why the examiners in deputy commissioners' offices do not either get graded pay or are given 10 per cent. on the whole of the copying income, in addition to their pay ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** : (a) A statement showing the average monthly earnings of copyists in the year 1933-34 was furnished with the reply to Council question 3800\* during the last session. From that statement it would appear that generally speaking the honourable member's suggestion is not correct.

- (b), (c) and (d) Yes.

(e) The examiner's pay was provisionally fixed at what was regarded as the proper economic wage and deputy commissioners have found no difficulty in recruiting at the sanctioned rate.

EXAMINERS IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES.

**\*4110. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that every official in deputy commissioner's establishment except the examiner is getting graded pay (pensionable or non-pensionable) ; if so, the reason why the examiners are treated as an exception to the rule ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The reply to the first part of the question being negative, the second does not arise.

FILE-FETCHERS IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES.

**\*4111. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that file-fetchers in deputy commissioners' offices are getting Rs. 30—1½—70 per mensem ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** File-fetchers on Rs. 30—1½—70 per mensem are employed in three districts only.

JUNIOR CLERKS.

**\*4112. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government letter No. 1945-E., dated the 17th May, 1933 (Revenue Department) regarding establishment in which it is clearly laid down that the posts of junior clerks should be filled by selection from among (i) apprentices and (ii) non-pensionable staff including examiners and section copyists is being strictly observed ;

(b) if so, how many posts of junior clerks fell vacant since the date of issue of the above letter and how many examiners were taken in those posts ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No. For the information of the honourable member a copy of the rules<sup>1</sup> of the Punjab District Subordinate Service Rules, 1933, is laid on the table. He will observe that under rule 10 (e) " apprentices and non-pensionable staff including examiners and section copyists " are not the only class out of which the posts of junior clerks are to be filled.

(b) The information asked for is, however, being collected and will be supplied when available.

BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : I congratulate the Finance Secretary on the lucid notes and memoranda he has attached to the big volume of our annual budget. He has turned himself into a perfect *baniya* from a strong man of the Indian Civil Service. I wish I could also occasionally turn myself into a

<sup>1</sup>Placed in the Library.

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*baniya* half so easily. He has put in a good deal of hard work in preparing the budget and I congratulate him and the subordinates who work under him for the hard work and industry that they have brought to bear upon their work. The Finance Member has a very capable lieutenant to help him and I am sure that being new to his job, he will find Mr. Ogilvie very useful to him indeed.

After these preliminary remarks I wish to offer some comments on some aspects of the budget. I am very sorry that I have not been able to give the same attention to the budget this year as I used to give before. I have been extraordinarily busy during the last week. However, I shall just follow the order which has been followed by the Honourable Finance Member in his budget speech, and offer such comments on the various aspects of the budget as I think necessary.

The first point that strikes one is that the budget is a balanced budget. It is not a surplus budget, but it is not easy even to get a balanced budget in these days of depression. That is a matter for congratulation to all of us. But I desire to warn the House against one thing. A balanced budget or even a budget with a surplus for the matter of that is not necessarily an indication of the return to normal times. I am absolutely sure that a balanced budget in the case of our own province is no indication that prosperity has returned to the people as it seems to have done to the budget itself. I do not seek to minimise the importance of a balanced budget. It is a very important thing. It raises the credit of the province and we gain in so many various ways by having a balanced budget that it would be stupid on the part of anybody to minimise the importance of a balanced budget. But at the same time let us not be misled by the fact that the budget has been balanced. So far as the Government is concerned it is a matter of great value, great importance. At the same time we ought to remember that it does not reflect necessarily the prosperity of the people. My own reading of the situation is that the Punjab population, particularly the agricultural population, is anything but prosperous and stands as it ever did before in need of great relief in the matter of taxation.

Another point which strikes one is that the Finance Department has been able to make a saving of over 7 lakhs of rupees by conversion of loans. This is a practice which was followed last year and I think it is a practice which should be followed in an increasing measure wherever circumstances permit. Another gain which the Finance Department expects to make is a reduction of about 3 lakhs of rupees in consequence of a reduction in the rate of interest by the Government of India. This is also a matter for congratulation to all of us.

The budget speech of the Honourable Finance Member also makes a reference to the new scales of pay. He has informed us that in the case of most of the provincial and subordinate services new scales have been decided upon but they have not so far been announced and probably it will take some time before effect is given to the new scales of pay. Whether the Government is or is not awaiting the fixation of the scale of pay for imperial services, that is, for the services recruited by the Secretary of State himself, is more than I can say. But I think the House has a right to expect an early

announcement on the subject. It would have been a very good thing if leading members of the Council had been taken into confidence and even actively consulted so that Government would have had the benefit of the considered advice of those who represent the people in this House. However these things seem to be done by Government in its own peculiar fashion, and though the responsibility for delay would be that of the Government yet I may disclose my own feeling in the matter. I feel that the time has come when an announcement should be made and the people ought to know what the salary budget is likely to be in the future. One of the possible reasons for this delay in announcement is that the imperial services have to be paid on a very lavish scale and in order to narrow the gap between the scale of salaries allowed to imperial services and the scales of the provincial and subordinate services the latter also have to be pitched high. It is a very important subject. The country is very poor. The Punjab is just as poor as any other part of our country. The finances of India cannot bear the burden which has been placed upon them by authorities over whom this House or the local Government has no control. On behalf of the section of the public which I represent I wish to make it quite clear that we desire to see the salary bill made as light as it can possibly be made. I shall have to refer to this subject later on.

Another salient feature of the budget is that the 5 per cent. cut has disappeared. So far as the members of Government service are concerned, they would certainly welcome it. As the Government of India has already announced that it is going to restore the remainder of the cut originally imposed in respect of their own central services, I think there is a good deal of force in the contention put forward by the Honourable Finance Member that the local Government could not very well retain the cut in respect of provincial and subordinate services. But so far as the general masses are concerned, so far as the representatives of the people in this House are concerned, they cannot view with equanimity the loss of Rs. 16 lakhs, which will be occasioned by this restoration. It is perfectly true that the cut was imposed in the first instance only temporarily in order to tide over a particular difficulty. But at the same time we must remember that we have to spend a very large proportion of our annual revenues on salaries and it would have been a very good thing if this 5 per cent. cut, in fact even the full 10 per cent. cut, had been made a permanent feature of the salaries allowed to the servants of the Crown.

I was speaking half a minute ago about the high scale of salaries allowed in our country and also to the fact that our budget has been balanced. I also said that a balanced budget did not necessarily mean return to prosperity of the people. I wish to draw the attention of the House to another aspect of the same question. So far as the local Government is concerned, its budget is balanced, it is true. But let us just examine what steps Government has had to take in order to make the two sides of the budget balance. Beneficent departments have been starved. Education Department has had to curtail the scale of grants which it used to make previously to local bodies and to private schools. Grants to municipalities have been cut down. Grants to district boards have been reduced. If anybody cared to study the budget of district boards he would be deeply struck by the immense difficulties which every district board in the province probably has to face.

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I can speak on behalf of the district board of Rohtak. In the last three, or perhaps four years all annual increments to the staff had to be stopped, all grade promotions had to be stopped, many schools had to be closed. Even this year on account of the fact that we were not in a position to make the two sides of the budget balance each other we have had to pass a resolution that all grade promotions should be stopped and all non-flourishing schools should also be closed. On the one hand this is the state of things. On the other because the local Government has the whip hand in the matter the district board of Rohtak is being forced to make contributions towards institutions which ought to be paid for by municipalities or by the local Government itself. There is a provincialised hospital at Sonapat. The district board has to make a grant of Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000 every year to that provincialised hospital. There is a provincial hospital at the headquarters of the district and the district board has to make a grant of Rs. 6,000 annually to that hospital. There is another provincialised hospital at Beri and the district board of Rohtak has been compelled to make grants to it. There is a hospital which ought to be paid for by the Gohana municipality which is, however, being maintained by the district board of Rohtak because the local Government gave a hint that the district board ought to take over that hospital. In this way the district board of Rohtak has been spending Rs. 16,000 annually on the maintenance of institutions which ought to be maintained by somebody else. And yet it has had to close down its own schools and it has had to stop the annual increments of its teachers. These are the conditions which seem to have enabled the local Government to balance its budget. A budget balanced in this way has no intrinsic value, because Government has power to refuse its grants to local bodies or to scale down the grants that it has been making. So far, it has been able to balance the budget by resorting to this unhealthy practice. It does not mean that the province as a whole has made any progress in any direction. My humble contention is that if the facts which I have disclosed in respect of the district board of Rohtak are approximately true of district boards in other parts of the province, the local Government is, in order to obtain a balanced budget, compelling district boards to run in the most inefficient manner and under conditions which are bound to cause dissatisfaction among their employees which, in its turn, will mean a serious deterioration in the service expected of these boards.

The next point which I desire to touch is the question of the Bhakra Dam Scheme. The Bombay Government has now expressed its agreement in the conclusion that if the waters of the Sutlej are held up at the site of the Bhakra Dam the supply of waters to the province of Sind will not suffer in any way. Therefore the objection which the Bombay Government had put forward to the construction of the Bhakra Dam is no longer in the field, and it is up to the Government that it should now take vigorous steps to put that scheme into execution. I know that some difficulties have been raised by some Indian States but by a little gentle persuasion or even a vigorous persuasion these States can be brought round easily. In fact, I am sure that if it had been anything in which Government had felt a special concern these Durbars would have given their consent long ago. I would leave things there. So long as the Bhakra Dam Scheme does not materialise

I should suggest that tube-well irrigation may be resorted to in the Karnal district and canal water released for the drier parts of Hissar and Rohtak. The suggestion is no mere theoretical fad. It has been adopted as a definite policy by the United Provinces Government, which has introduced tube-well irrigation in certain tracts in order to release the waters of the Ganges for those portions which are not now enjoying the advantages of irrigation. Therefore pending the execution of the Bhakra Dam Scheme I would respectfully request the Government to introduce tube-well irrigation in some parts of the Karnal district and set free the canal water used there for use in Hissar and Rohtak.

There is also reference to the Haveli Project in the budget speech of the Finance Member. It has been stated there that Sind and Bahawalpur have put forward their claims to the waters of the Indus and until that question is settled, Government cannot do anything with respect to the Haveli Project. I do not know whether the principle has been conceded by the Punjab Government, without a protest or after a protest, that the waters of the Indus belong, in the first instance, to the Punjab and it is only the surplus left after the Punjab has taken all the water it requires which can be claimed by Sind and Bahawalpur. After all this river passes through our territories in the first instance, and so long as we stand in need of its waters there is no reason why we should not take as much supply as will meet our needs, but if the principle that Sind and Bahawalpur State have as good a claim to the waters of the Indus as we have has already been conceded then of course I can only say that the Government has made a mistake in conceding that principle. Steps should be taken to put in hand this Haveli Project so that it may bring under irrigated cultivation another 80 or 100 thousand acres of land and some more area may be available for sale.

Another very important point to which I drew attention last year and draw attention of Government over again is the change in classification. Extraordinary receipts were used to be taken as including receipts from rents of land under temporary cultivation. The receipts of this rent are now regarded as revenue. I think this is not a sound policy, particularly at a time when we are to pass to another stage of reforms and financial settlements may have to be made with the Government of India. I would remind the Government of what happened in 1921 when on account of the fact that the Punjab seemed to be in a very prosperous condition we received terms from the Government of India which were not at all favourable to ourselves. As a matter of fact, they were definitely disadvantageous from the point of view of the Punjab. We starved and stinted every department and built up a huge balance and the result was that the terms that we received from the Government of India in 1920 were not so favourable as they would otherwise have been. Another difficulty in which we launched ourselves was that we handed over as much as one crore of rupees to the Government of India. I would submit to the Punjab Government that they should make a demand for the return of that one crore of rupees. While in times of prosperity we were in a position, perhaps, to dispense with the service which we could get out of this one crore, now we are not in that position and there is no reason why the Government of India which is in much more easy circumstances than the Punjab Government should not restore that amount of money to us.

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I was making a reference to the receipts from temporary cultivation having been treated as ordinary revenue. If we take these receipts as part and parcel of our ordinary revenues naturally anybody who examines our financial condition will come to the conclusion that it is sounder than it really is. We are taking credit as ordinary revenue of our receipts from temporary cultivation. This is not a permanent source of revenue.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Why not ?

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** As soon as proprietary rights are acquired—

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** As the land is sold, we get interest from the capital.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** The amount of interest will not be the same. That is my rough calculation and if I am found to be wrong it will not do much harm, but if I am right as I think I am, the Punjab Government will suffer a serious financial loss. Sir John Maynard definitely and deliberately changed the classification of these receipts. Formerly these receipts including proceeds of sale were regarded as ordinary revenue and the Punjab Government, at one time at least, was definitely of opinion that that was an unsound position to take up, and that we ought to regard all these extraordinary receipts as extraordinary revenue and not ordinary revenue. Personally I still feel that the distinction made by Sir John Maynard was sound and it was more advantageous to the Punjab than the present classification will be.

The Honourable Finance Member also makes a reference in his speech to the main heads of receipts and he very rightly suggests that although our budget has been balanced there is still very great need for rigid economy. He also states that our land revenue is not a very elastic source of income, nor as a matter of fact are our receipts from irrigation very elastic, although we may get increase in returns in future years as more area is brought under cultivation, yet it would be wrong to regard receipts from irrigation as being of an elastic character except in the wrong direction. Therefore not only is it necessary that we should continue to be vigilant in expenditure but it is also very very necessary to seek fresh sources of income, because it is not only that the budget is to be balanced but it is also very necessary that more relief should be given to agricultural classes. The proportion of tax which the agricultural classes have to bear is very great and under the present circumstances they find it very difficult to bear this burden. I would draw the attention of the Honourable Member for Finance to some of those sources.

The New Sources of Revenue Committee made many suggestions. I think the number of suggestions made was over 40. I do not think that any action has been taken on the report of that committee so far, at least not to the knowledge of this House. So I would draw the attention of the Honourable Finance Member to that report. Some of the suggestions I may renew here. The Tobacco Act was passed, I think, about twelve months ago. I do not know whether any effective steps have been taken so far in order to make that Act a source of some revenue to the State. The Railway Police is being paid for by the Punjab Government. I think the bill on this



account amounts to something like 8 or 9 lakhs. There is no reason why the Punjab Government should not insist on this expenditure coming out of the central revenues. Not only should the Punjab Government make an unequivocal demand to be re-imbursed under this head, but I do not think there will be any harm if the Punjab Government show a little rebellious spirit occasionally—of course in the constitutional sense. I am not suggesting any direct action, but I think it would be worth while if the Punjab Government adopted an attitude which the central Government might regard even as intransigent. In the interest of the province it is essential that the Punjab Government should take up a spirited attitude in this matter. There is no reason why the central Government should gain at the expense of a poor province like the Punjab.

Again, I would draw the attention of the Punjab Government to the Khewra salt mines. Can we not get anything out of the produce of salt at Khewra? The Bengal Government claimed a share out of the excise duty on jute and they have been given about 50 per cent. of the income derived from excise duty on jute. Similarly, we can put forward a claim for a portion of the price of salt which is extracted from the mines at Khewra.

I have already made a reference to the report of the committee which was appointed in order to find new sources of revenue. A recommendation that the Transfer of Property Act should be applied to urban areas was made by an overwhelming majority. The Honourable Finance Member has admitted in his statement that evasion on a very large scale is taking place in the towns of Amritsar and Lahore on the conveyance of urban property and in those two towns alone something like Rs. 30,000 a month is being lost to Government. His information was quite definite. Of course he did not like to disclose the ways in which evasion took place, but he was quite sure that evasion had been taking place and the leakage of revenue was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 30,000 per month in these two towns alone. Why should not the Transfer of Property Act be applied to urban areas? My own estimate is—it is very rough no doubt—but my own estimate is that the application of the Transfer of Property Act may bring Government anything between 30 and 50 lakhs. If Lahore and Amritsar alone can contribute as much as three lakhs, are we not justified in feeling that other towns also would make a very decent contribution to the total amount and bring it to a figure of something between 30 and 40 lakhs?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The Act is in force in cantonments.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** But cantonments form a very small part of our urban areas.

A tax on cinemas has been suggested over and over again, but the Punjab Government seems to be too much under the influence of the Lahore people and the Lahore people do not desire to deprive themselves of the entertainment they derive from cinemas at the present rates. It is a very legitimate tax. It falls only on a very undesirable kind of luxury, and I see no reason why Government should not try to make some money out of it. A tax on bicycles has also been suggested over and over again, but the Punjab Government does not appear to have taken note of it.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It is very difficult to levy a tax on bicycles.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Everything is difficult.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** This is particularly so.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** If an earnest attempt is made it should not be difficult to tax bicycles. If district boards can tax bullock carts, if the Lahore municipality can tax bullock carts—possibly there has been some leakage—I think it is equally possible for Government to tax bicycles and make a good deal of money out of this tax.

Next, I come to aerated waters. These waters are a kind of luxury (*Interruption*). The honourable member behind me says that soda water is as essential to him as well-water to anybody else. But he forgets that every grain that a poor zamindar produces out of the soil, every inch of land that he possesses is taxed. Even his *lassee* is taxed in a way. Why should not the soda water be taxed? Soda water is a luxury even though people living in towns may not consider it so. Why should this luxury not be taxed for the benefit of those poor people who have to pay taxes on every inch of the land which they own?

A new tax has been imposed in the United Provinces known, I think, as the electricity tax. The United Provinces Government expect that they will be able to get about 8 lakhs every year out of this tax. The Punjab Government can easily take a leaf out of the book of the United Provinces.

A suggestion has been made in the Honourable Finance Member's statement that higher education should be made self-supporting. The budget under the head "Education" has been mounting up and it is again in the neighbourhood of the figure where it stood in the boom period, that is in 1929 or thereabouts. He feels that at least in the interest of compulsory primary education and in the interest of education of girls, if for no other reason, it is necessary that higher education should be made self-supporting. It is a very large question, and I am not prepared to offer an opinion on it off-hand. But there is just one thing which the Finance Member in consultation with the Education Minister may take into consideration. Those who do not pay land revenue may be made to pay higher fees than those who pay land revenue, because only the other day we heard a justification put forward by the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government that people who derive any benefit from a particular service ought to be prepared to pay for it. Those who own land and those who pay land revenue and local rates make a definite contribution to the provincial exchequer and they may, therefore, be shown a concession in the rate of fees that are charged from them in the colleges. In the case of those who make no contribution to our provincial exchequer in the shape of any provincial taxation there is no reason why they should not be made to pay at a higher rate, considerably higher rate than those who pay land revenue. Even among those who pay land revenue those who are rich enough to be assessed to income tax may be made to pay tuition fees at a higher rate. That is a tentative suggestion which I make for the consideration of the Government.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** Does that suggestion relate to Government colleges only or to other colleges also?

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Private colleges do not come in this budget. There is only a small provision in the budget for grants to those colleges.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** Then there will be two sets of fees : one in private colleges and the other in Government colleges.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Quite so. But so far as private colleges are concerned, they do not affect the provincial budget to any appreciable extent. Therefore if private colleges are inclined to raise their fees, let them do so. If they do not desire it let them not. It is not the business of Government to force them to raise their fees. So far as the general rise in the tuition fees levied in colleges and at the secondary stage is concerned, I think it will have a very adverse effect upon the spread of education among the poor agricultural classes. Therefore I would not like to have the fees enhanced generally. But if within the limited sphere indicated by me any substantial accession to revenues is possible I should have no objection.

Reference has already been made by the Finance Member to the useful work that is being done by Mr. Brayne in the matter of rural reconstruction. All of us are agreed that more attention ought to be paid to the welfare of rural areas. There is no disagreement on that point. But in what particular manner that rural reconstruction ought to be brought about or what particular methods should be adopted by the Rural Reconstruction Department is a matter of opinion; and on a matter like this opinions might easily differ, and they do differ. But so far as the general subject of rural reconstruction is concerned, I think we are all agreed that more money should be spent on that object and that more attention should be paid to that subject. On that point neither the urban people nor the rural people, neither the zamindars nor the non-zamindars, neither the Hindus nor the Muhammadans, nor the Sikhs nor the Christians have any difference of opinion at all. With regard to methods opinions may differ. But if the Rural Reconstruction Commissioner approaches the honourable members belonging to the various groups in this House there will not be much difficulty for him about money. If he does not proceed in the proper manner, of course he may not get as much as he likes, but sympathy for rural uplift is there in all sections of the House.

There is just one institution to which I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Finance Member and also of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government. The honourable minister unfortunately is not present in the House on account of his ill-health. If he had been present I would have had some very unpleasant things to say, but as he is absent I will just draw the attention of his lieutenant in the Council to the mere fact that panchayat officers should be re-engaged. No work of rural reconstruction is possible unless you set up some agency upon which you can depend in rural areas. The Rural Reconstruction Commissioner cannot go even to every district headquarters at sufficiently short intervals, much less can he go to villages, tahsils, thanas or zails. The only sensible and sound way of promoting rural interest is, therefore, to create as many panchayats as possible. Panchayats cannot be brought into existence and they cannot work efficiently and soundly unless arrangements are made for their

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supervision. There were fourteen panchayat officers appointed in 1928 or 1929. After a brief career their services were dispensed with. There was an urgent need for retrenchment, and as they formed a temporary cadre they were the first to come under the axe. Personally I feel that it was a mistake to have sent them away, and the sooner they are re-engaged the better for our rural reconstruction work. If the Government is at all in earnest, it must set up panchayats on a very large scale in every district. Unless these panchayats are in existence no work in rural areas can be attempted. If they are not brought into existence, all the money that is being spent on rural reconstruction will be as good or as bad as wasted. There ought to be some agency which will look after the scheme devised at the headquarters and give effect to it in the villages. If that agency is not brought into existence all the money that is spent on the scheme will be wasted and as soon as Mr. Brayne disappears this department also will disappear and all the activities hitherto exhibited will also disappear with him.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** Is there any time limit to speeches on the budget ?

**Mr. President :** No time limit has been fixed so far, but if it is the wish of the honourable members that a time limit may be fixed I shall fix it.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The leader of the National Unionist Party may be allowed to speak as long as he wishes to speak on the budget.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** A reference has been made to the economy which we may expect in expenditure that is being incurred under the High Court. The

3 P.M.

Honourable the Chief Justice asked for an addition of two temporary judges. If he is given two more judges at present, he expects that by the end of 1936 all first appeals will begin to be decided within six months of their having been instituted. If that can be brought about, the strength of the High Court can easily be brought down so far as permanent judges are concerned to 11. Thus by the end of 1936 it may be possible to have only 11 judges instead of the 16 that we have now. The accelerated pace of work has already resulted in the clearance of huge arrears. I think we are all pleased that not only will the expenditure in future be less but also at the quickness with which cases are being decided. Justice deferred is justice denied. I think it is a very good thing to decide cases as quickly as possible. Of course, I am not for undue haste in these matters. But so far as I have been able to gather from local lawyers I understand that undue haste has not taken place and the work is being done at a much quicker pace than it was possible under the old system. The Chief Justice has introduced a new system in consultation with other honourable judges of the High Court and we are glad to notice that work has been disposed of so quickly as to enable us to expect that by the end of 1936 the High Court may be reduced to the ordinary normal strength of 11 or 12 judges.

I am also very glad to find that provision is being made for jubilee scholarships—Rs. 80,000 annually. Of course, we have not been told the details of the scheme, but I hope that the claims of the depressed classes would also be considered in this respect. They form the most backward part of the population and therefore they deserve special attention. At the

same time part of the money should also be spent for the benefit of poorer students belonging to agricultural classes receiving technical and vocational education.

Now, I come to the last portion of my remarks. I had already made a reference to the need of affording further relief to agricultural classes. They have been a silent lot so far. They have not made any complaints. They seem to believe in the hemistich of Dr. Sir Muhammad Iqbal :

مے نہ رائے شکوہ تے محالی عزمی فطرت کا ساز

So far the agricultural classes have not learnt the art of making complaints. Of course, I have been doing my little bit to awaken them. But the response has not been sufficiently encouraging. But I think with the advance of times they too will learn the art of *shikwa*. Anyway it is time that Government paid a little more attention to this problem. After all it is much better to prevent a disease than to have to cure it. The disease is bound to make its appearance unless steps of a preventive character are taken beforehand.

There is one aspect of the budget which has not received sufficient and pointed attention on our part. I will quote certain figures in this connection. These figures are only approximate. Unfortunately I have not been able to study the budget this time as carefully as I ought to have done, and the figures which I am giving will not be exact. But I think they will be very nearly correct. Although the province pays as much as 10½ crores into the provincial treasury every year, only a proportionately small part of it is spent on the enlargement of beneficent activities, on the development of the province. A very large proportion of this money is spent on services which, although they are of use to the province, cannot be said to be of a beneficent character. Our fixed commitments absorb a very large portion of our annual revenues, and sufficient revenues are not left with the local Government to enable it to develop the province. Let us take our debt services. I think the interest on debt amounts to 1,75 lakhs. I think that would be a fairly correct estimate. I note that a good deal of the amount of this debt has been spent on canals. I am not sure that canals are technically known as forming a beneficent department, but I think they are more beneficent than most other departments. I do not grudge this interest. What I wish to draw the attention of the House to is that having paid the amount of our fixed commitments, very little is left for the development of the province on lines along which we should all like the province to progress. A sum of 1,75 lakhs annually goes towards payment of interest on debts. Then the salary bill, I think, comes to about 4,00 lakhs. Travelling allowances may easily be put down at about 50 lakhs. It may be more; it will not be less. Then there are the special allowances and special pays. I do not know whether those special allowances and pays will be covered by this salary bill. I put a question in reply to which certain figures were given by the Honourable Finance Member. I cannot repeat those figures exactly, but I think the total came up to 4,00 lakhs in respect of salaries alone. Then superannuation charges amount to 50 lakhs. Commutation of pensions, 7½ lakhs; sinking fund, 2½ lakhs; famine fund, 1½ lakhs; total 6,86·75 lakhs. Our total average revenue during the last 3 or 4 years has been approximately 10½

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crores. Subtracting from this 686.75 lakhs we are left with a balance of 3,68.5 lakhs only. I think it is more likely to be 3,50 lakhs than exceed it. Three and a half crores out of a total revenue of 10½ crores is far too inadequate an amount to be spent on the development of the province. Considerably more than half is being spent on fixed commitments and there is no way of getting out of it. I do not say that we should refuse to make these payments; they will have to be made. But having regard to the fact that about 66 per cent. of our annual revenues has to be spent on these fixed charges, it is time that we thought either of introducing a scale of salary which would be more in consonance with our revenues or find other sources of revenue. Complaints have been made outside, both in the Press and from the platform — and there is a good deal of justification for them — that the country is supposed to exist for the benefit of permanent services. I repeat that complaint and from the figures that I have given it would seem that much more is being spent on permanent services than ought to be spent and much less is being spent upon the development of the province than ought to be spent. Three and a half crores is nothing for a population of 285 millions scattered over such a large area. Therefore the only course that can be adopted by the Government is either to disband some of our establishment or to have as low a standard of pay as possible or both. Of course by saying that the standard of pay should be reduced I do not mean that it should be reduced to an extent at which it would be difficult to get men of the requisite talent and efficiency. But every possible reduction in numbers should be made and the scale of salaries allowed to services which are under the control of the local Government should be brought more in consonance with existing facts. Fresh sources of revenue ought also to be found in order to collect funds to enter upon a programme of development. Industries are being neglected to an extent to which they are never neglected in any really progressive country. The only thing on which we have to depend now for our prosperity is agriculture. But agriculture by itself can never make this province sufficiently prosperous. Industries both those which are subsidiary to agriculture and also those which are independent of agriculture ought to be started in the province on a much larger scale than has so far been attempted. I recognise and I think everybody in this House recognises that unless something is done to industrialise the Punjab, we cannot have that measure of prosperity in the province which we require for enabling the people of this province to live in decent comfort and ease.

There are one or two more points to which I would draw the attention of the members of Government. One is that touch, real living touch, with the people is being lost, that is, officers are not able, for one reason or another, to maintain the same degree of close touch with the people as it was customary and possible under the old régime. I will not enter into the details of the reasons which have led to these results, but there is absolutely no doubt that the district officers are not now able to maintain the close touch with the people which is necessary not only for the efficient running of the administrative machinery but also for the good of the people. Perhaps they have far too much of table work to do or it may be that the advent of motor cars has made a great deal of difference. Officers do not

like to spend their nights outside their headquarters and do not like to mix with the people as freely as they used to do before. The fact is that the close touch which is essential to maintain a reasonably high standard of efficiency and also good and cordial relations between the people and the Government is not now possible. Therefore Government ought to do something to insist that the old close touch between the people and officers is again brought into being. As a matter of fact, I gave notice of a resolution and asked other members of my party to give notice of the same that officers who tour their ilaqa on horse-back ought to have their travelling allowances raised by 25 per cent. and those who use motor cars for their journeys should have their travelling allowances cut down by 50 per cent. Of course the object is quite clear.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Revenue officers ?

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Those officers who are expected to tour, whether they are irrigation officers, or revenue officers, or public health officers. Public health officers are not expected to confine themselves to their headquarters and play bridge and tennis. All officers who ought to come into frequent touch with the people ought to be compelled to spend a fairly large number of their nights outside their district headquarters and in the midst of people.

I may also be allowed to draw the attention of the Government to the meagre share in services which is allowed to the Ambala division (*laughter*). My friends occupying those benches perhaps may not like that I should bring up this subject. Last year I touched upon this subject, and I was told that I was introducing another line of cleavage. It is not introducing a fresh line of cleavage. It is only fair that every part of the province should, as far as possible, receive a fair share in the patronage of Government. I quoted figures last year of the shortage of people from Ambala division in services, and Government officers can make sure of the accuracy or inaccuracy of these figures. It is a fact, and an undeniable fact, that the Ambala division is not getting the share which it ought to receive in Government service. I remember that in two or three important branches of public service, Lahore is getting as much as 32 per cent. while the Ambala division is getting only either 6 or 8 per cent. There is no reason why Lahore should have as much as that and there is no reason why Ambala division should not be getting its reasonable share. There are 5 divisions, and, roughly speaking, every division ought to get, say, about 20 per cent. (*Interruption*). The principle is the same. As we recognize that every section of the population residing in the province ought to have a fairly reasonable share in the patronage of Government, on the same principle every part of the province ought to have, roughly speaking, a reasonable share in the patronage of Government. If there are very marked inequalities between the share of one part of the province and another part of the province, there is no reason why that inequality should not be redressed in a spirit of reasonableness and justice. Of course it is not meant to bring every part of the province to one dead level. But there should not be the marked inequalities to which I drew attention last year. These inequalities still exist, and would be found to be perfectly correct, if Government officers were just to go through the list of public services.

[R. B. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

There are two more grievances again, of a local character to which I desire to invite attention. They both relate to the district of Rohtak. One is the stationing of punitive police posts and the other is the continued operation of the Criminal Tribes Act. More than two years ago a certain number of agriculturists were declared as members of criminal tribes. They were declared members of criminal tribes under circumstances of, I should say, greatest haste. There had been some cases pending against them. Those cases either failed or had to be withdrawn because they were very weak. No action was taken against them under section 110, but Government found it easier to take action on the executive side under the Criminal Tribes Act. If cases had been started under section 110, there would have been evidence to be produced, the accused would have had to be allowed to cross-examine the witnesses and to prefer appeal to the appellate courts, and there would have been good chance of their being acquitted. I will not complain now to the member in-charge of that particular department that the failure of the department to have had judicial cases started against them was so grossly unfair to the individuals concerned. It would also be futile for me to suggest now that the action under the Criminal Tribes Act was unjustifiable. But they have already been for more than two years under the most galling restrictions, and as those restrictions had been imposed upon them by executive action, I think it is only fair that those restrictions should now be withdrawn. After all, even if a man had been challaned under section 110, he could have been bound down only for three years at the most, and in that case an appeal would have been allowed to the sessions judge with a very fair chance of acceptance. Moreover, there are very few cases in which the maximum period is imposed under section 110. Therefore, even if those people were at fault, this period of 2½ years ought to be quite sufficient for the purpose of teaching them a fairly severe lesson.

The second matter relates to the stationing of punitive police in as many as 84 villages in the Rohtak district. A reference was made to certain circumstances by the Honourable Member for Finance during the last session. Those circumstances probably were over-stated or perhaps more than due emphasis was laid on certain aspects of those circumstances. Now those punitive posts have been in existence for about 4 or 5 months, and even if any punishment was necessary in order to teach the people a lesson, I think that lesson has been taught to them already. Six months' punitive police post and their charges are quite sufficient punishment under the circumstances. The times are very hard. Moreover, if the honourable member would again scrutinize the factors on which he based his orders and compare those factors with the factors existing in other districts, he would find that Rohtak does not compare unfavourably with those districts. In any case six months should be quite sufficient. I hope he will be able to reconsider his decision and lift these punitive police posts when these six months are over (*cheers*).

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Sir, a time limit ought to be fixed for speeches.

(After ascertaining the pleasure of the Council, Mr. President fixed a limit of 20 minutes for each speech).



**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General): If I had the opportunity of making the first speech and of opening the debate to-day the question of imposing a time limit on the speeches would never have arisen. However, as it is, all the members of my party will abide by the time limit rule. I congratulate the Honourable Finance Member for presenting a surplus budget in spite of the numerous calls on the provincial purse. I am not going to deal with the sources of additional taxation, for, I fear, that my strings would be pulled from behind by the honourable member for University who is an economist. He will point out to me that to reduce the purchasing power of the consumer who is a non-producer is prejudicial to the interest of the producer. Then there are many other factors also to be taken into consideration before we decide what taxes should be imposed. Much has been said about the difference of taxation borne by the urban and the rural population. But no calculation, as far as I am aware, has been made as to what taxes are borne by the urban population and what the total population of the urban classes is and what taxes are borne by the rural population and what their total strength is, in order to calculate incidence of taxation on the two classes. If such a calculation were made I am afraid that there would be found to be no marked difference in the incidence of taxation on these two classes. The only difference is that the proceeds of urban taxation go largely to the central Government while the proceeds of rural taxation go to the provincial Government. I will not, therefore, deal at all with the question of additional taxation on the urban classes.

I am glad that a new factor of fluctuation in accordance with the prices has, been introduced in our system of land revenue. So far we have had fluctuating land revenue and fixed land revenue in a different sense, that is to say, revenue following with the crops. When the fluctuating system of land revenue was first introduced I remember there was a good deal of controversy about it. There were some revenue officers who were in favour of it, and there were others who supported the fixed land revenue system. My own experience both as a revenue officer and as a landlord has been that wherever there is fixed land revenue the incidence of land revenue is lower than in tracts in which there is the fluctuating system. We know as landlords that whenever cash rents are imposed we are careful to fix the rate taking into consideration the nature of good and bad crops, but whenever we have *batai*, we take whatever, is produced, and if the arrangements and administration of the *batai* system is satisfactory the landowner gains by the *batai* system. He loses by the cash system. That was the argument in old times from the point of view of land owners in favour of fixed land revenue. Certainly fixed land revenue does benefit certain classes of landholders, but the factor of fluctuation which has now been introduced will benefit all alike. The revenue is to vary with the prices, and that is just the thing that was wanted after we have seen how far depreciation of agricultural produce can go. I hope that in tracts in which new settlements are introduced this fluctuating system will be introduced, and that it will benefit all.

I shall now confine my remarks only to the manner in which the surplus of Rs. 81 lakhs should be utilised. There has been some controversy in the Press with regard to the desirability of restoring the salary cuts. So far as the action of the Punjab Government is concerned it is unquestionably just,

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wise and fair. The Secretary of State having decided with regard to the services under his control that the cut should be restored, the Government of India having decided with regard to the services under its control that the cut should be restored, it is only fair and just that the same policy should be adopted by the provincial Government with regard to provincial and subordinate services. I have briefly referred to the various calls on the provincial purse, and certainly the restoration of cuts is one of the calls. I am not suggesting any ways in which this surplus of Rs. 31 lakhs could have been increased. But I would make some remarks as to how that money ought to be utilised. First of all I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Finance Member to the resolution which was passed by the Council a few months back about restoring water rates on fodder crops to their former level. When we proposed reduction of abiana rates we did make the suggestion—at least some of us were very keen about the suggestion—that the rate on fodder crop should be increased. Of course that suggestion was made on the supposition that a larger reduction on wheat and cotton would be allowed. The reduction allowed on cotton and wheat was, however, very moderate and much less than what we advocated, but the suggestion made about raising the rate on fodder crop was readily adopted. I would first of all draw the attention of the Council to the feasibility of reducing the water-rate on fodder crops to its former level. Fodder crops constitute a very important element in production. Whatever is paid on fodder crops is really part of the cost of production of the crops on which the zamindar is able to raise other crops. Therefore, it is very necessary, while the prices continue as low as they are, to reduce the cost of production.

Reference has been made in the speech of the Honourable Finance Member about making the Hydro-Electric scheme useful for the agriculturists. Let me point out to him that as long as the present level of prices remains the same, the cost of energy per unit must be reduced to a very low limit. Otherwise it will be impossible for the zamindars to make any use of the current for the purposes of lifting water. Cheap ways of raising water have become necessary not only in the interest of barani tracts, but in the interests as well of those tracts which get canal water. In very large areas irrigated by the Upper Jhelum and the Upper Chenab canals the land is getting waterlogged, not only waterlogged, but something worse is happening. The sub-soil saltpetre is coming on the surface and is rendering the soil unproductive. About the real causes of this phenomenon there has been much dispute and controversy. But as far as I can understand the course of events, the cause appears to be this. There was no such uplift of saltpetre as long as the water level was low. With constant irrigation the water level rose higher bringing with it saltpetre to the surface. It seems to me that it is clearly a case of a result attributable to a course of events which preceded it. *Post hoc, ergo propter hoc*. If electric current is made available for agricultural purposes—that is the most important—the most beneficent use, which could be made of it, would be to lift water by means of it and to reduce canal irrigation. Canal water may then be made available for tracts which need it and which have not yet received the benefit of it. But under the present condition of prices of agricultural produce the cost per unit of electricity must be materially reduced. I think it should be something like 6 pies per unit. There is not

much industrial development in the province, and there are not many factories which would be able to utilise the energy. There will not be any large demand for electricity for industrial concerns.

A good deal of increase in the provision for purposes of education is good enough. But let me also point out that more hospitals for men and cattle also deserve the serious attention of the Finance Department. As far as I am aware medical relief is a subject which has been made over to local bodies and local bodies receive grants from provincial funds for hospitals and dispensaries which they open. These grants should be increased for we need more hospitals than are available just at present especially in rural areas. A matter equally important in the interest of agriculturists is the opening of more hospitals for cattle. There is greater economic benefit derivable from the opening of more veterinary hospitals than by the reduction of debt or wiping off debt or reduction of interest on debt. The greatest economic calamity which can befall the zamindar is mortality of his cattle. If you are able to reduce mortality amongst his cattle, you are able to effectually reduce his indebtedness and to reduce all the interest which would be piled up as a consequence of indebtedness. Much less attention has been paid to the opening of veterinary hospitals than the matter needs. I am glad that Rs. 30,000 have been set apart for jubilee scholarships. My honourable friend the Leader of the Unionist Party referred to the depressed classes as needing some help in the way of education. I do not think that the award of scholarships is necessary in their case. All that is needed is remission of fees. With regard to the other classes all that they need is the location of schools in areas which are near their villages and within easier reach of them. The problem is, making schools accessible to the people. You have only to open a school in a village and the people of the village will resort to it without scholarships being held out as an attraction. Much has been said lately about the wrong direction which is being given to education in this country. The Education Commissioner with the Government of India has more than once pointed out that there ought to be a change in the direction of education from purely literary, scientific or university education to that of vocational or technical education. People are yet fond of being quill-drivers and clerks. Government employment is looked upon as the reward of all education. This idea should be knocked out of their head, and although the course of events will gradually teach people that the channel of education should be changed, still I think it would be necessary to draw them now towards technical education and towards vocational training by award of scholarships. With respect to general education of a literary or scientific character I do not think scholarships will be needed.

Next, rural reconstruction was a subject dealt with by the Finance Member as a desirable object on which to spend money. Nobody is going to question that proposition. But its necessary adjunct is the raising of the means of livelihood and of making men somewhat richer and better off in the way of the means of earning their livelihood and to create in them a consciousness of the importance of the subject which can only be done by education. Rural reconstruction by tackling it in direct manner will never succeed, and will be found to be uphill work. It will cost enormous amount unless it is helped by the subsidiary means of the spread of education and of raising the means of livelihood.

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We have always had in this Council champions of peasant proprietors, but so far we have not heard anything about that large class of agricultural labourers. I do not mean kamins. I mean those who cultivate land with their own hands under landowners or landlords and pay rent to them. I do not know what is the proportion of this tenant class to the total number of men who depend upon land. Perhaps there are some figures given in the census tables, but I am not sure what those figures are. However, that class forms a very important portion of those that depend upon agriculture. Something should be done for their uplift, but the Council has never considered how to improve the tenancy laws. I will not say more under this head as my time is up. The subject is vast, and it requires very careful and separate consideration.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): First of all I want to offer my thanks to the Honourable Finance Member and his able Financial Secretary for having performed the most arduous duty of preparing the budget very creditably indeed. They have not only prepared the budget estimates, but have made some very sound proposals too. It is gratifying to note that this year's budget is a balanced budget, rather we have fortunately a margin of half-a-lakh of rupees on the right side. But I have serious doubts that the hope that our revenue and expenditure will be equal towards the end of the present financial year may not be fulfilled. The reason is not far to seek. The revenue from the current *rabi* crop that has been estimated is very optimistic. Area under cultivation for the present *rabi* crop is less than what it was last year by about 13 lakhs of acres in wheat alone, and the fact has been admitted by the learned Financial Secretary in his Memorandum at page 8. Wheat cultivation has decreased by two lakhs of acres in canal-irrigated areas alone. In the same way other crops have suffered a decrease in the area under cultivation, and it can be safely estimated that our revenue will dwindle to the extent of, in any case, 10 lakhs owing to the decrease in area under cultivation. This is because almost every crop has suffered a drop in the area under cultivation, and the crops like *toria* are no exception to this general rule. The rate of *abiana* on this crop is 4 rupees per acre and the rate of land revenue 2 rupees per acre. The decrease in its cultivation will, therefore, result in big loss of revenue. There is no doubt that recent good rains have greatly alleviated our fears of a bad harvest, but rains have not improved the matter much as the area under cultivation remains necessarily the same as it was in the beginning. It is, therefore, necessary that we should estimate our revenues with very great care and farsightedness otherwise trouble is bound to crop up. In view of these circumstances the people feel that the Government has prepared an optimistic estimate of its revenues in order to be able to restore the salary cut with some show of reason. If the Government had given a careful consideration to the matter, they would have easily realized that the present moment was hardly propitious for restoring this cut. Like government the local bodies, like our municipal committees and district boards, have imposed the cut on the salaries of men in their employment. Now, when the Government has thought it fit to remove the cut, what will prevent, I venture to ask, these local bodies from restoring the cut on the salaries of their employees?

4 P.M.

As far as I know, the financial position of local bodies is not so sound and secure as to enable them to take this step without causing them any pecuniary embarrassment. The Government will find itself in a very awkward position if the local bodies take it into their head to restore the cut. The Government will have to part with a huge sum of 8 or 10 lakhs in that case, and again there will be a deficit in the budget. Therefore, the Government will be well advised to think over this matter carefully.

Another point of importance to which I want to draw the attention of Government is this that the Honourable Finance Member has stated in his budget speech that 17 lakhs of receipts from rents for temporary cultivation from 1926—1934 were credited to extraordinary receipts. With regard to this my submission is that these receipts from rents for temporary cultivation may be shown under any head whatever, it will not matter much. What matters is that you should pool that amount in a reserve fund which may be available to us in time of dire necessity. His Excellency the Governor has very kindly assured that the land revenue in the Lyallpur district will be made to fluctuate in accordance with the prices of the agricultural produce. This is a very generous step indeed, but I think that so long as we do not set up a reserve fund of the kind just suggested by me, our budget will never attain a lasting stability.

As the time at my disposal is very short, I shall now only briefly refer to some departments. The Government at present is charging a very high rate of interest on the taqavi loans advanced to the zamindars in their times of need. I fail to understand that when a small province like Delhi has made a substantial reduction in the interest charged on such loans why the Government of our own province should lag behind in bringing down the rate of interest to a reasonable level. I take this opportunity of paying my hearty thanks to the Financial Commissioners who have made serious efforts to reduce expenditure in the district offices, and have made a very valuable saving. I fervently hope that other Government departments will emulate their example. A careful survey of the expenditure of various departments, like the Public Works Department, Irrigation, Revenue, and Hydro-Electric Departments will reveal many items in which reduction can be made without impairing their efficiency. I very strongly endorse the suggestion made by my honourable friend, the Raja Sahib, with respect to the Irrigation Department. The falls are a great natural source for producing electricity which we can utilize in more than one way. We shall have to take some pains, but the result will be electricity which will prove of immense help to us, especially in case of those ilaqas where the level of sub-soil water is comparatively higher. An officer may be appointed to go into this question, and when this scheme is put into practice it will yield great benefits. I had at one time drawn the attention of Government to the desirability of effecting reduction of at least 10 per cent. in the unnecessarily high rates allowed by the Public Works Department, and I had suggested that a good deal of saving could be made in that way. But the Government at that time did not see their way to agree to my proposal, though later on a committee was appointed to go into the matter and a reduction of 10 per cent. was effected. But if such reduction is made applicable in the case of all works throughout the province a saving of not less than 10 lakhs of rupees can be easily made. Again, the Jail Department can be made self-supporting.

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if proper attention is paid to it. The Ludhiana Jail has shown a saving of Rs. 4,000. If one jail can show a saving of Rs. 4,000, I see no reason why every jail should not show similar saving or at least should not be self-supporting. Besides, in our jails the prisoners are called upon to do a lot of heavy and useless work. They are asked to work at the hand-mill or do some similar hard work. If they are taught some handicrafts and instructed in cottage industries, they can acquire great proficiency in these arts, and when they go out of jails they will be able to make their living in a decent way and will not take to crime again.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Perhaps I might explain. The Ludhiana Jail makes enough from its factories to feed and clothe its prisoners with a little surplus, but that does not include the cost of staff and building.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** That may be so. But my submission, is this that if we earnestly and honestly devote our attention to the Jail Department we can certainly make an appreciable saving. Again, the Honourable Finance Member has suggested in his budget speech that we should make higher education self-supporting. I think this is a very laudable suggestion, but needs careful consideration. If we act on it, we may derive great benefit from it. Moreover, I want to submit, that we should impress upon the Government of India that the tax levied upon salt produced in this province belongs by right to the Punjab Government and should go to enrich the provincial revenue. In Bengal the tax imposed upon jute goes to the Bengal Government, similarly we can also rightfully claim that the revenue from our Khewra mines should be handed over to us and should form a part of the provincial revenues. In conclusion, I would submit that all the money that we should save we should spend on female education and on the development of cottage industries. The zamindar is unable now to depend entirely upon agriculture for his living. We have got to find out and develop such means as may afford him an opportunity to supplement his income by doing something in addition to his general vocation. If we develop cottage industries, we will considerably relieve the zamindar of his anxiety and burden and make his life more easy and comfortable. The remaining money we should spend on female education, but I must frankly confess that I do not approve of the present system of education. I earnestly submit that we should change it and make it more compatible with the requirements of girls. Their curriculum should be such that it should make them quite skilful in domestic affairs. Over and above, the system of education that we should devise for our daughters should be such that instead of teaching them extravagance and fashion and making them frivolous it should make them simple, economical, and useful members of society. With these words, I resume my seat.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh Urban) :** The budget presented by the Finance Member the other day has one peculiarity. It is free from that jugglery of figures with which finance members and leaders of financial policies are commonly associated. The Finance Member has presented a straight, honest and frank statement of the position of the provincial finance. The speech of the Finance Member and the Explanatory Memoranda prepared by his Secretary, Mr. Ogilvie, are so lucid and concise that even a

a lay man cannot find any difficulty in understanding what the voluminous book of figures contains. For this reason I think the Honourable Finance Member and his Secretary deserve genuine admiration and compliments of this House for their hard and honest labour. (*Hear, hear*).

A close examination of the budget figures reveals that the state of the provincial finances is far from satisfactory, although the budget has been made to balance. The estimated receipt for 1935-36 has been fixed at 10,89 lakhs, that is 9 lakhs less than the revised estimate of 1933-34, but 27 lakhs less than the budget estimate for that year and 15 lakhs less than the budget estimate for 1933-34. In fact our receipts have not been even stationery but have been declining which gives cause for serious anxiety. Excise income shows a steady drop though the budget estimate of 1935-36 and the revised estimate for 1934-35 shows a slight recovery. The receipts from stamps also for one reason or another show a downward tendency. Forest revenue has been steadily declining, which, I think, is mainly due to inefficiency of management. There is no reason why forests should not be run on business lines. While the revenue from forests has been stationery or diminishing the expenditure under that head has been increasing. In the year 1932-33 against an income of Rs. 19,52,000 there was an expenditure of Rs. 18,72,000. In 1933-34 against an income of Rs. 19,48,000 the expenditure was 19 lakhs; and in the revised budget of 1934-35 against an income of 19 lakhs the expenditure has gone up to Rs. 21,57,000 and in the budget estimate of 1935-36 against an income of Rs. 18,23,000 expenditure is estimated at Rs. 21,51,000. This certainly is not a satisfactory state of affairs. Even receipts from land revenue have not been stationery, but have been declining. The receipts under this head are estimated at 272 lakhs, but this figure includes 17 lakhs of income from temporary cultivation which I think is a temporary item of revenue. I endorse the view expressed by the Nawab Sahib that this income ought to be put in the revenue reserve fund from which remissions ought to be given whenever necessary. If these 17 lakhs were taken away from the 272 lakhs we are left with an income under land revenue of 257 lakhs which is less than the average income from this source since 1927-28.

This being the state of the provincial finances, can the restoration of cut in the salaries of Government officials which amounts to 17 lakhs be justified? Have the provincial finances improved in any way? Are we out of the grip of economic depression? Have the prices of agricultural commodities reached a level which will not necessitate remission of land revenue? If the answer to any of these questions were in the affirmative, there was some justification for the restoration of the cut in the salaries. (*Hear, hear*). In fact wheat prices which went up a few months ago have again fallen and the rise in cotton prices this season has been only a temporary phase. Even the budget has been balanced only after effecting rigid economy in those beneficent departments which require continuous expansion. This restoration of cut in salaries was originated by the Secretary of State from his seat of authority and was followed by the Government of India and the provincial governments, while as a matter of fact the provincial and central legislatures ought to have been previously consulted.

With regard to expenditure under irrigation I wish to offer a few remarks. In the budget estimate for 1935-36 the working expenses are placed

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at Rs. 1,87,41,000, that is, 8 lakhs in excess of the revised estimate of 1934-35, while the gross revenue under this head is estimated to show an increase of less than 4 lakhs from the revised estimate of 1934-35. The Working Expenses amount to about one-third of the gross earnings. There is certainly scope for economy in this matter; but this economy ought to be effected with due regard to the efficiency of the canal systems on which we in the Punjab take a genuine pride.

Coming to the police budget I submit that an increase of one lakh in the expenditure on the police in the present state of the provincial finances and in the existing peaceful conditions of the province is hardly justified. There is undoubtedly the report of the Police Enquiry Committee awaiting effect being given to its recommendations. Some of the recommendations of this committee, have been no doubt given effect to already. But what about the reports of other committees which have not even seen the light of day on account of the financial stringency. For instance, there is the report of the Compulsory Primary Education Committee appointed by the vote of the House. Effect has not been given to the recommendations of that committee, because the finances of the province did not permit. There is hardly any ground for spending this extra money on police in this condition of the finances of the province. In fact the report of the Compulsory Primary Education Committee ought to have been acted upon even if a little money could have been spared, for, in my opinion, there is nothing more important for the uplift of the rural classes than the imparting of primary education. The Government of India's *communiqué* on the revision of educational policy has not come a day too soon. In fact that has been the result of an intense feeling frequently expressed throughout the country for the last many years. Many of the civilised countries revised their educational policy after the great war, but we in this country have continued to stick to the old system which was meant to manufacture mere clerks. Now we are far behind times, and it is high time that our educational policy is revised. We have only to look around us to see what other countries have done in this direction. There is no other country in the civilised world where so little is spent on elementary and vocational education as in India. I am not one of those who think that higher education has done us no good, but I do believe that it is time that we should put a stop to the process of multiplying clerks, and we should spend more money on vocational and primary education. I agree with the Honourable Finance Member that higher education should be made to pay its own way, but some facilities such as scholarships must be provided for brilliant young men who are too poor to continue their higher education, but who are fit to pursue higher studies. In order to overhaul the educational policy, Government will be well-advised to appoint a committee of officials, non-officials and educational experts.

There is next, an important point to which I wish to draw the attention of Government, and that is the eradication of corruption in the Government departments. It is said, and rightly too, that this evil cannot be uprooted unless public sentiment is aroused against it; but Government also has got a clear duty in this direction. Although Government has issued *communiqués* many a time the matter is soon forgotten and no



action is taken thereon. Deputy commissioners, district judges, superintendents of police and heads of departments require to keep constant eye on this evil and see that exemplary punishment is meted out to those who are found guilty of this offence. If that is done a great check can be put upon it.

In this connection I wish to urge on the Government the desirability of appointing the Public Services Commission for recruitment of public servants. A Bill for the appointment of such a commission was passed by this Council long long ago, but nothing has been done so far to set up a commission. If there are any shortcomings in the Act passed by the Council, an amending Bill should be brought forward before the Council.

Short of the fundamental duty of preserving law and order there is no other function more important for the Government than to look after the welfare of the masses. The prosperity of a country cannot be judged by a mere balanced budget, but by the purchasing power of the people and their standard of living. It is a notorious fact that India is the poorest country in the world, and our standard of living is probably the lowest. The annual national income is estimated at Rs. 82 in India as against Rs. 1,092 in the United Kingdom and Rs. 2,053 in the United States of America. The number of unemployed throughout the civilised world barring India—India is also one of the civilised countries—has been estimated at between 30 and 40 millions, while in India alone the figure has been fixed at between 40 and 50 millions and out of this educated unemployed constitute a million and-a-half. All this poverty and unemployment are due to our entire dependence upon agriculture. Japan was in a similar condition and was as much an agricultural country thirty years ago as we are to-day. The state-men of Japan set before themselves certain objectives—economic, social and political objectives—and tried in a systematic fashion to achieve their end, with the result that Japan is to-day one of the biggest industrial countries in the world. If Japan had depended exclusively on agriculture either restriction in population would have resulted or the standard of living would have had to be severely depressed; and the size of holding would have been considerably reduced. The average size of holding there is at present 2·8 acres. As a matter of fact this diversification of Japan's economic activities is responsible for the economic progress that has occurred there. We in this country have put all our eggs in one basket, that is agriculture, with the result that by the fall in prices in agricultural commodities, our national income has fallen tremendously. Land alone cannot employ all men. Land alone cannot employ even a part of the population all the time. We must have an organised plan for industrial development. What other Governments have done for their people in this direction, our Government can certainly do, provided there is earnestness and will to do so. The Government of Japan performed the task of the *entrepreneur* in a large way, by taking upon itself the function of studying the economic institutions in other countries and adopting them to the needs of Japan. Financially Japan Government supplied credit at cheap rates of interest, and by means of taxation, provided subsidies to industries and protection to infant industries by tariff. We in this country seem to be drifting. We have no plan. The first thing that we have to do here is to appoint an economic council or a development council with funds for chalking out a programme for the industrial

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development of the country. We should have industrial research and business training institutes, and the Government ought to encourage private enterprise by providing cheap credit and by supplying power from its hydro-electric sources at cheap rate. High rate of interest is a great handicap to industrial development. Even recently the German Government had to reduce interest on loans to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. There is no reason why the Government in this province should not fix the rate of interest at 7 per cent. or 2 per cent. above bank rate. All loans advanced by banks and bankers for industrial and agricultural purposes should not fetch an interest higher than 7 per cent. Railway freight is another matter which plays a very important part in the industrial development of the country, and the freight policy ought to be determined with a view to industrial expansion. We in the Punjab have a grievance against the railway authorities in their freight policy, and I would urge upon the Government of the Punjab to continue to press the railway administration for revising their policy. I must congratulate the Government on its activity in the promotion of agriculture by researches, by demonstration farms, experimental farms and above all by the selection and propagation of good seed. As a matter of fact nothing has helped the zamindars more than the selection and distribution of improved seed. But more has to be done because the seed supply is not adequate and propaganda has to be done in this direction. To get the greatest benefit out of agricultural improvement, you require markets for ready sale of agricultural commodities and factories to turn our raw products into finished articles, and unless factories are established, the agricultural classes cannot have better prices for their commodities. Where there are cotton mills, for instance, the price of cotton is higher than in other places. Industrial development ought to be the policy of the Government, and I would draw the serious attention of the Government to this matter. It is only by industrial development that you will be able to increase the wealth of the people and the income of the province which is stationery for many years, and is in fact diminishing. It is only by the promotion of industry and trade that you will be able to augment the income of agricultural classes and also solve the problem of unemployment, which has been assuming dangerous proportions for the last many years and which partly is responsible for diverting the energies of young men to undesirable pursuits. Governments in other countries have been made and unmade on this vital issue, but Government in this country is firmly secured in their position by force of circumstances over which we have no control. But you who are sitting on the Government Benches have no moral right to sit there unless you promote schemes and policies which might be conducive to the prosperity and happiness of the people of this country.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated, non-official): I also would like to offer my congratulations to the Honourable Finance Member and the Finance Secretary, Mr. Ogilvie, who deserve our special congratulations because they have been able to forecast the expenditure so very correctly. I also find from this Memorandum of the budget that a new idea has been introduced and two graphs have been prepared, one showing receipts and the other expenditure. These show the proportion of the various heads of expenditure and various heads of income, and enable one to understand and

grasp the figures of income and expenditure at a glance. I would also take this opportunity of congratulating the various departments for having enabled us to pass one more year in peace and to a certain extent in prosperity. There is the Police Department which has been facing armed dacoits, and our sympathy is with the orphans and widows of those who have given their lives fighting these dangerous characters. The Health Department has tried to protect us from mosquitoes and other diseases. The department that has done a great deal is the Agricultural Department, and it is pushing the sale of improved seeds, implements, and new varieties of fruit plants. The Hydro Electric Department has been mentioned by some of the speakers, and I would like to refer to the possibilities of the sale of electric current in Ferozepore district. In my neighbourhood I have been refused current because I have been told that I live too far, and yet I live only a few yards away from the canal colony. The canal colony is receiving this current from Hussainiwala, and I have been told that the cable that carries the current is already overloaded and therefore no extra load can be carried. I do not know how far this is correct. But if it is so, surely it is time that the cable is changed, so that a larger quantity of current might be carried. In the neighbourhood of that canal colony there are other people also who are ready to buy the current. I have heard that in the United Provinces consumers are permitted to take the current at almost any point they like direct from the cable by means of suitable machinery, but nothing of that kind appears to be allowed here. Here if a man is at a little distance from a sub-station although the cable might be close by, he is told that he is too far away and that it would be too expensive to carry the current to his holding.

Our honourable friend, Raja Narendra Nath Sahib, made mention of the appearance of saltpetre where the sub-soil water level is rising. I support his view. The Bikaner Canal has been recently opened and saltpetre is appearing in its neighbourhood, and is increasing year by year. I would take this opportunity of thanking the Honourable Minister for Education. A suggestion was recently made that something should be done for the very backward class of Dogars in my district and the attention of the district board was drawn to the desirability of giving them scholarships. The district board has sanctioned Rs. 1,200 for the purpose. There is another matter which I wish to bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister for Education, and that is as regards scholarships for Christians. The Christians have been put alongside with Jains, and as a matter of fact the Jains carry away almost all the scholarships because they are more clever. I would not complain about this if there were open competition for everything. But I feel compelled to bring this matter to the notice of the Government, for I fail to see what there is common between Jains and Christians, and why they should not be coupled with Hindus.

Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram in making his speech made mention of certain matters. One was that Government should give grants to district boards for hospitals and that these grants should either be given by the Government or by the local bodies, in whose limits they are situated. My impression is that originally these hospitals were started by the district boards, and before these hospitals were provincialised it was made clear to the district boards that they would be taken over only on condition that whatever expenditure they were already incurring would continue to be

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charged to them. If they accepted this arrangement the hospital was provincialised ; otherwise not. For this reason I think that the point pressed by the honourable Rao Bahadur was not well taken. He also made mention of the Bhakra Dam and of the Haveli Project. He is perfectly right in claiming that people in these areas should have food to eat. Because these areas do not receive irrigation they are certainly badly off. But there is another aspect of the case. What about the cost of the scheme? The Bhakra Dam scheme, I understand, is going to cost something over 25 crores ; a figure in this neighbourhood was once reported by a Government member in this house. (A voice : No). If so, what is going to be the interest on this initial outlay?

If it is a fact that there is surplus grain in some districts, I would suggest that some means be found for sending the surplus grain of these districts to places where there is scarcity, and instead of paying extremely heavy interest charges, the railway freight might be suitably met by the provincial Government. I do not say that this should be done, but I put this forward as a suggestion for consideration as to which of the two ways would be more economical.

As regards the objection against the Railway Police, I would invite Rao Bahadur's attention to what Sir John Maynard explained on at least two occasions. He explained that the Railways were a carrying agency just like a tonga driver. If on the way you are attacked by dacoits then you cannot hold the tonga driver responsible. Therefore for your own safety if you want extra police to protect you you have got to pay for that. I was very glad that Raja Narendra Nath made mention about the usefulness of veterinary hospitals. In order to increase the sphere of their usefulness, I would suggest that ambulance carts suitable for carrying buffaloes and cows from reasonable distances should be provided in these hospitals. I think the Government may offer a reward for suitable designs for carts for this purpose.

I also take this opportunity of thanking Government for supplying us with this consolidated statements showing the proportionate representation of communities as they stood on the 1st of January 1935. Among the various columns here and there, the community known as "Others" also has something written against it. Where "Others" are mentioned it does not follow necessarily that they are Indian Christians, but for the sake of argument we might presume it to be so. I would suggest that in future a separate column might be given for Indian Christians. On one or two occasions I was fortunate to see in the newspapers notices that recruitment for certain services was about to be made. I would beg the Government that in future when there is an occasion, instead of sending these notices to the usual papers only, they might also send a notice to some Indian Christian periodicals. I will make mention of one Indian Christian paper called Al-Maida. This paper has a circulation of about 800, and it circulates in every district of the province.

I would respectfully point out that in some of the subordinate services Indian Christians have hardly any footing at all, and unfortunately the only reason that I can offer for that is that these posts are not advertized and

superintendents or head clerks in these offices are always able to get their own men and do not let others come in. I, therefore, beg that for the purpose of giving due representation to the Indian Christian community these posts may be advertised in a way so that the Christian community may come to know about them. I beg to draw your attention to page 2 of this statement. In the Provincial Civil Service cadre there are 232 posts: the Christian community is entitled to  $4\frac{3}{4}$  which is nearly 5, but we have 4 posts only, so that we are short of one. Then in the Police Department there are 53 posts of Deputy Superintendents of police: we expect one, but we have not got any. Likewise in the cadres of inspectors, sub-inspectors and assistant sub-inspectors we are short by 2, 13 and 7, respectively. In the matter of head constables, there are 3,082, we have only 3; we might expect another 59. As regards constables there are 17,822, of whom Christians are only 26. I should say that these figures are under "Others," which may or may not all be Indian Christians. In the Police Department I am told there is prejudice regarding recruitment of men from depressed classes, but amongst Indian Christians all do not belong to depressed classes. There are men from other classes also, and I would bring to your notice that, if I mistake not, last year in the Gujranwala district one Indian Christian Constable or Head Constable was granted a medal for meritorious service. Likewise in the Punjab Engineering Service in the Irrigation Department we may expect two posts but we have none. In the Subordinate Engineering Service we are under-represented. In the Subordinate Engineering Service there are 410 posts of which we have not got a single one. Also there are another 56 posts of which we have nil. Likewise in the case of zilladars and candidate zilladars and clerks and even in the case of patwaris. There are 2,982 patwaris of which we have only 4. There are 61 munshis of which we have not got any; 485 signallers of which we have not got any, forest rangers and guards 1,019 of which we have only one. Now I come to the Land Revenue Department. There are 120 tahsildars: we might expect 3, we have only one. Naib-tahsildars there are 178, we have not got a single one; kanungoes there are 750: we might expect 15, but we have not got any. Patwaris there are 9,270, we might expect 186, but we have got only two. In the Jail Department there are 94 assistant superintendents, and we might expect two, but we have only one. I understand that just now there are certain vacancies, and I do hope that at least one of these vacancies will be given to one of the Indian Christians, provided always that the man is suitable. In this case I wish to thank the Head of the Department for advertising about this vacancy in the newspapers. In the High Court there are 955 clerks of which we have only 5, and out of 300 bailiffs we have nil. In the Jullundur division, deputy commissioner's offices, there are 451 clerks of which we have only 3; in the Lahore division, deputy commissioners' offices there are 593 clerks of whom one is an Indian Christian. In Rawalpindi division deputy commissioners' offices out of 496 posts we have only 3. In the Ambala division deputy commissioner's offices out of 585 posts we have only two. At the risk of wearying you, I will now come to the Transferred Departments.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member has got only two minutes more.

**Mr. E. Mayadas :** There are 200 agricultural assistants and we may expect 4, we have only 2 ; there are 238 mukaddams of whom only one is an Indian Christian while we might expect 5. In the Co-operative Societies Department, there are 203 clerical posts of which we have none. In the subordinate service of the Education Department A. V. section out of 988 posts we have only 11, in the vernacular section there are 887 posts of which we have only one ; in the clerical establishment out of 174 clerks, we have one. In the Medical Subordinate service there are 565 posts of which we hold two. In the Health Department, there are 42 higher posts of which we have nil. In the cadre of clerks there are 139 posts, of which we have none. I do not say that these vacancies should be given to Indian Christians at once, but I do beg that a little more attention might be paid by giving us a little better treatment (*cheers*).

**Professor W. Roberts** (Nominated, non-official) : The details of the mass of material given to us to study, I think, are overwhelming and this is my first experience, I am therefore, afraid that the few words that I have to say will be rather sketchy. I should like to draw attention, to start with, to the question of reduction of pay of services. I think the cut took place in 1931 and the economic situation has been bad since 1929. Apparently there has not been sufficient pressure in this province for economy to put through this very necessary measure. I think it is most important that it should be now pushed with all vigour and I am glad to see some promise of this in the budget. It is very necessary for several reasons, one being the large army of unemployed graduates which anybody who has got any connection with the industrial and business life of this province is very conscious of. There ought to be something done so that these men may feel that the prices outside Government service are at any rate worth striving for. At present I believe this fact that the pay in the subordinate services is comparatively high is influencing the majority of the people with regard to the system of education and is corrupting the youth of the country from going in for manual work and industrial undertakings and work of vocational character which might help in the development of the province. I therefore think that it is more than a financial question, it is a moral question, one intimately connected with the progress and development of the province. The next point I should like to draw attention to is the fairly large sum that appears to be spent on drainage work by the Irrigation Department. I am second to none in my admiration of the work of this department, but I have the greatest misgivings with regard to the utility of this very large programme of drainage, especially so in view of the fact that hydro-electric schemes are being developed and there is plenty of opportunity for tube-well pumping. But nothing of that kind seems to have been done on any large scale. It would give one more confidence if one could see that Government is putting up at any rate a large scheme of tube-well pumping and getting water back into the canals and clear those areas in that way so as to give experience at least. I am quite convinced myself from what I have found and from the papers read in the recent Engineering Conference that there is a great deal of lack of clearness as to the function of these drains. These drains cannot be useful for getting rid of storm water or water which accumulates owing to heavy rain and which is not necessarily sub-soil water. In such cases you have to get rid of the water quickly and you

do not want an intricate system of drains. But from the literature I have seen so far there is a lack of clear thought as to the difference between storm water drains and the ordinary drains which have to be dug for lowering the water table. And in a flat country like this I very much doubt the permanent utility of any large system of drainage if it is not accompanied by some pumping scheme. I would, therefore, like to press for further consideration by Government of the feasibility of a large scale pumping installation as a supplement to their drainage problem and the cutting down perhaps of the money which is proposed to be spent on drainage.

Another item to which I wish to draw attention is that from a rough calculation which I have made, it would appear that this province is still paying over  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. for its loans. I have not been able to get the figures very clearly—and this calculation will probably be thrown to pieces by Government members who will have the full figures. But as far as I can calculate we are still paying over  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. I am aware that one province cannot be allowed to float all the loans required to pay off its own debts. But the point arises as to whether if any province, for example, wants to raise an education loan, another wants to reclaim a bit of the sea or puts up some scheme which is essentially not sound, why should we in this province with schemes which we know perfectly to be sound be not free to get into the market and put our own loans and reduce our interest on debt to a reasonable figure? Everybody knows that this province is financially sound, its credit is good enough in the Indian market and in the world market for the matter of that and it can get money cheaper than it is getting now. And we are undoubtedly losing a good deal from being in a sense tied to the general finances of India as a whole and from perhaps too slack or through not rigid enough programme with regard to loans by the Government of India. If we could in some way insist that loans should not be floated except for productive purposes I believe that the credit of the whole of India and of the Punjab also should be very much raised.

One other small point and that is with regard to excise. I happen to be on the committee of this Council with regard to this subject and I would like to say one or two words. It seems to me that the increase in illicit distilling has been very material in the last year or two, and there is no doubt that much increase in revenue could be obtained if more effective steps were taken to check this. And I believe the only way to do this is to increase the staff of the Excise Department. I do not wish to advocate increase of expenditure except in a matter of this kind where I think it will lead to a very definite increase in revenue much more than the extra cost of the staff. (*Cheers.*)

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammadan, Urban): When we look at our budget we find that in comparison with other countries we are very poor. Our population of 25 millions yields only a net revenue of Rs. 10 crores, whereas we find the position is staggering with reference to the budgets of England, France, America and Germany. You find at least in England, with only double the population of the Punjab they are paying about Rs. 20 crores annually for old age pensions and pensions of widows. That is double what we are earning by way of total revenue. In other words England spends the same amount per head as represents our total revenue per head for giving pensions to its old men and widows. That

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will give us an idea of the wealth of this province. England has no gold mine in her country, no diamond mines in it, and where is all her wealth coming from? The wealth of countries like England, Germany and America is coming from commerce and industry. Punjab is richer in natural wealth than some of the other provinces of India, than other agriculturist provinces. But we have to consider how we can increase the wealth of this province, the income of its inhabitants. We can do this only by development of industries. Unfortunately that is the one subject which is tabooed in this province by the Government. We, at least I, have been urging for the last ten years that Government should help industries as other nations are helping their industries. But year after year our voice remains unheard. There are some people who say that Government does not want to develop our industries intentionally and deliberately. I am not one of those who would ascribe motives but what I feel is this. Honourable Members who are in charge of Government are not themselves industrialists. They are afraid to touch this line, a line with which they have never been acquainted. They have been district magistrates or sessions judges, colonisation officers or financial commissioners, who have never come near any industry in their life. They are naturally afraid to touch this line. Yet this is a line in which the prosperity of the province so much lies. What does England earn out of her agriculture. Not a bit. Far from it, she pays about Rs. 15 crores as encouragement to agriculturists. Instead of getting money by agriculture—I believe I am right in this position; if I am wrong, my honourable friends on Government Benches will correct me—England pays about Rs. 15 crores to help the agriculturists. Throughout the world we find agriculture cannot pay its way unless it is coupled with industry. I proposed a scheme about six or seven years back, but I regret that Government have not given any thought over it. Government have not lent their ear to the cries we have raised year after year because they always say they cannot balance the budget whereas we find lakhs and crores of rupees are being wasted on badly managed schemes like the hydro-electric works or some other works of the Public Works Department. There is no use of criticising department after department of Government in the course of a general debate. For one thing the time is short for the purpose. The wonderful fact, however, is that Government cannot find Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 lakhs for helping industries in the province. The mood of the country, the mood of the House is in a kind of expectancy for the new constitution to come and it will be waste of time to ask the Government when the sands of the present system are running low within a brief period, one or two years, to do all big things which they ought to have done long ago. Even if they are willing to do anything they will not be able to do much during this short period. I, therefore, want to concentrate my energies and raise my voice in defence of certain things which I think the Government, even if it starts to-day, will be able to develop and leave a heritage for the country under the future constitution to work upon. My request to Government has been that Government should ask capitalists to come forward with schemes for starting new industries which have been approved by the Joint Development Board. They can be profitable and they can be easily worked in the Punjab if only Government could guarantee interest to the extent of say 3 per cent. to the investors. Government should allot Rs. 3 lakhs as a reserve fund for this



purpose and if industries are started to the extent of a capital outlay of say one crore the liability of the Government would only be 3 lakhs of rupees a year at the most, that is if the concerns show absolutely no profit at all, which is not possible. Everybody knows that any industry which has been proved to be sound after careful investigation will yield more than 3 per cent. Suppose that such guaranteed industry only makes 2 per cent. on the capital invested, the maximum loss would only be one lakh. Surely out of Rs. 10 crores of revenue to Government one lakh can easily be found or even Rs. 3 lakhs for the matter of that, as an experiment in order to encourage industries. If you accept my suggestions you will find hundreds of new factories springing up, you find that the sugar industry has absorbed at least one crore of rupees of the Punjab and most of this money has gone not to the Punjab, but to the United Provinces. I hear my honourable friend saying that on account of the excise duty the industry might fail. I am not so pessimistic. Even if we make an allowance of 4 per cent. on this score, the capital invested on this industry would yield still 8 per cent. in certain places and 5 per cent. in certain others. In the United Provinces I am told they are making 8, 10 or 12 per cent. (*An honourable member* : Not in the Punjab). I do not want sugar industry to be started in the Punjab. There are in the pigeon-holes of the Ministry about fifty or sixty schemes which have been fully explored by the Joint Development Board and out of these, fifteen or twenty or such number which the Minister thinks fit or at least the members of the Joint Development Board consider can be profitable and will yield more than 3 per cent. could be taken up. What I want from the Government is an experiment, to set aside only three lakhs of rupees for one year and ask industrialists to come forward. They will be able to raise a capital of one crore, I hope the Punjab has got one crore of rupees even in these days. Instead of sending the capital out to the United Provinces, the Central Provinces or Bihar we should utilise the capital and start our own industries here. It will help the manufacture of cheap ploughs, labour saving machines, hundreds of small articles which Japan is dumping into this country, which Germany, Russia and other industrial countries are also dumping. Go to any bazaar in the Anarkali or the Chandni Chowk, you will find that not more than 10 per cent. of the articles sold are articles manufactured in the Punjab. All the rest come from outside the province. With an army of unemployed youngmen, 500,000 in schools and probably a million in rural and urban areas, the time is come for us to rise to the occasion and try to give work to them. What happens in England? If an English workman does not get enough of milk he threatens to overthrow the Government; if the children of workmen do not get free cycles to go to schools, Government is blamed. I was in Australia for some time and met an Indian who was on the list of unemployed there. He was getting one pound of butter a week, about two seers of milk, four loaves of bread, about half a seer of sugar per week and one packet of tea in addition to other help from the Government. I said to him, you need not work at all. He was only one Indian. He told me there were ten or twenty thousand such Europeans in Melbourne city alone, out of a total strength of about 100,000 people. Look at your responsibility. We can sit and smile here with a happy unconcern but in the world outside us the times are so hard that I see real misery in the towns. I see people going with bread hardly once a

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day, helpless widows, uncared for orphans. I see young boys going without shoes, with nothing but coarse cotton in the worst of winter. This is not a thing of which any nation can be proud. What would be the state of affairs if only Government were to come forward with a policy of helping industries. You will say, it is the business of the people themselves. But, no Sir, can any one say that any country, be it Germany, be it Russia, be it America, was able to build up its industry without State help? What was the Charter of the East India Company, what was the Charter of the French East India Company granting all the privileges that a State could give to a trading concern? What again was the Charter to the Levantine Company trading with Constantinople? In fact in those days sword and commerce went together. Where commerce did not go sword was thrust in. Look at the Opium War in China, war declared in China by British Government in the interests of British trade. You find industries have always got help from Government in one way or the other. You will find the English

5 P. M.

Government threatening to allot quotas with a view to protect British goods. It is with Government's intervention, so to say, that they are protecting their industries. I want Government at least to see the whole situation. Do not say because we are getting this much revenue there is enormous wealth in the country. That is not the true picture of the Punjab. Go to the *gallis* and *kuchas* and you will find real misery and you will see that day by day we are going down and down. No doubt we were wealthy; we had gold, we had money. That gold to-day has gone out of India. Even the sacred marriage ornaments like *Nath* and *Chock* which no Indian woman will part with unless under dire necessity have gone to the melting pot. For three years our Government has been living not on the money of this country but on the ornaments of the women of this country. Even the wedding ring has gone to the melting pot. Similarly you will find misery in the villages. How are you going to stop all that? We cannot create a mountain of gold in this country nor can we find a diamond mine, yet the Punjabi is the hardest and honest working man in India and you must give him work. Otherwise there is no object in giving reforms. The object is to give them something to live on. What is the use of law and order and keeping discipline? The Punjab Government is not there only to use the rod and cane and not give people anything to eat. They have to be given something to live on. No father will be considered a good father who makes his child sleep with an empty stomach under threat of punishment. If Government wants to help, let it co-operate with us. We do not want it to bring money from outside. We want our money to remain in this country. You have been sending out gold to England, you have been allowing gold to be sent to France and even the United States want to buy gold from India. Why should we be so generous and let all our gold drain out? The time has come for Government to put a stop to this, otherwise this milch cow is going to run dry some day. Unless you feed her, she will stop giving milk. India does not possess an inexhaustible supply of wealth and it will all go out unless you stop it. What is the Punjab doing? We are not exporting much, but we are importing crores of rupees worth of cloth from foreign countries. Not only that, we are importing motor cars, petrol and a hundred and one other things; whereas we are only exporting a small amount of cotton. It may be that our position

has improved during the last year, but it is hardly worth mentioning. We have to see to it that some of the money which you send to foreign countries comes back. Unless we start our own industries, we are not conserving our money in this country ; and our position will become very bad. I know that there have been so many discussions on the subject in this Council, but they have come to nothing. As soon as we go away Government asks us after six months to come and consider some ineffectual indebtedness Bill or some emasculated money-lenders' Bill, and in that way Government is making us a laughing stock of the whole world. Do they make us do any constructive work ? Our Government sanctions five days for the purposes of passing certain Bills, but after that comes a stupor over its activities and the Financial Secretary works hard to make funds available for the next year budget, but so far as nation building work is concerned there is a full stop. We are representatives of our country, we have the interests of our country at heart and people ask us what we have done during the last three years. I am not making an election propaganda, I am just stating that we have to face our constituencies and we cannot lay hand on our hearts and say that we have forced the Government to do all that is absolutely necessary. We go to the Minister for Industries, he says : *Government khuchh nahin deti*. What is Government ? Is Government made of paper ? Is it an animal or is it a machine ? What is it ? I cannot understand. Ask the Minister for Agriculture, he says Government will not give. Ask the other Ministers who are absent from the Chamber at present, and they say the same thing. There are four Indians in the Government against two Europeans ; surely I cannot imagine that they will oppose the industrialisation. One of them is Mr. Boyd, the Finance Member. He has been eating the salt of our country for the last thirty years and I cannot for a minute imagine that he is an enemy of our country. Why cannot he give us 10 lakhs or 20 lakhs of our money for the help of industries even though it may involve raising a loan. I am sure everybody will be willing to do something in that direction. Let Government give a helping hand to us. What Government does is that it conducts an economic enquiry but what is the use of that effort if no action is taken on it. We spend thousands of rupees in coming from large distances to attend the Council, and what is the use of spending this money, if nothing is done for the people ? The Government does not budge an inch and the least they can do is to grant money for the development of industries.

You will see that it was I who agitated the matter in 1924 and the Honourable Minister for Agriculture told me : " we will do our best." But what has he done ? Government has done nothing ; otherwise there would not be so much misery and unemployment, youngmen loafing about without business—a heart-rending sight.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I will be able to show what has been done in agriculture.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Yes, very much you have done ! You will not spend money for propaganda purposes. All that you do is to explain to people what 6-A and 6-B mean.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** You perhaps mean 8-A.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Yes. I am interested in horticulture, that is why I was confusing it with 6-A. Even if you were to spend Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 20,000 on propaganda work, that would be something. Look at Soviet Russia.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** But they do go and do propaganda work. Go into the villages and inquire there what is being done.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** I have been in the villages more often than you ; you might have been there only as a school boy.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Ask Chaudhri Sahib. Go to Jullundur and find out.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** With these few words I hope Government will please appoint a special committee and at least tell them how to take help from Government and how to help the resources of the Punjab to be conserved. I hope some industries will be started very soon to help the Punjab people.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : This is the last budget or perhaps the last but one budget which this Council will pass and a review of the last fourteen years shows that the reforms are a mere farce and a sham in character. During the last thirteen years the old forms of Government have persisted and the representatives of the people even on Government benches have become submerged in the officialdom with which they are connected.

Take the case, first of all, of taxation. The province has been groaning under the burden of taxation. There has been increase in the abiana, increase in the court-fees, increase in stamp duty, imposition of motor tax, and it is a strange thing that you find the Leader of the Opposition advocating new taxation when the people are suffering under the burden of the existing taxes. Therefore, I submit that on this point utterly useless have these reforms been for the people of this country. Take another test, from which the reforms could be judged. Here are three Ministers, representatives of the people at large having certain departments under their complete control, but during the last fourteen years they have not done anything to relieve unemployment of the educated classes in this country. People have talked hoarse about unemployment which is assuming dangerous character, but these three gentlemen and their predecessors never put their heads together in order to co-ordinate the activities of their departments and to find work for these wretched people who are going from door to door without any self-respect left in them. That is, I submit, a serious state of affairs. Take again the question of economy. One would have expected that these representatives of the people in times of stress and financial stringency would have voluntarily allowed a cut in their fat salaries of Rs. 5,000 per month, of Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 1,000 just to lead the way in the matter of economy, but on the other hand there has been a persistent desire to imitate the Executive Councillors and to claim that they could not permit their status lowered if their salaries were cut down. It shows that the so-called reforms have not made the Government feel responsible to public opinion. There has really been no response to the public feeling in any way. Take rural re-construction again. The honourable Leader of the Opposition

waxed eloquent on this point, but see how rural re-construction is carried on in this province. You have got a white elephant department newly created in the name of rural reconstruction work. One would have expected that Government would find employment for two or three hundred graduates drawing Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 living in the villages teaching the people sanitation, teaching them how to keep the villages clean, how to take care of the sick, and imparting them education, but this money is being spent on a few officials who go on talking about malaria and mosquito nets and activities of a similar nature. Such a state of things would not have been tolerated in any country which is responsive to public opinion. Here are thousands of graduates and under-graduates going about without bread and butter and here is Government setting up such costly departments in order to help whom?—not the poor people of the villages, but really a few officials.

A lot has been said about agriculture and industries but if this money had been utilised for starting small industries, one would have seen that the Minister who is responsible for industries could have published to the world 100 or 200 schemes of small industries which could be taken up by people living in rural areas. Butter making and its preservation, preservation of fruits, cheese making, making of biscuits, furniture and toys, these and such other small things would have given the people some employment and they would have made their lives happier and better.

Rural reconstruction is uppermost in the minds of many honourable members, but I submit that the Government has started another bureaucratic department at a great cost without corresponding benefit. I do not want to be misunderstood that I am saying anything against the gentleman who is in charge of that department. That is not at all my intention. I only want to show how the Government under the reforms is utterly irresponsible to public opinion. When the Government cannot find a good job for any of its employees, it does not want to throw him out of employment and in order to provide for him creates a new department with all the paraphernalia necessary for that department. This is the idea with which the Punjab Government has started the department of rural reconstruction. I submit that so far as the real work of the Government is concerned it is the same as it was before the reforms. Rather, I should say, that the Government was carried on more efficiently and cheaply before the reforms than after the reforms. The work of the Ministers is entirely of the same character as the work of the Government in the pre-reform days. One would have expected that when these reforms came into existence everything would be done to satisfy the needs of the people and that more attention would be paid to their requirements. But nothing of that kind appears to have been done. Many of the recommendations of the committees set up by Government for improving the condition of the people yet remain unattended to. Thus, for instance, a committee was set up to examine the question of the introduction of compulsory primary education in the province and I also happened to be a member of that committee. That committee submitted a report to Government. But what has happened to that report? We have not heard anything about it. Perhaps it is being used to heat the oven of the gentleman to whose care it was left. Then there is the report of the Unemployment Committee; there is the report of the Corruption Enquiry Committee. What has happened to all these

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reports? One thing that we notice under the reformed system of Government is that the expenditure has increased. It is true that more schools and colleges have been opened in the province and the Government can therefore boast that it is spending more money on education, but what is the nature of education that is imparted in these schools and colleges? Has the system of education changed its character? No. The old system persists in various ways. It was said—I do not remember by whom, whether it was by Sir George Anderson or by any other Director of Public Instruction—that if he could find fifty graduates to carry the new methods of education to villages, that would be a grand day in the history of the Punjab. Now we can find not fifty graduates by 500 graduates who would be only too glad to take up the work for a bare subsistence allowance of Rs. 40 a month. Times out of number this Council has urged that education to our children should not be given in a foreign tongue. The Punjab University also passed a resolution unanimously that English should be given up as a medium of instruction and that vernaculars should be substituted therefor. But the Education Minister is sitting tight over that resolution and does not permit this innovation in the school curriculum. One wonders how the country has been dragooned into silence. The reforms have not been worked in the way in which they should have been worked. We cannot be blamed for this, because we have had no hand in the spending of the revenues of the province. If the Ministers sitting on these benches had only combined and threatened the Government that they would resign in a body unless they were allowed to work the reforms in the spirit in which they were granted to India a good deal could have been done for the province. But that they will never do. Whenever we talk of vocational education, Government always refers us to the MacLagan Engineering College, but the college has no workshop where the student could learn practical work. But, has that college enabled our students to start any trade or industry and earn their livelihood? Take the other big elephant the Hydro-Electric scheme. Here is electricity produced but small industries cannot get any benefit out of it because Government says that it must exact its last penny out of the pockets of the people. Take the question of land revenue. Prices of agricultural products have fallen below the normal. What has the Government done to reduce land revenue? It may say that in Lyallpur it has reduced the land revenue, but I may point out that the land revenue there was already very high. But I ask, what permanent reduction has been made in the incidence of land revenue? Nothing of the kind has been done. These points only go to prove that Government is absolutely indifferent to public requirements, public feeling and public demands. The real reason for all this is that there is no sense of responsibility in our Ministers and therefore they have failed to act jointly together for the furtherance of popular cause. If these representatives on the Government had only combined and brought forward pressure upon the Government, things would have been entirely different. I can cite many more instances in which Government has been impervious to people's requirements. Take for example the stamp duty. At the time it was enhanced we pointed out to Government that this enhanced stamp duty would only reduce the revenue under that head instead of increasing it. Our prophecy has come out true and now the Government instead

of cutting down the stamp duty, contemplates enforcing the Transfer of Property Act in the Punjab. Take again the court fees. These were increased some years back to meet a deficit budget. But now that normal times have returned, there has been no attempt to bring the court fees to their old level; nor has there been a return to the people corresponding to the increased court fees. For revisions and second appeals, the litigants have to pay full court fees. Take again the expenditure on the police. The cost of the police has increased enormously. One would have expected the Government to adopt the methods prevalent in England and to get the young men of this country trained in Scotland Yard methods. But nothing has been done in this direction. All these facts go to prove that the Government has been absolutely indifferent to the needs of the people of the province and has been pursuing its own course. The reforms were introduced in 1921 and we are now in the year of grace 1935. Fourteen years have passed since the introduction of reforms and yet we are in the same condition as we were before 1921. Only taxation has increased and expenditure of Government has increased and even unemployment has increased. It is high time that Government took a warning, and changed its methods of work.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural): I have been very much interested in the speeches that have been delivered by my honourable friends to-day. It is high time now that we take stock of the work that has been done by this Council. We have been sitting here for the last fourteen years. Have we ever considered the net result of the working of our Council? Has the Council done anything good for the country? Have we as representatives of the people in the Council done anything good to our people? (*An honourable member*: No.) Let us examine our achievements. Whenever we adopt any resolution in this Council Government has been somehow or other shelving it. Government at first tries to reject the resolution in the Council and if in spite of its best efforts it fails and the resolution is adopted by the Council Government does not care to act upon that resolution. Take, for instance, the question of bribery. This Council has tried its best to impress upon the Government that at least bribery should be eradicated altogether. Government was pleased to appoint a committee. The committee submitted its report. But what action has the Government taken on that report? Government admitted that within these twenty years corruption has gone up not in one department of Government alone but in all the departments of Government. What has the Government done to eradicate it? One of the members of that committee, Sir Sikander Hyat Khan who was once lifted to the highest office in this province, made a very good suggestion that a permanent board should be constituted for the purpose. Did the Government accept that suggestion? No. The European element of that committee did not like it and so the Government did not care for the suggestion. At that time Sir Sikander Hyat Khan was not a Government member. It was considered that because Sir Sikander Hyat Khan was an Indian his judgment could not be a mature one. I expected that when he was elevated to the Executive Council membership of the Punjab Government, at least then his judgment would have been considered sensible and that his suggestion would be accepted. No. Even then the Government would not care

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to act on his suggestion. In 1921 a resolution was passed to separate the judicial from executive functions and the Council decided to appoint a committee and the committee was appointed. The Committee said that seven lakhs of rupees, non-recurring and four lakhs recurring was required for the purpose. Was any action taken on that? Again in the year 1925 this House passed a cut of Re. 1 inviting the attention of the Government to that resolution and the Honourable Sir John Maynard gave the assurance to the House that something would be done in that respect. Was that something done? Not up to this time. What a puzzle to us people who are sitting in the Council to hear that the Honourable Sir Henry Craik, a day or two ago in the Legislative Assembly, said that judicial and executive functions could not be separated because opinion in the Punjab was very much against it! It is this Council that passed the resolution and it was Sir John Maynard that gave the assurance to this honourable House. Not only that, but it was Sardar Ujjal Singh who gave notice of the cut. He is the moderate of moderates. We are crying for this reform and still in the Legislative Assembly it is said that the Punjabis are very much against it. Why, Sir, why should the Punjab Council be so used? Because every one knows that we, the members of the Council, although representatives of the people, work up to the will of the Government at any time. I am really ashamed of our own conduct. How is it we have come to this position? It is due to the systematic policy of the Government to snub us, to discourage us and to punish us in every way possible if we go against their wishes. Now let us take the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. I gave notice of a motion that it should be rejected. I am dubbed as an extremist and Government can say anything against me, and honourable members of the House may think anything about me. But here is my honourable friend, Sardar Habib Ullah, who cannot be called an extremist, who gave notice of another motion, to the effect that that report was unsatisfactory and inadequate. You know what the Honourable Finance Member said on that report. I quote here what he said, to show you how we are discouraged, how we are snubbed. He said :

The first motion moved asked us to reject the report. The other which seems to be that favoured by most of the non-official members of the House, says that it falls short of the pledges given by His Majesty's Government and does not satisfy Indian aspirations and should be declared inadequate, unsatisfactory and disappointing. Is this the language in which we should describe the very great free gift of self-government to the province? I think it is distinctly ungenerous to use these epithets to such a magnificent gesture.

Now what was the result of this? You are aware that even those who supported that amendment of my friend, did not vote in its favour. Why was it so? Because they know that the Government that can use these words can do more harm. This is an unfortunate province. But in the Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Sir Henry Craik used these very words which were used in the motion here, that the report is inadequate and unsatisfactory. He said that if he were an Indian he would have admitted that in certain respects the scheme fell short, considerably short, and if he were an Indian politician, he would have frankly said that it was disappointing.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Did he say that it should be rejected?



**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** So far as I am concerned, you may say anything. But so far as my friend's amendment is concerned, he used the same words. If I made an assertion that you have used those words in respect to my motion, they might not have been objectionable. But when you use such words against an amendment and the words of that very amendment are used by the most responsible officer in the Central Legislature, it only shows the mentality of the Government in the province and it shows how you discourage the people. (*Interruption.*) Sometimes you smile and sometimes you frown. But your frown goes very much against us. It is better that you are smiling now.

**Mr. President :** I may remind the honourable member that the Punjab budget is under discussion, not the budget of the Government of India and that, therefore, the officers of the Government of India are not to be criticised.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** I am not criticising them. (*An honourable member :* He is quoting them.) Now let us come to the actual working of this Council and how Government does not care for the wishes of this House. For instance, since 1921 up to this time you know that eight days are allotted for the discussion of the budget and you are the real witness to the fact that with one exception, perhaps in the year 1931 or 1932, the budget could not be discussed in 8 days and you have had to apply guillotine at the end of the eighth day. We have the sad experience here that you apply the guillotine and the demands are never finished. Is it not for the Government to take note of that? Should they not think, "we invite the Council to discuss the budget, should we not give them sufficient time to discuss all these demands?" Government presented the budget to us two days ago and it has given us one single day to go through this volume which contains 800 pages. Is it physically possible to go through these figures in one single day? That question has also been raised by me. But what is the use of that? Has Government paid any attention to it? It is our experience of to-day that not a single member of this House discussed the figures in the budget. Why is it so? It is because it is physically impossible for anybody to go through these volumes of books in one or two days. And this has been going on since long. Have you ever heard that in Parliament which we are copying here, the leaders of parties are never consulted as to the order in which the demands are to be discussed? Has Government taken into its head to consult the honourable leaders here who have some position and are part and parcel of the Government and who should be consulted on every point? No. Government never does it. Now let us come to committees. You elect the members to the various committees out of the members of the House. When I first came to the Council I thought that we would be consulted in all important matters. After all we are part of the Government. We must criticise, we must see whether the working of the department is going on all right. From 1921 up to this time you will see that in some cases the committees met once in a year and in certain cases they never met at all. Then, what is the use of these committees? This is what we have been saying and we are never taken into Government's confidence. We do not know what is the working of the department. After one year we come here and see the budget. If we discuss a little longer, the guillotine is applied and ten

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crores of rupees are straight away given to the Government. This is the working of the constitution. I am sure that after the inauguration of the next reforms we will still look to the face of the Honourable Leader of the House sitting still in opposition because you might have heard of an incident in Lahore when once a drama was staged. An actor was made a king. When the purda was lifted he saw that there were big people sitting in the hall—people before whom he used to bow. He therefore said, as was his usual habit, "*Hazur di khair*." Even when he was sitting as king he could not help exhibiting the same low mentality. It is time that we give up this mentality.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural): I must subscribe to the words of thanks which the Honourable Finance Member expressed for his predecessor Sir Henry Craik. It was unfortunate that when he left us the Punjab Council was not in session, otherwise this House would certainly have given expression to the deep debt of gratitude under which he placed this province (*hear, hear*). He gave the best of what was in him to this province. Whether we agree with his financial policy or with his politics, we are struck with one thing and that is his sane and sound judgment with which he carried on the administration of this province. We are glad that he has been succeeded by an equally illustrious gentleman in the person of Mr. Boyd and I must also pay a tribute that has been paid to the honourable Finance Secretary by the Honourable Finance Member. We have heard so many speeches on this budget and as a matter of fact one does not know where to begin and where to end. I would not like to tire this House with minute details and with facts and figures. I will confine my observations on few general matters of outstanding importance from the point of view of the tax-payer. I think much has been said regarding the constitution under which we are working and also about the constitution that is to come. My honourable friend Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit said so much against the present constitution that as a matter of fact he was forgetting whether he was the same gentleman who preferred this present constitution to the future one.

What we find in this budget is to a very considerable extent divorced from the stern realities of the situation. The countryside is passing through a very great economic depression and the Honourable Finance Member has towards the close of his speech suggested that perhaps the worst of the depression is over. I am afraid I am unable to see eye to eye with the Honourable Member. I think we have not even turned the corner. The situation is as gloomy as it ever was and I should say—I would be justified in saying that—perhaps it is the worst since this economic blizzard made its appearance in 1931. At that time the country and the people were in a better condition than they are to-day. The distress gold that has left the country speaks volumes regarding the situation through which we are passing to-day. There is no doubt that much tribute has been paid to the patience and forbearance of the tax-payer, but I think the Government should not lull themselves into a false sense of security. It is time for the Government to take stock of things and to realise that there is a limit to everything and that if proper attention is not paid to the economic depression, things might grow worse. I am not going to discuss the J. P. C. Report or the constitution which is

going to follow the J. P. C. Report. We have had discussions on that, but there is one thing that I can point out and that is this that the constitution that will be brought into existence will certainly be a democratic system which would involve huge amount of expenditure. I do not know whether it will bring responsibility or not, or it will bring advantages, in proportion to the sacrifices that will be asked of the tax-payer. It will be a very expensive machinery and when we have regard to certain aspects of that constitution we cannot lose sight of this important fact that we would have to incur large expenditure under the new reforms.

Now regarding the economic depression through which we are passing, our condition can better be imagined than described. The land revenue system of course is just as it was and from time to time the House has been asking for special remissions or passing resolutions asking for 50 per cent. reduction in the land revenue. The only reply from the Government has been that the land revenue is coming in duly and no difficulty has been felt by Government in realizing the dues. The Government in this connection should never forget that this land revenue is paid not out of the yield that the zamindar gets from his land, but at the time of payment of land liability he has always invariably to make some sort of alienation, be it in the form of a mortgage or in the form of sale or he may be raising loans. Therefore that fact that people have been paying land revenue promptly should not be construed otherwise than in its true light. The question is very important for Government to see how it is going to tackle this problem of land liability in the future. I cannot but congratulate the Government upon one experiment—of course it is an experiment of a limited scope and of limited area and to a limited extent—mentioned in the announcement which was made first by His Excellency when he visited Lyallpur and then in a Government *Communique* and that is that the land revenue system of Lyallpur district will be changed. We have been told that some theoretical land revenue rates will be fixed which will be based on the average of say 20 years land revenue, and commutation prices will be fixed according to this. The land revenue demand will not always be according to that theoretical demand until the prices justified it. As has been remarked by His Excellency, certainly it is a revolutionary change in the method of assessment of land revenue and our first impression of course is that it is based on equity and justice, but time alone will show whether the experiment will prove a success or not and whether it will really afford a relief that is required by the zamindar.

While on this question, the one most important point that is uppermost in the mind of everybody is whether the Government is doing its duty to cope with the depression. My first criticism is that this Government has absolutely failed to come forward with any scheme for the development of agriculture in this province. Agriculture is admittedly the only industry in this province and when we find that in European countries Governments are coming forward with their schemes for the development of agriculture—because after all that is the only way to improve the condition of the country—we find that the Punjab Government has been sleeping over the matter. The Punjab Government has not done its duty in this matter. I think I make no exaggeration when I say that the Agriculture Department is fortunately under one of the best brains of the Punjab, Sir Jogendra Singh and if

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even from him we are not able to get any scheme which might cope with the problem we do not know who else would come in with his schemes.

**Pir Akbar Ali :** Give him more time and he will do it.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** He seems to be too old for it.

**Sardar Arjan Singh :** We find that even in India there have been some limited schemes that have been proposed and followed by the United Provinces Government. As a matter of fact the Government has not shown any heart and imagination in the matter and therefore it has totally failed to tackle this very important problem of agriculture.

The next important question is unemployment. Reference has been made to that question by more than one speaker. We have found that in other countries Governments succeed or fail as they succeed or fail in tackling this question of unemployment. That is a very important question and that also has not been looked into by our Government. These budget speeches, I wish, were regulated by a convention that the Finance Member should cover the ground and make a reference to what suggestions were made by the opposition in the past year and also as to what he has done to meet those criticisms and how far he has been able to carry on the suggestions or how far his inability arose from one cause or another, while he was trying to act up to those suggestions and also he should come forward with what actually the Government have done during the current year. Because that would give some idea to the members of this Council as to what the Government has been doing. It is not sufficient that he should tell us that so much income is coming from land revenue and so much income is raised from irrigation and next comes Stamps, and then Excise. All that we can read from the Memoranda that has been prepared.

*At this stage the Council adjourned till 2-30 P.M. on Friday, the 1st of March, 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 1st March, 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2-30 P. M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### JAIL ADMINISTRATION.

**\*4113. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what improvements have been made in the jail administration and what reforms have been introduced in the Punjab jails with special reference to the Provincial Jail Inquiry Committee and the special Jails Commission of 1921 ;
- (b) whether all recommendations contained in those reports have been carried out ;
- (c) if not, the reasons for the same ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** May I ask why the answer is not yet ready ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Because the task is an enormous one. The file reached me two or three days ago and if the honourable member will remember, we have already once placed upon the table of the House or at any rate published a long list of the recommendations of the Punjab Jails Committee of 1921. The action taken by the local Government on the recommendations will have to be brought up to date. It means a very big enquiry. I believe the honourable member does not realise how much work it means. Then with regard to the Provincial Committee I do not think that we have in any one place any account of the action taken. It will take really a considerable time and I doubt if the answer will be ready in a month's time, but it is being prepared.

#### HONORARY MAGISTRATES.

**\*4114. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of honorary magistrates in the province ;
- (b) the number of those honorary magistrates who are more than 60 years of age ;
- (c) the academic qualifications of those honorary magistrates who are more than sixty years of age ;
- (d) the reasons for retaining the services of such old men ;
- (e) whether there is no age limit for honorary magistrates ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) The number of honorary magistrates in the province is given in the January issue of the Civil list.

(b) and (c) I regret that I am unable to give the number and academic qualifications of the honorary magistrates who are above the age of 60 as the information is not readily available. Honorary magistrates are, however, required, before appointment, to be able to read and write English or the vernacular fluently and to have a sufficient knowledge of law and procedure.

(d) and (e) Ordinarily persons above the age of 65 are not appointed or re-appointed as honorary magistrates. Exceptions to this rule are made only in the public interest and the decision in each case depends on the physical and mental activity of the honorary magistrate concerned.

#### THIKRI PAHRA ON VILLAGE MAHI.

**\*4115. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether *thikri pahra* was imposed on village Mahi, district Ludhiana ;

(b) what necessitated the imposition of *thikri pahra* ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) No. The villagers have, however, voluntarily made watch and ward arrangements.

(b) Does not arise.

#### ROADS IN KALANAUR.

**\*4116. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation of the residents of Kalanaur recently waited upon the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur to complain against the bad condition of the roads ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner replied to the deputationists that unless the Communication Board, Punjab, comes to help he cannot do anything ;

(c) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Communication Board that Kalanaur is a historical place, and that this town has no pacca road?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) No. The deputationists were told that the district board had not sufficient funds to carry out the necessary metalling of the roads.

(c) No.

#### MIRASIS.

**\*4117. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any circular instructing the police and military departments not to enlist *Mirasis* in the police and military cadres ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the Jamiat Quresh, Punjab (*Mirasi* organisation) submitted a memorial last year to encourage the enlistment of *Mirasis* in all the various departments of Government ;
- (c) whether Government have decided to enlist Qureshis (*Mirasis*) in the various departments of Government ;
- (d) if so, whether any circular to that effect has been issued ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to part (a) of the starred Council question No. 2204<sup>1</sup> put by him in the year 1929.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) There is no bar to the enlistment of *Mirasis* in any department.
- (d) No, because no circular is necessary.

#### LAHORE PRESS WORKERS' UNION.

**\*4118. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Government recently received a memorial from the Lahore Press Workers' Union ;
- (b) if so, whether he will lay it on the table ;
- (c) who made enquiries into the complaints contained in the memorial ;
- (d) whether the members of the Union were heard before giving a reply ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes, a memorial relating to the recognition of the Printing Press Workers' Union was received.

- (b) A copy is laid on the table.
- (c) It is not in the public interest to disclose the names or designations of the officials who inquired into the complaints.
- (d) No.

*Copy of a memorial No. 114/G. P. U., dated 30th November, 1934, from the General Secretary, the Punjab Government Printing Press Workers' Union, Lahore, to His Excellency the Governor in Council, Punjab, Lahore.*

(THROUGH PROPER CHANNEL).

With reference to the answer given by the Honourable the Revenue Member on behalf of the Punjab Government to starred question No. 80<sup>2</sup> put by Mr. M. A. Ghani, M.L.C., Barrister-at-Law, Lahore, on 27th February, 1931, in the Punjab Legislative Council, may I once more most humbly and respectfully beg to request Your Excellency to so kindly and graciously recognise this Union and oblige exceedingly.

2. In the answer referred to above, it was kindly stated by the Honourable the Revenue Member that as the Government of India was framing the rules for the recognition of the unions of the Government servants who were technical workers, therefore, the question of the recognition of this Union was kept pending. The rules have now been framed by the Government of India and have been published in the *Government of India Gazette*. It is, therefore, humbly requested that this Union may kindly be recognized.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XII, page 1278.

<sup>2</sup>Vol. XVIII, page 140.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

3. On behalf of the Union I submitted an application for its recognition to Your Excellency on 15th March, 1930. It was with reference to this application that the above-mentioned question was put in the Council. At the time this application was submitted, there were 175 members of this Union out of about 300 technical employees of the Punjab Government Printing Press. The number increased to 201 on the 31st March, 1934 (vide return submitted to the Registrar, Trade Unions, Punjab). Since then the number has further increased to 249. The Union is prepared to prove the truth of the above assertion by producing our membership forms. All these are paying members of the Union.

4. As a matter of fact the Union is a cent. per cent. union of the technical employees of the press. All the technical employees have joined it except the superior technical staff comprising of not more than 50 persons. They are foreman, section-holders, readers, and computers. Other employees of the press cannot join the Union as according to its rules, only the technical employees of the press can join it. A copy of the rules of the Union is attached herewith for Your Excellency's kind and gracious perusal.

5. The following are the office-bearers of the Union.

(a) Founder and Union Leader	..	Mr. M. A. Ghani, M.L.C., Bar-at-Law, Lahore.
(b) President .. ..	..	Thakur Nanak Chand, Compositor, Government Press, Lahore.
(c) Senior Vice-President	..	Mr. Muhammad Yusaf, Computer, Government Press, Lahore.
(d) Junior Vice-President ..	..	Mr. Kidar Nath, Compositor, Government Press, Lahore.
(e) General Secretary ..	..	S. Hameed Shah, Mono-maker up, Government Press, Lahore.
(f) Joint Secretary ..	..	Khan Mati Ullah Khan, Compositor, Government Press, Lahore.
(g) Assistant Secretary ..	..	M. Mehraj Din, Mono-maker up, Government Press, Lahore.
(h) Cashier .. ..	..	M. Feroze-ud-Din, Compositor, Government Press, Lahore.

6. The non-recognition of the Union is a great hindrance in our way to make our proper representations to the higher authorities. In his letter No. 2238-G., dated 26th January, 1932, the late Superintendent of the Press refused to receive our deputation as the Union was not recognised. The present Superintendent also has refused to grant us an interview on the same ground. It is, therefore, humbly requested that this Union may kindly be duly accorded recognition and oblige exceedingly.

7. Praying for Your Excellency's long life and prosperity.

#### VETERINARY ASSISTANTS.

\*4119. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Minister for Agri culture be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that the veterinary assistants in the province are ordered to attend the Veterinary College, Lahore, for 1½ months in the year ;
- whether this period is treated as casual leave of the veterinary assistants ;
- whether the Government authorised the Director of Veterinary Department to treat this period as casual leave ?

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

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.



## LUDHIANA DISTRICT BOARD.

**\*4120. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are three election circles of the Ludhiana District Board, each such circle returning two members ;
- (b) whether there is any other district which is a double-member constituency ;
- (c) if none, why there are double-member constituencies in the Ludhiana district board ;
- (d) whether Government proposes to reconsider this arrangement ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) These "two-member" circles were constituted in order to rectify inequalities in the number of voters as between different circles, as also to maintain the balance of communities represented on the board.

(d) No.

## MUSLIMS IN POLICE DEPARTMENT.

**\*4121. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some time ago K. S. M. Barkat Ali, Inspector of Police, Amritsar, was under orders of transfer to the Anarkali Police Station, Lahore ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that later on the order regarding the transfer of M. Barkat Ali was cancelled and a Hindu inspector was posted at Anarkali police station ; if so, to what this change of orders is due ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that superintendents of the offices of the Inspector-General of Police, Punjab, and the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C. I. D., Punjab, as well as the head clerks of the three ranges and the Railway Police Office are all non-Muslims ;
- (d) if the replies to (a), (b) and (c) are in the affirmative, whether this principle of communal proportion applies to the posts mentioned in (c) ; if so, whether the Government intends to give the Muslims their due share in the appointments mentioned above ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) and (b) It is not in the public interest to answer these parts of the question.

(c) Yes.

(d) The policy of Government was stated by the Honourable Finance Member in a debate in the Legislative Council on the 19th July, 1927. This is still the policy of Government and Government will continue to carry out the requirements of the formula contained in that statement.

## LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4122. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state what action the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, has taken on resolution No. 200, dated 11th June, 1934, passed by the Ludhiana municipal committee, relating to the exemption of Railway condemned wooden sleepers from the payment of terminal tax ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** On receipt of the resolution in question the deputy commissioner asked the committee reasons for the justification for the exemption of wooden sleepers from the payment of terminal tax. The committee then reconsidered and cancelled its resolution.

## LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4123. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state why the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, did not suspend resolution No. 200, dated 11th June, 1934, of the Ludhiana Municipal Committee, under section 232 of the Municipal Act, immediately on receipt of the copy of the proceedings of the said municipality to avoid a loss of Rs. 1,423-2-0 in the income of its terminal tax department, if it was in his opinion unconstitutional, as stated in his letter No. 9105, dated 22nd December, 1934, addressed to the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, for recoupment of the amount from the members of the committee ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to his starred question No. 4122 above.

## LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4124. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly lay on the table the whole correspondence that passed between the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, and the Executive Officer, Ludhiana Municipality, re resolution No. 200, dated 11th June, 1934 ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** It is regretted that the labour entailed by the copying out of the very lengthy correspondence would be disproportionate to the importance of the matter, especially as the facts have been given by me in the replies to the various questions on this matter.

## LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4125. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the practice in the terminal tax department of the Ludhiana municipality has been to charge tax on a portion of the Railway condemned wooden sleepers

and let the remaining go free of any charge against the provisions of the terminal tax schedule and the rules in force ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there exists no exemption for the Railway condemned wooden sleepers in the terminal tax schedule of the Ludhiana municipality in force ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, in his letter No. 9105, dated 22nd December, 1984, to the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, has held that terminal tax on the Railway condemned wooden sleepers should be charged on the whole consignment ;

(d) if replies to parts (a), (b) and (c) are in the affirmative, whether Government is prepared to call upon the local body concerned to have the loss thus incurred made good by the official at fault ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) The committee, by resolution No. 200 of 11th June, 1984, decided to classify as fuel only those condemned railway sleepers which could not be used for any other purpose except as fuel and to permit such sleepers to be imported free of terminal tax.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) It is not necessary, as the Deputy Commissioner has already advised the committee to take action in accordance with law for the realisation of the amount of the tax from the members responsible for this loss.

#### LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4126. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that tax on rail-borne goods booked at wagon rates was not charged in accordance with the terminal tax schedule and the rules in force in the terminal tax department of the Ludhiana municipality ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, in his annual audit and inspection report for 1983-84 has also brought the irregularity to the notice of the said municipal committee ;

(c) if replies to parts (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what action the Government proposes to take in the matter against the official at fault by whose negligence the committee suffered a loss in its income in this respect ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) and (b) Yes. The irregularity was set right by the executive officer under his order, dated 1st August, 1984, before it was pointed out in the audit and inspection report.

(c) There appears to have been a *bona fide* error in the office, owing to misunderstanding of a rule. The Government sees no reasons to interfere, the municipal committee and its executive officer having taken action.

## LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4127. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the terminal tax on rail-borne articles is being charged in the Ludhiana municipality in accordance with the Municipal Account Code and whether the whole consignment is charged at the time of registration of the railway receipt ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, in his annual audit and inspection note for 1933-34 on the accounts of Ludhiana municipality, has pointed out that the terminal tax is not charged on the whole consignment in accordance with the rules of the Municipal Account Code ;
- (c) if replies to parts (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, whether Government is prepared to take action under section 41 of the Municipal Act against the official concerned ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) The reply is in the affirmative except to the extent that the whole consignment is not charged at the time of registration of the railway receipt, but only that portion which is not intended for immediate export.

(b) Yes. The point raised by the examiner is still under the consideration of the committee.

(c) Does not arise.

## LAND BELONGING TO HER MUNDAHALIYAN IN ROHTAK.

**\*4128. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large area of land belonging to Her Mundahaliyan in the town of Rohtak was taken over by Government and used as a site for public buildings ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the land revenue due on this land has been distributed over the *khewat* lands of the proprietors of Her Mundahaliyan ;
- (c) the amount of land revenue due on the land referred to in (a) ;
- (d) whether Government is prepared to re-imburse these proprietors for the amount of land revenue paid by them and also to pay a reasonable annual rent for this land ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

## EXECUTION OF DECREES IN ROHTAK.

**\*4129. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly lay on the table of the Council a statement showing for 1933 and 1934, respectively—

- (a) the number of bullocks attached in execution of decrees in the various civil courts of the district of Rohtak ;

- (b) the number of cases in which the bullocks referred to in (a) were sold (i) without any objection, (ii) in spite of objection on the part of judgment-debtors ;
- (c) the number of houses belonging to agriculturist judgment-debtors attached in execution of decrees ;
- (d) the number of houses referred to in (c) sold (i) without any objection, (ii) in spite of objection on the part of judgment-debtors ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that I am unable to give the information asked for, as the time and labour involved in collecting it would be out of all proportion to its value. To obtain the information, it would be necessary to go through the files of all the civil courts in the district for two years.

#### EXECUTION OF DECREES IN ROHTAK.

**\*4130. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the number of persian wheels attached in execution of decrees by the civil courts of Rohtak in 1933 and 1934, respectively ;
- (b) the number of bullock-carts attached and sold in execution of decrees by the civil courts of Rohtak in 1933 and 1934, respectively ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that I am unable to give the information asked for, as the time and labour involved in collecting it would be out of all proportion to its value. To obtain the required information it would be necessary to go through the files of all the civil courts in the district for two years.

#### CUT IN SALARIES.

**\*4131. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state whether it has been decided to restore the balance of cut in salaries which was imposed in 1930, and, if so, the difference which this restoration will mean to provincial budget ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Yes. The difference will be roughly 16 lakhs.

#### HINDUS IN POLICE DEPARTMENT.

**\*4132. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the Hindu populations of the Ambala, Jullundur and Lahore divisions, respectively, and the number of Hindus among sub-inspectors, assistant sub-inspectors, prosecuting inspectors and prosecuting sub-inspectors who have been recruited from each of these divisions during the last 5 years ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.  
*Statement.*

Name of division.	Hindu population.	RECRUITMENT OF HINDUS FROM 1930 TO 1934.			
		Prosecuting Inspectors.	Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Assistant Sub-Inspectors.
Ambala ..	2,166,022	Direct appointments are not made.	1	..	6
Jullundur ..	4,606,446	Ditto	2	..	4
Lahore ..	914,802	Ditto	4	2	4

#### HINDUS IN JAIL DEPARTMENT.

**\*4133. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the number of Hindus recruited as assistant superintendents and deputy superintendents of jails in the province by direct appointment during the last 5 years and the number of statutory agriculturists among them ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** One deputy superintendent and five assistant superintendents of which three were statutory agriculturists.

#### INSTITUTIONS MAINTAINED AND AIDED BY DISTRICT BOARDS.

**\*4134. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly lay on the table of the Council for the districts of Rohtak, Ferozepore, Jhelum and Multan a statement showing—

- the names of institutions maintained by the district boards outside their jurisdiction ;
- the names of institutions belonging to Government or other local bodies to which these district boards make grants and the amount of grants made ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARD, ROHTAK.

**\*4185. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the amount of educational grants made to the District Board of Rohtak in 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :**

	Rs.
1930-31 .. .. .	3,94,822
1931-32 .. .. .	3,08,240
1932-33 .. .. .	2,73,624
1933-34 .. .. .	2,66,203
1934-35 .. .. .	2,81,836
	(grant, sanctioned up-to-date.)

It may be added for the honourable member's information that the grant to each district board is assessed on the expenditure incurred on education.

**DISTRICT BOARD SCHOOLS, ROHTAK.**

**\*4136. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) the number of schools closed by the District Board of Rohtak in consequence of financial stringency ;
- (b) the years during which grade promotions and annual increments of teachers were stopped in consequence of financial stringency ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in consequence of continued financial stringency it has been decided by the District Board of Rohtak to close certain schools during the year 1935-36 ;
- (d) the steps which the District Board has been compelled to take to balance its budget in the way of curtailing expenditure on education ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

**PROVINCIALIZATION OF HOSPITALS.**

**\*4137. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the conditions which should be fulfilled before a hospital belonging to a local body can be provincialized ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (1) The local body concerned must express its consent.

(2) The local body must express its willingness to hand over the existing buildings, site and equipment of the hospital to Government.

(3) The local body has to undertake to pay to Government a contribution towards the maintenance of the hospital equal to the average expenditure incurred by it during the 2 years previous to provincialization, and, in the case of district boards, instead of actually crediting the amount to Government, the board should agree to the reduction of the Government grant for the maintenance of rural dispensaries by the amount of the contribution payable by it. But as a measure of economy all provincialization has been stopped.

## ROAD GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARD, ROHTAK.

**\*4138. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state the amount of grants made to the District Board of Rohtak for the maintenance of roads during the years 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The required information is given below :—

						Rs.
1930-31	..	..	..	..	..	41,275
1931-32	..	..	..	..	..	25,268
1932-33	..	..	..	..	..	18,328
1933-34	..	..	..	..	..	22,967
1934-35	..	..	..	..	..	15,549

## GOHANA HOSPITAL.

**\*4139. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state whether it is a fact that the District Board of Rohtak has to maintain the hospital of Gohana on account of financial weakness of the municipality of Gohana ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Yes.

## GOHANA HOSPITAL.

**\*4140. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state whether it is a fact that the District Board of Rohtak has had to close certain schools in order to balance its budget, and, if so, whether it is not desirable that the District Board of Rohtak should be relieved of the responsibility of maintaining the hospital at Gohana ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** There is a proposal before the district board to close down certain unfourishing schools to enable it to balance its budget. It is not possible to relieve the board of the responsibility of maintaining the Gohana hospital, since, as a measure of economy, the scheme regarding provincialization of hospitals has been stopped. There are other hospitals in the province with claims similar to those of Gohana, but no funds are available for this purpose.

## GRANTS TO LOCAL BODIES.

**\*4141. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the average annual reduction made in the grants to district boards and municipalities, respectively, during the years 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934 as compared with 1928 ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.



## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

## DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

**1079. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to—

- (a) whether the Director of Agriculture has qualified himself either in fish research or in any other subject leading to the preservation of fisheries ;
- (b) what are his academic qualifications ;
- (c) how many streams he has inspected during the past 3 years ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) No ; but the administration of the Fisheries Branch of the Agricultural Department does not require any such qualifications.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to parts (b) and (c) of question No. \*1696<sup>1</sup> on the 10th November, 1932.

(c) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to part (b) of question No. \*3694<sup>2</sup> on the 25th October, 1934.

## TEMPORARY ALIENATION OF LANDS.

**1080. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to—

- (a) lay on the table a statement for the province as a whole with special reference to the districts of Shahpur, Montgomery, Lyallpur and Sheikhpura giving the following information, i.e., the temporary alienation of lands belonging to the members of agricultural tribes, ordered by executing courts and the courts of insolvency (or official receivers) during the year 1934 for the realization of debts due by the owners thereof ;
- (b) state the number of cases referred to the Collectors of the districts for advice ;
- (c) state the number of cases in which the Collectors' advice was accepted ;
- (d) state the number of cases in which the Collectors' advice was not accepted ;
- (e) state the manner in which the form allowed by the court differed from the Collectors' suggestion with the name of the officer sanctioning the farm ;
- (f) state the nature of evidence relied upon by the court or the receiver for not accepting the Collector's suggestion ;
- (g) state whether before altering the form suggested by the Collector the debtor was in each case heard ; if not, why not ;
- (h) if the debtor was not heard, the manner in which his service was effected ;

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXII, page 238.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, page 553.

[K. B. Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan.]

- (i) in the case of leases sanctioned by courts or official receivers, whether in accordance with the advice of the Collector or in disregard of it, what provision was made for the maintenance of the debtor and his family during the term of each lease ;
- (j) if the reply to (g) above be in the negative, why no provision was made and what steps Government proposes to take to ensure that in all such cases enough land is left for the maintenance of the debtor and his family ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (b) 3,940.

(c) 2,255.

(d) 858.

(a), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i). It is regretted that the information cannot be given because the labour involved in collecting it would not be commensurate with the results.

(j) Does not arise.

#### CIVIL CASES.

**1081. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to lay on the table a statement for the whole province showing the proportion of *ex-parte* heard civil cases to the total number disposed of during the years 1919, 1925, 1928, 1933 and 1934, respectively ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

#### VACANCY IN PATHOLOGY SECTION, VETERINARY COLLEGE.

**1082. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a post in the Punjab Veterinary Service, Class II, in the Pathological Section of the Punjab Veterinary College has fallen vacant ;
- (b) whether the permanent incumbent of the post has gone out of the province permanently or on probation, and if on probation for what period ;
- (c) whether any officer has been appointed in his absence, and, if so, whether that officer has any previous experience of this job, and, if so, of what length of time ;
- (d) whether the officer appointed to officiate during the absence of the permanent incumbent is also on probation in the college for the same length of time as the latter officer on his job outside the province ; if not, why not ?

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

(b) Yes ; on two years' probation.

(c) Yes ; the officer appointed in his place has worked in the post previously for about two years.

(d) No ; the officiating arrangement is temporary and without prejudice to claims of seniors.

#### LYALLPUR-JHANG ROAD.

**1083. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether he is aware that the Lyallpur-Jhang road has heavy traffic on it, and, if so, whether there is any scheme before the department for remetalling it in the near future ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Yes. If the necessary funds, which have been applied for from the Reserve in the Central Road Fund, are obtained it may be possible to metal the road between Lyallpur and Thikriwala in the near future.

#### KAMALIA-TOBA TEK SINGH ROAD.

**1084. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

(a) whether he is aware that since the establishment of a sub-division at Toba Tek Singh, district Lyallpur, the Kamalia-Toba Tek Singh road has a heavy traffic on it ;

(b) whether there is any scheme before the department for remetalling it in the near future ?

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

(b) No. There is no likelihood of funds being available for metalling this road in the near future.

#### SARDAR MOHINDAR SINGH, THIND, OF VILLAGE MOHI, GENERAL SECRETARY, PUNJAB ZAMINDAR LEAGUE.

**1085. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Mohindar Singh, Thind, of village Mohi, district Ludhiana, General Secretary, Punjab Zamindar League, is under police surveillance ;

(b) the reasons why his movements are being watched and since how long he is being watched ;

(c) whether the reasons still exist for watching his movements ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It is not in the public interest to supply an answer to this question.

## APPOINTMENTS IN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

**1086. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (i) (a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government in the Public Works Department had laid down certain educational qualifications necessary for admission to certain clerical services in the Secretariat and Circle establishment in February 1928 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that provision in these rules was made for persons who had passed the Divisional Accounts Examination conferring on them certain privileges in the matter of appointments to certain higher grades in the Secretariat, Circle and Subordinate offices ;
- (ii) if replies to question (i) (a) and (b) be in the affirmative what circumstances led to the issue of orders referred to in part (i) (b) above ;
- (iii) (a) how many appointments with higher educational and Accounts qualifications necessary for admission to higher grades were filled from among those in possession of such qualifications, from the date of introduction of these rules to end of the year 1934 ;
- (b) how many persons in possession of the Accounts qualifications were promoted to higher grades from among the existing staff employed in the Secretariat, Circle and Subordinate offices, and how many of these persons were reverted to their substantive appointments, on account of proved inefficiency ;
- (iv) if the replies to question (iii) (a) and (b) be in the negative, why the rules framed by the Department in 1928 have not been put into action yet ;
- (v) (a) name of each clerk employed in the following offices and who is in possession of prescribed Accounts qualifications :—
 

(i) Secretariat	}	in the Buildings and Roads and Irrigation Branches of the Public Works Department, Punjab.
(ii) Circle,		
(iii) Divisional and		
(iv) Sub-Divisional Offices.		
- (b) date of passing the Accounts examination by each clerk ;
- (c) total service in the Department ;
- (d) grade in which employed at present ;
- (e) promotion, officiating, or temporary (if any), the period during which such promotion was enjoyed by the clerk and reversion, with reasons for such action.
- (vi) whether Government proposes to give effect to the rules in the matter of promotion of the existing staff possessing high Accounts qualifications to higher grades ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (i) (a) and (b) Yes.

(ii) Holders of post-Matriculation Clerical Certificates are eligible for direct appointment to the grade of senior clerks in this branch. As persons who have passed the second year Post-Matriculation Clerical Examination with accountancy as the special subject are eligible for appointment as divisional accountants, it was decided that persons who have passed the accountants' examination be also eligible for direct appointment to the grade of senior clerks.

(iii) (a) Five.

(b) Three. None were reverted on account of inefficiency.

(iv) Does not arise.

(v) It is not usual to disclose the names of officers in replying to Council questions of this nature.

(vi) Does not arise.

#### BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION (*concluded.*)

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : Yesterday I was discussing the question of unemployment. Barring the few fortunate people who happen to be the favourites of some of the officials and who get jobs through them, the lot of the majority of the educated young people is very miserable. I think honourable members are aware of the race which 300 young persons including some Bachelors of Arts and Masters of Arts had to run from Jullundur city to Jullundur cantonment for three posts of constables last month. The instance may appear to be very striking but it is not solitary. It is only one of many of its kind. If you want to see for yourself how educated unemployed people are suffering you have only to pay a visit to a district bar association and there you will come across a number of otherwise promising youngmen, Bachelors and Masters of Arts, Bachelors of Laws, with pale and emaciated faces leading miserable lives of enforced idleness and starvation. These facts speak volumes for unemployment amongst the educated. Therefore, I was impressing upon the Government the necessity of taking this question in right earnest so that they should move in the matter as early as possible.

I have next to make one submission to the Honourable Minister for Education. Of late there has been a tendency of putting a dead halt to the spread of higher education. Various reasons have been given, but though I have not given my best thought to a study of this question, as at present advised, I would request the Honourable Education Minister and the Director of Public Instruction not to be side-tracked and not to do anything which might be calculated to give a setback to the spread of higher education. To my mind a starving graduate is a much better citizen and is a much better national asset than an illiterate millionaire and that should be the motto of the Honourable Education Minister. Before I close I shall just add a few things.

I welcome the policy which seems to have been adopted by the Government regarding the rural uplift movement. There may be differences regarding methods but there is absolutely no difference of opinion that that

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policy was long overdue and I also warn the Government not to be discouraged by certain insinuations in certain quarters where it has been suggested that that policy has been adopted by the Government to forestal the Congress movement which is spreading in the villages. We on this side of the House assure Government that there is absolutely no question of the *bona fides* of the Government in this matter. The next point that I wish to impress upon the Government is not to put much pressure on the peasantry in the present economic distress.

“ The proud peasantry  
The country's pride  
When once destroy'd  
Can never be supplied.”

It must be remembered the Punjab peasant fought the battles of the Empire; he has won for the Punjab the distinction of being India's Sword arm and in these times their services should not be forgotten. I shall make one final appeal to the Government and that is this. Let Government respond more freely to non-official members in the House, let them give them all material and invite suggestions from them. In this way Government will be creating a living touch between the ruler and the ruled which is so essential for any good government. Let not Government think that they have the monopoly of political wisdom, let them go outside the artificial walls that they have created around them and let them see how valuable assistance they get from the non-official side.

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak** (Lahore city, Muhammadan, Urban) : It may be acknowledged that of all the departments of Government the duties of the Finance Department are perhaps the most onerous. As custodians of our finances while it is their business to insist on a perennial increase in receipts, it also falls to their lot to rigorously scrutinise and jealously watch disbursements. No wonder then that the Finance Department should have come to be regarded as a constant source of irritation and annoyance; and if even thus circumstanced it can manage to keep itself tolerably popular with other departments unstinted praise must go to it. The Honourable Finance Member and the Honourable Finance Secretary, it must be readily conceded, have well acquitted themselves of the task of presenting a balanced budget and to that extent they deserve our warm gratitude. The flimsy margin of surplus might well have been a substantial margin if the 5 per cent. cut had not been restored, but it appears that in their anxiety not to be outdone by the central Government and by other provincial Governments in the matter of showing their generosity towards services they have felt induced to acquiesce in the restoration of the salary cut. Now I would like to offer a few observations on one or two points and will begin with the extraordinary receipts.

The capital nature of these receipts has been recognised ever since they have begun to figure in our budget estimates. In the year 1926 it was also decided—and I think very rightly decided—that receipts from rents for temporary cultivation should also be included in the extraordinary

receipts. In the current year's budget, however, a departure, for the first time since 1926, has been made and receipts from rents for temporary cultivation of Crown lands have been credited to the ordinary revenue. In so far as this may have been done to improve the revenue position no serious objection may be taken to it, but to insist on the legitimacy of treating these receipts as being part of the ordinary revenue does not appear to be sound in principle. Again extraordinary receipts themselves, for sometimes past, have now and again been mobilized to meet the necessities of financial depression. Extraordinary receipts represent in the main sale proceeds of Crown land which constitute permanent asset of the province and, therefore, they must invariably be devoted to financing projects of a capital nature. The new doctrine which is being propounded from last year that extraordinary receipts are not technically capital may be deprecated as dangerous. It certainly is not businesslike to eat up capital on one pretext or another, and I would like the Honourable Finance Member to give a positive assurance to the House that in future the extraordinary receipts not as modified during the current year but extraordinary receipts including receipts from rents for temporary cultivation and unallotted sites in towns would be exclusively used in creating other permanent assets.

A word about the newly created department—the department of so-called Rural Reconstruction. As far as I can recollect the resolution which may be held to have given birth to this precious department had recommended to the Governor in Council for taking steps to bring district authorities into closer personal touch with the people and not for appointing an officer to propagate principles of hygiene and sanitation. Not that sanitation is not necessary—I think it is a pressing necessity and an imperative necessity but this work was already being done by the District Medical Officer of Health and had better be left to him. Indeed no less than four of the beneficent departments, Public Health, Education, Veterinary and Agriculture, are already doing village uplift work, and all these departments are headed and manned by technical experts. In the presence of these four departments it is a veritable anomaly to create a department called the Rural Reconstruction Department. We are needlessly spending annually not an inconsiderable amount of money and frittering away the energy of an able officer without any prospect of achieving the main object of the resolution.

I would also invite the attention of the Honourable Finance Member to the income-tax receipts. As we all know, income-tax is a central subject and, therefore, the Government of India are quite competent to lower or raise its incidence. But that does not mean that the provinces have ceased to have any interest in these receipts. The arrangement arrived at between the Government of India and the various provincial governments at the introduction of dyarchy stands embodied in sub-rule (2) of rule 15 of the Devolution Rules which reads:

Whenever the assessed income of any year subsequent to the year 1920-21 exceeds in any Governor's Province or in the Province of Burma the assessed income of the year 1920-21, there shall be allocated to the Local Government of that Province an amount calculated at the rate of three pies in each rupee of the amount of such excess.

It is clear then that the provinces continue to retain a substantial interest in the income-tax receipts. But although the Government of

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India are annually clearing huge sums of money from the provinces by lowering the taxable income to Rs. 1,000, they have seen it fit to so amend the Rule by their notification No. 46-2/31, dated the 12th November, 1934, that the entire increase in the income-tax receipts resulting from the lowering of the taxable income is being kept by them. With all deference to the interpretative capabilities of the Pandits of the Finance Department, I submit that the phrase "assessed income" in the Rule covers not only the incidence of income-tax as it prevailed in 1921-22 but also any subsequent lowering or raising of it. Accordingly, in all conscience the increase resulting from the lowering of the taxable income should be taken into account for the purpose of calculating the provincial share of the stipulated allocation. The Government of India could not arbitrarily and with the consent of the provincial Governments deprive the provinces of their share in the increase which has been made available by the reduction of the taxable income. All that the Rule originally laid down was that up to a certain amount the provinces will not get any share in the income-tax receipts, but that beyond that sum three pies in each rupee would be allocated to the province concerned. I would go further and claim that inasmuch as the lowering of the taxable income has materially affected the paying capacity of the people of the province as regards the resultant increase we might be allowed more than three pies in the rupee. As our creditors the Government of India cannot but be aware of our financial condition, we are essentially an agricultural province we have had to make in the past and may have to make in the future large remissions in land revenue, and abiana rates, and in the matter of writing off taqavi loans. If the Government of India cannot feel disposed to treat us more generously than other provinces they may at least deal by us justly. My particular complaint is that in this matter while they have been unjust to us the Punjab Government has been guilty of laches. More than two years ago I took up this matter with the Finance Department demi-officially. I now hope and trust that the Finance Member will forthwith make suitable representations in this behalf to the Government of India.

There is another small matter and it concerns the members of this House. I think the practice of holding short summer sessions at Simla may be discontinued. We do not want these short sessions over there. It is no pleasure to us. While in point of fact we do not enjoy it, a section of the public thinks that Government arranges these summer meetings at Simla to give the non-official members a good time. We simply do not want it. If at all necessary summer sessions might be held at Lahore at about the time when the official members come down for their customary monsoon tour.

**Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave** (Nominated non-official): I should like to see included in this budget, an allotment for the building of quarters for all European and Anglo-Indian members of the subordinate police in this town. My work has taken me

3 P. M. into the homes of some of these people and I have become acquainted with their difficulties. Rents in this town are exorbitant for the kind of accommodation offered in many places and the allowances given to these men.



are very small. With city conditions invading the civil station like a cancer it is time Government focussed its attention on this problem. I have never minced matters when it has been necessary to criticise living conditions and standards of living in this country, for I believe I am doing Indians the greatest service in my power when I am brutally frank as to these. I view with grave concern the steady deterioration in living conditions and standards of living of my people. The tendency shown in the speeches of many members in this council is to effect a levelling-down only. While in a province like ours a certain amount of levelling down is necessary we must be careful always to level up as well. In this connection I should like to say that the proposal to pay graduates a salary of Rs. 30 and send them into rural areas to teach better methods of living to villagers does no credit to the honourable gentleman who put it forward. He belongs to a profession which often exacts payment for service out of all proportion to the paying power of the client and the quality (or should I say 'amount') of the service rendered. From such a quarter such a proposal should not have come. And as for ridiculing the advocacy of the use of mosquito nets all my servants including the sweepers have purchased these for themselves; so, why should not the poorest agriculturist be taught the necessity for the use of these; and learn too, if he cannot purchase one for himself, to demand one from his master? I feel sure Mr. Brayne is also trying to teach the rural people all about that crying necessity for India, the proper construction and use of latrines. Would my honourable friends give him no marks even for this? To return however to my chief concern to-day my people have to pay more for food, for clothes, for service than Indians similarly circumstanced. Take the item of fruit for instance we can never obtain at the same price as Indians as I have learnt from my patients. As long as I have strength I shall fight to maintain our standards of living which I believe are the minimum for decent living. When I complained to an Indian gentleman, blessed with an abundance of this world's goods, who drove up to see me in a seven-seater car dressed in the height of fashion, that some of our boys were being forced to work on four annas a day and that not for every day in the month, all he said was "Our coolies can live on two annas a day." Then I went off the deep end and I do not think he had ever listened to such a diatribe in his life as he got from me that day; for the poor coolie in India is forced to live not like a human being but like an animal, and a neglected animal at that. I told my rich friend this and a good deal more. Oh, you must concern yourself with levelling up or you will be pulled down some day into a sea of blood. For, already, there is a nimbling in the under world of India which bodes no good to the complacent rich. I ask that a body of men who are inadequately paid for work of the most trying description and who are exposed to severe temptations be given the relief of proper housing in sanitary surroundings where they can preserve bodily health for themselves and their families and maintain privacy and decency and so you will mitigate for them some of the ugliness of life.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): I must congratulate honourable members who have taken part in the debate for their courageous, constructive and helpful criticisms. All the speeches that I have, so far, heard have dealt with two aspects of the

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problems with which I am mainly concerned. A couple of members complained that we, the Ministers, were not in touch with actual conditions and that there was some indefinable institution called 'Government' which we were not able to influence. This is entirely wrong. Ministers form part of the Government and do take part in all the questions that are decided by the Government as a whole. (*An honourable member* : You are part of the Government.) The honourable member from Ferozepore complains that we are part of the Government. I plead guilty. It is true that we are part of Government. When the new reforms come into force the whole ministry will be the Government. (*An honourable member* : That Government will be of the people.) I do not understand what the honourable member means by the expression 'of the people.'

I am sure this house will admit that progress has been made within the limits which the finances of the province permitted and which this house was able to sanction. It is true that the progress has not been as rapid as it might have been. It is also true that unemployment in the country is growing. It is nonetheless true also, that within limits, ever since the reformed constitution came into being, progress in all the beneficent departments has been accelerated as I will presently show. It is also true that there is need for a well-defined plan to secure development of a balanced economy. I am glad to say that good progress has been made by the departments in my portfolio. Let me take first the Agricultural Department. Figures are always uninteresting. Still I trust honourable members will bear with me for a little while. In 1924-25 the total area under improved wheat seed was 1,150,000 acres, and in 1933-34 this area rose to 4,168,000 acres. The area under improved American cotton is now 964,000. The area under desi cotton was 1,362,000 acres in 1924-25 and now it stands at 1,640,000. Take again sugarcane which has almost doubled the income from every single acre on which it is grown. The area under Coimbatore sugarcane was 29,000 acres in 1924-25 and to-day it is 1,87,000 acres. I had an estimate made at the average price which prevails at the present time, and on the increase per acre that has been secured and at the most modest estimate the income from these improvements totals up to six crores of rupees a year. I am sure honourable members will agree that this is not a small gain so far as the activities of the Agricultural Department are concerned. I have not included the gains from growing fruits. Honourable members will find on their tables the 'Fruit Number' of the Punjab Agricultural College Magazine. It will reveal to them the progress that has been made in this direction. The area under fruit cultivation has increased since 1924 by 25 per cent.

Raja Narendra Nath observed yesterday, and rightly, so, that if we prevent disease among cattle we can add greatly to the well being of the agriculturists. The working of the Veterinary Department again shows continuous progress. In 1924-25 there were 179 hospitals and to-day there are 294 hospitals. The number of cases treated in the hospitals in 1924-25 amounted to about five lakhs, and to-day it amounts to thirty lakhs. In 1924-25 people did not believe in the veterinary treatment; to-day there is demand from all directions that more and more hospitals should be opened. In the matter of cattle breeding again, we have now distributed large number

of stud bulls and any one who has attended any cattle fair can bear witness to the fact, that the calves which the pedigree bulls produce, fetch at least 25 per cent. more than calves bred by the village bulls.

The Co-operative Department again has been advancing steadily the cause of Co-operation. In 1924 the number of societies was 12,457 and in 1933 the number had gone up to 21,128. The membership also has increased from 3 lakhs in 1924 to 7 lakhs and the working capital from 7 crores to 18 crores. In the matter of consolidation of holdings, in 1925 only 11,000 acres were consolidated, while in 1933, 62,000 acres were consolidated. The benefits of consolidation are being now recognised by the people. In Ambala district and in some other places people are even prepared to pay for getting their land consolidated. (*Hear, hear*). In the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Public Works Department, in 1925 there were 1,074 miles of metalled road and we now have 2,100 miles of metalled roads; and every one who has visited the Punjab bears out that our roads are the best in the whole of India. (*Hear, hear*).

Even in the Department of Industries there has been progress though not as rapid as people would wish it to be, as I myself would wish it to be. But the Mandi Hydro-Electric Station is now working, and with its development more industries will be coming into existence. The sugar factory which was established at Sonapat has been followed by three or four large sugar factories; the vegetable ghee factory at Lyallpur has pioneered the way for other vegetable ghee factories in India. The Demonstration Weaving Factory at Shahdara is now paying its way. The Hosiery Institute which was started at Ludhiana is now bringing lakhs of rupees to the people of the Punjab. Then again, recently a weaving mill has been established at Lyallpur, which owes its existence to the enthusiasm and support which our Governor gave to this undertaking. It was due to his interest that this factory was established in such a short time and even in the first year of its coming into existence, the price of cotton has gone up by, at least four annas a maund at Lyallpur. If more cotton mills are established in the Punjab they would consume the whole of our cotton and the profits to the agriculturists would be larger.

I am sure honourable members will admit that in the department which are placed in my charge there has been continued progress. So far as Agricultural Department is concerned, I can safely say that the foundations of progress have been well and truly laid. All that is necessary now is to continue the research, and spread the gospel of improved methods of cultivation and to place the improved seed within the reach of every village. In this matter again, His Excellency Sir Herbert Emerson has been taking a very keen interest and he has enlisted the services of the revenue officers for the distribution of good seed. This co-ordinated effort in the interests of agriculture is likely to bear good and happy results. It is true that depression in prices continues. As to the cause of this depression I wish my honourable friend, Mr. Manohar Lal will enlighten us, what effect money and its manipulation has on the prices. He may be able to show some way to stabilise internal prices at a higher level. So far as agricultural production is concerned, it has increased and will continue to increase. But in the matter of prices we remain where we were. Indeed the note on the farm accounts

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presented by Sardar Kartar Singh brings out some very interesting facts. The net return on this farm to Government in 1932-33 was Rs. 20,197, the net return to the tenants was only Rs. 10,793 or about Rs. 354 per family in a square. In addition the average family earned Rs. 26. Thus the total income came to about Rs. 382 per family against an average expenditure of Rs. 470. This is the position of the tenants. The position of the proprietors is not very much better. But the remedy does not lie with us. Price factor is beyond our control. It lies with us so far as we can make use of the raw produce and manufacture it into finished article. But the question of prices is a complicated question. It depends on international prices and perhaps, if Mr. Manohar Lal cares to explain meaning of money, we shall learn something about it, as to how the prices can be improved. As for the question of unemployment I am sure honourable members will agree that we on these benches feel as keenly if not more keenly than other members, for the educated unemployed. We see young boys well-educated, well-equipped, seeking employment and not finding it. We must recognize that the doors of employment for the educated are narrowing so far as Government service is concerned. But Government can only employ a limited number of men. The employment of the educated men outside the Government service must expand. I agree with Sardar Arjan Singh that we need more and more educated men to take up the real problem of developing the country. So far all our intelligence has been absorbed by the services and the other fields are barren. It is in the development of all the resources of the country that employment for educated young men can be found. There is no reason why in this modern world any country should remain poor. We can produce in abundance and distribute in abundance. What is needed is organisation. Science has discovered means of production to save labour. An individual can produce many times more than what he used to do, with the aid of modern implements. We are poor because we have failed to make use of modern implements, we have theorised and speculated but failed to organise ourselves for production. I see a great change in this House since I first occupied my seat, and I am glad that the economic problems are engaging more time and more attention of the House and members realise the need of economic development. With a well organised plan it ought to be possible for us to banish poverty and win prosperity by doing what all other countries are doing. We fritter away our energies in small things, in communal bickerings and in promoting self interest. It is for this House and the members of this House to give the lead, not a destructive lead, a lead which leads us nowhere, but a constructive lead. We should not be content with lip sympathy but start organisations which would create new fields of employment. If we do that, I am quite sure the Punjab may win such prosperity as we at present cannot even dream of.

One or two remarks were made by Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit. I am glad he referred to MacLagan Engineering College and its workshop. There is no reason why the MacLagan Engineering College should not turn out mechanics who would never seek any employment under Government but who could create new industries. I hope that when in the next three or four months I bring proposals for setting up a workshop at MacLagan College I will get sufficient support to set up a good and fully equipped workshop. He also

talked about Mandi Hydro-Electric Station. I have one word to say. It is that we shall have to generate more power to provide cheap electricity for industrial and agricultural purposes. Here again you will need a courageous policy to get what you want, to make Mandi a source from which you get cheap power for developing industries rather than fix your eye on immediate profits. Then again there is a great field, as some members pointed out yesterday, in the development of tube-well irrigation from hydro-electric power. In the neighbouring province, the United Provinces, a great deal of work has been done in that direction, and I think we in the Punjab will be able to give you a good supply from the tube-wells as soon as the enquiries which are at present being made are completed.

Lastly I think this House may take some pride in the work that has been accomplished and when the new constitution comes the new House may work for the economic development of the province learning to work together with a good will, and a sense of justice and a high aspiration to make self-Government of real benefit to the province.

**Mr. Manohar Lal** (Punjab University) : I had not proposed to speak during this general discussion but as you have been pleased to call upon me and the Honourable Minister for Agriculture has referred to me particularly more than once, I think I might venture on a few observations. Besides the way in which the various aspects of the budget have been canvassed in detail by honourable members, it struck me that two members addressed themselves to the larger issues, with one of whom I agree, and with the other, if I may say so, I differ largely. Pandit Nanak Chand spoke as if during the working of these reforms Government has tended to become less democratic. With that view I entirely disagree. Whatever the faults of the present Government may be—and Governments are always exposed to criticism—one cannot but admit the fact that if by democracy we mean an increasing sensitiveness to popular opinion our present Government is certainly a great deal more democratic than anything that we had seen in the past. The response on the part of the Government to the opinion of the people may not be as great and as live and as ready as we may wish it to be ; but of the fact of the growing response, there can be no question.

The other honourable member who addressed himself to the budget issues in the larger strain was our friend, Mr. Sadiq from Amritsar, and I think he did, if not exactly lay bare, put his finger on the essentials of the situation. Now the Honourable Minister for Agriculture said that when in a year or two hence we have reconstituted our Councils under the reforms it will be open to us to float a development loan and launch real enterprise to reconstruct the province as we would like. But why not do so here and to-day ? That is the question ? Who has forbidden him and his colleagues on the Government benches to-day to think out a proper economic plan for us here and now, to work it out and to put it into practice at once ? In the economic thought of to-day three facts predominate ; the unfortunate fact of depression, the manner in which various countries are actually escaping from the present depression and the way which various countries are planning in order to escape from the effects of this depression. In this province, if not in India generally but at any rate in this province, in our budget statements and otherwise we are perfectly familiar with the woeful tale of depression.

[Mr. Manohar Lal.]

We also have occasionally a little reference to recovery—small tales of how, we are not as badly off as we were a little while ago. But do we, in any seriousness, ever find ourselves facing the idea of proper planning? The Minister would throw the burden on future councils when, as he said, we might have a little power some time hence. We may then, says he, undertake some kind of plan for 5 or 10 years. That is not the right approach to an issue of this character. Now, Sir, may I say this? The most urgent and striking fact about our rural economics to-day is not this little thing here or that little thing there, but it is this, that along with all agricultural countries to-day we are in this unhappy position that we exchange our goods daily at an increasingly unfavourable rate of exchange. If I may be permitted to use the jargon of economics the ratio of international exchange is steadily becoming more unfavourable to agricultural countries, and in this respect India and the Punjab suffer very gravely. Now a matter to which the Government should address itself seriously, if it wants to do its duty by the province, and not merely be satisfied with recounting the tale of progress in this small direction here or that petty particular there which may have been achieved, is this all significant question. I am perfectly aware, I am a careful enough student of economics to be fully aware of all the calculations and considerations that have to enter into one's thought in finding a solution of this extremely difficult problem of how to get for one's country and for one's province an improving basis of trade exchange with other countries. But be the difficulties what they may, is it not the duty of the Government to address themselves to this matter? Now, if a mere student may say so, how it strikes me is this. It may be a general fault of Governments, but Government in this country and no less the Government in this province, seems to live from hand to mouth and from day to day. They seem to be overwhelmed with the difficulty that is upon them at any time. They are glad to see little solutions of small matters that are about. They do not face the issue out of which alone some measure of real prosperity may be attained. Now the Honourable Finance Member in the course of his budget speech reminded us of a fact of the greatest possible importance. It struck me at once as the fact upon which we ought to fasten our attention and that is this, that our population is growing at the rate of one per cent. per annum. One has only to place this striking fact, this big fact, this dominant fact, a fact that is of greatest possible importance in our rural economics (*Finance Member* : Hear, hear), that our population is increasing at the rate of one per cent. per annum, alongside another fact which we do not fully realize. It is a matter of regret to me to feel that even the Government does not realize that our dependence on agriculture is increasing every day, according to the figures that are supplied by those in charge of Census: our dependence on agriculture is increasing in a menacing manner. Forty years ago it stood at 61 per cent., thirty years ago it was 66 per cent., in 1921 it stood at 72 per cent. and it has grown since. Just imagine a province like ours with increasing dependence on agriculture, and the ratio of international exchange deteriorating; one is only bound to feel, if one has the imagination, and it does not require very much imagination either, to feel that we are heading for economic misery if not collapse. Is it the policy of Government, one should like to inquire, somehow to see that we ought to play merely the rural rôle on the economics of the world? It

strikes me as a student that Government—whatever the reasons may be, they can be scanned, but I do not propose to do so to-day, whatever the reasons may be—Government is only too willing to let this sad economic rôle develop; at any rate it is not feeling any sense of agitation or disturbance in its mind at the realization of these facts. Some of the western world would be only too willing to let us play this rural rôle. Governments here never tire of speaking of agriculture as our one industry as if the exclusive pursuit of that industry were our one heaven-appointed task. The importance of our rural brethren in this province is great, I have said that time and again. Our utmost sympathy is with them, but they must realize that they cannot, so to say, rest their economic strength only on one foot. We cannot have the position that our dependence on agriculture must continue to increase if we are to achieve an improving economic standard of living. Now, I am not giving expression to merely an idle statement. My friend the Honourable Minister for Agriculture was pleased in retelling the story of the progress of his department, to say that in this direction and in that direction there has been increased production. He seems to be singularly unaware, *singularly unaware*, of what the Director of Agriculture, one of the officers working under him, said in his report so recently as in 1932-33, that while during the last ten years it may be a fact, it is a fact that our total production has increased during this period, our production has not increased as rapidly as our population.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** That is quite true.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** If that be a fact and the Honourable Minister cannot deny, it is our paramount concern not to see whether our production is increasing as fast, at least, if not faster, than population, or are we to be satisfied merely by the one-sided story on the part of our Minister that our production has increased? What is the use of saying that your production is increasing, if simultaneously your population has increased much more than your production? (*Interruption*). If I had the time I could talk of prices by the yard, but I have to keep myself, to my 20 minutes. It is not the Director of Agriculture only whose report should have been in the mind of the Honourable Minister. (*Interruption*). All that I can say is that the Honourable Minister seems to have failed sadly in remembering his own review.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** It does not mean that the production has not increased.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** Let me go further. A similar statement was made in another authoritative document produced under the guidance of no less an authority than Mr. Darling. I am referring to what the Banking Inquiry Committee reported in this province in the year 1929. That also calls attention to this grave matter. The report refers to the period during which all this general agricultural progress leading to increased production was going on. The report calls attention also to this startling and serious fact that in this province production has not increased as fast as the population. Now I ask in all seriousness, has the conscience of Government been struck by this tremendous fact? They are pleased to see that they have introduced new seeds and better seeds, and helped in the production

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of better cotton and more sugar. We are all conscious of it and duly grateful. But, is it not even more important to see that all these things are increasing as fast as the population. If that is not happening and if simultaneously with that our prices are falling and our trade with the world is carried on at increasing disadvantage then I think we are on the brink of economic disaster, howsoever long we might postpone it. This is merely ordinary arithmetic. These are the facts which the Government really anxious for the amelioration of the province must ponder. They must not merely see that somehow this year shall pass, the budget session, the most troublesome session, be somehow over, the passage of grants safely secured, and then engage on the routine task of departmental sanctions and technical appropriations of these grants, till another year comes round. I say in all seriousness that it is about time that the conscience of Government on these matters would really be touched and a proper plan for the development, a balanced development of our economic activities, should be produced.

I would refer to another matter which arises directly in connection with the budget. That is this. I trust I am not going to give away a secret if I were to say that the Honourable Finance Member came in our midst one day when we were having the meetings of the select committee on the Indebtedness Bill with the idea that the real remedy of indebtedness is land mortgage banks. I was gripped by the words as I had all along felt that that was one main remedy, and I was happy to feel that the Honourable Finance Member had seen where the remedy lay. I am one of those, the House will bear me out, who were in complete sympathy with the basic principles which were underlying our Indebtedness Bill. A debt crisis had been reached and it had to be met. Indebtedness of this province is larger per head of the rural population than anywhere else, standing at the high figure of Rs. 92 per head. But I was also one of those humble students who ventured to suggest that in these matters true remedies ought to be found. You must discover the cause and lay the axe at the root of the cause, and you must furnish appropriate and effective relief and I was glad to see that the Honourable Finance Member had had gleams of one true remedy, the foundation of land mortgage banks. At least six months have passed, and it may be that certain official noting has taken place in the files of the Honourable Finance Member. But has the full significance of this official glimpse of the true remedy been realized? Can any one say that during this long period of six months no material, definite, concrete and striking step should have been taken in this direction? But none has been taken. At a period when we all know that money is cheap, the rate of interest is low, and such land mortgage banks can be built up a mere idea has hinted at and it has fled by, because I feel, I may be wrong, that the Government now lives from day to day and from hand to mouth. In this regard, may I crave the attention of the House for two minutes to the position as it would have been in some other countries and has been faced on the economic side by a country on our own continent, an eastern country, Japan? You are aware that in the short span of about 50 years that country has lifted itself up from a mediæval condition to a strikingly, gloriously modern one. It has built up its



education, it has organised its finances, it has placed itself industrially in a leading position in the world, and it has built up an efficient army and navy that has made its impress on the west and it has reconstituted the whole of its political fabric. It was only as recently as the fifties of the last century that Japan came into contact with the west, while here in this country we have been in contact, even in this province which was taken up last by the British, for a much longer period in contact with the most leading commercial community in the west, the British; and our touch is direct and immediate and intimate. And in spite of that, we have become increasingly rural. I think when the history of this country, and particularly of this province comes to be written the saddest condemnation of the Government would be this that it did not shape its policy. I am not oblivious of the fact that some consciousness has recently been forced upon the Government—by the basic facts in this direction, and that we were allowed to drift increasingly in the direction of larger and larger ruralisation. Let me state one fact lest I should forget it. We have during the last year or two read and heard a good deal about Japanese competition for the sale of cotton goods in this country. Would it surprise the House if I were to tell them that Japan which has built up a position of supreme industrial leadership in the sense that it is one of the leading countries to-day produces absolutely no cotton? I think the House will realise, such are the conditions of soil and climate there, that Japan produces no cotton, but Japan is also sadly poor in the possession of those two other raw materials which are the basis of all industry, coal and iron ore. A country which does not possess coal or possesses coal of only very poor quality, whose iron resources are extremely limited, in fact a country which actually imports iron ore and has no cotton whatsoever, has been able to build up its industry in the manner in which we all know it has done. The handicaps of nature have been overcome by her energy and skill by resoluteness of her people, but even more by the determination and the foresight of her Government. Let me enforce my position by reference to an important fact. Not so very long ago the imports of Japan consisted almost entirely of manufactured goods. The Japanese imports now show the characteristic of a modern industrial country, that is, its imports of raw materials have steadily increased, they stand at 54 per cent. of total imports. Next come the raw materials partly manufactured, and only a small proportion of her imports to-day 14 per cent. are of manufactured commodities. And she is also well on the way to build her own machinery. I fail to see, I may be very obtuse and dense, but I fail to see in spite of our contact with the British with all their great education and with the tremendous leadership which they command as an industrial and commercial nation in the world, we have not been able to achieve what Japan has achieved in spite of her natural and other difficulties. And we have natural resources, and we have the most extensive market—a market which is the object of world's entry. If we have not done so it is merely because the impervious import of economic facts has not been seen. And that was so, because we have to play the rural rôle, and the mind of those in charge of our policy has not sufficiently adopted what ought to be the true trend of thought, compelling thought, and attended not to real planning in this direction. I have already over-stepped my time. (*Loud cheers*).

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural): I think I must begin with an acknowledgment of indebtedness to the Finance Department, both the head of the department and the Finance Secretary. This should not be considered as a mere formal thanks, for I feel that it is a real debt of gratitude which we owe for the trouble which they have taken in placing before us a vivid picture of our finances. It was of course very difficult for the Honourable Finance Member to hold the steer in the middle of the journey, but it is gratifying to note that the whole train has not in any way gone off the rails.

I would now come to the actual budget itself. As we all know it has been suggested that we have four main sources of revenue. The first is the land revenue and it is estimated that our receipts in the coming year under this head will be Rs. 272 lakhs. We are also told that this source of revenue is inelastic unless new canals are opened and until a greater part of the province is brought under the plough. Again we observe that our colonisation scheme is at an end and the Haveli scheme has not yet matured. We must also remember that the Lyallpur district settlement will involve some decrease in our revenue. This means that the figures of receipts as they have been presented to us are more an illusion than a reality. We should not expect to get really so much as is anticipated. The second source of revenue is irrigation. It goes side by side with land revenue. We are told that our receipts will be Rs. 4,09,50,000 this year. But if we look to the actual state of things I am afraid we will not be able to gain this much even under this head. Those who are living in the countryside will bear me out that the extent of area irrigated by canals is decreasing day by day. What is the reason? At least in my part of the district where only rice is cultivated, the extent of irrigation has already decreased, and some lands are lying uncultivated. Why is it so? The simple reason is that people cannot earn their livelihood by the profession of agriculture. After all people cannot be expected to do the hardest labour in the world gratis or by way of coercion, forced labour, *begar* as it is called. They take to labour on the land in the hope that they would be able to earn their livelihood thereby. But the unprecedented fall in prices, the unprecedented economic depression, has made it difficult for them to make both ends meet so that no one of them is able to earn his livelihood by agriculture. The abnormal rains which have been referred to in the budget speech as having done good, I assure you, have in fact done more harm than good the gram plants have been totally destroyed on account of overmoisture and everybody knows that the wheat crop is suffering from *kunqi*. Another aspect of this subject of irrigation is that subsoil water is rising at the abnormal rate of one or one and a half feet per year and it is likely that the whole of the area which is now irrigated with canals might turn into a huge expanse of water and would be totally ruined by waterlogging. No sufficient or satisfactory remedy has been found up till now to meet this situation. Taking into consideration all these things I think that irrigation cannot be counted as a source of revenue to the extent to which we have counted upon it. The third source of revenue we are told is excise. But I refuse to assume that excise should be taken as a source of revenue. We should encourage people to ameliorate their conditions, to elevate their morality and to have temperate habits. If that is done I do not think

that we can earn any revenue out of the liquor shops. We should discourage the opening of liquor shops where the people have the least objection to drink. In view of the policy of the Government as described in the Annual Excise Administration Report which supports my view I do not think we can count upon excise as a source of revenue. In this connection I may read from the *Government Gazette*, dated 15th February, 1935. It says:—

Government will carefully watch the effect of opening new shops in rural areas and wherever a demand exists will not hesitate to meet it provided they are satisfied that the sale of licit liquor will not put undue temptation in the way of persons who would otherwise not drink liquor. Government cannot, however, accept a policy of strewing the countryside with liquor shops regardless of the injurious effect of drink and drug habit on the welfare of village communities.

This itself will show that it will not be in the interest of Government to open liquor shops everywhere in the countryside nor to count on excise as a source of revenue. The fourth source is stamps. Suffice it to say that the duty has been doubled since 1924 and the economic depression again stands in the way of people who want to buy stamps to bring regular civil suits against their debtors. It does not pay them now and so long as the economic depression continues there will be no regular income from this head.

So then we come to the position of finding out the remedy for this situation. Our only remedy lies in the curtailment of our expenditure. No new sources of revenue have been discovered. What have we done on the other hand? We have committed the biggest blunder of our lives by the restoration of the five per cent. cut. There is no iota of justification for that. Low prices must bring down high salaries. The scales of pay in this country are unparalleled, higher than any other country in the world. When in 1926—I think I am right in the date—the present scales of pay were fixed, the reason given was that extraordinarily heavy prices ruled the market in those days. Later on when the prices fell and the cost of living lowered it was the bounden duty of Government to have reduced the scales according to the prevailing prices in the market. The salaried people are the only people now who are rolling in wealth. In this connection I would like to refer you to only one sentence of the well-known paper, *The Daily Herald*. In its issue, dated the 27th February, 1935 publishing the proceedings of the Punjab Merchants Chamber, it says—

It is with the greatest sense of disappointment that the Association has learnt the declaration of the Government of India to restore the remaining 5 per cent. cut in the salaries of Government servants of all grades.

The only justification given in the budget speech for the restoration of the 5 per cent. cut in this province is that we should follow the Secretary of State and the Government of India. With due deference to this remark—for I know we have to bow to their decision—I submit that it should have been our duty to see that the special circumstances prevailing in special provinces are given due weight. This is an agricultural province and as I have already shown this is a poor province necessarily and it cannot afford such high scales of salary as prevail now. A sum of Rs. 16 lakhs which this restoration of cut will cost us might be nothing for other Governments, but it is a great thing in a budget where only a surplus of Rs. 56,000 is shown. Then the paper says—

One wind storm might wipe off this little surplus of Rs. 56,000.

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This money should have been spent wisely in three ways, for research work for the waterlogged areas to which I have referred, for the remission of land revenue, water-rate, *malikanas* and other dues so as to relieve the poor zamindar or this sum might have been kept as a reserve fund for bad times which are sure to come. As I have already said I do not think our revenues are likely to increase in any way in the near future.

This brings me then to the question of expenditure. We are told that education takes the lion's share of our expenditure. Education, of course, is a good thing and the Minister for Education is also a member of our Party, but that alone would not keep me from pointing out loopholes. I have referred over and over again to three things at least under education. One is that the number of assistant district inspectors is too large. There are more assistant district inspectors in a district than the number of tahsils. The second is the post of personal assistant to the district inspectors of Schools. Personal assistants are required for the Revenue Member or for the Ministers not for the district inspector who has perhaps been headmaster of a middle school before his appointment as district inspector. The third is the appointment of physical training assistant district inspectors throughout the province. These men are getting at least Rs. 100 on an average per district and there alone we can affect a saving of Rs. 36,000. These people go to the village schools and ask the little boys to convert their dhotis into breaches or shorts and so on. There is another reason for the abolition of these posts. Last year all the assistant district inspectors of the province were sent to Dharmasala for physical training. These people can give physical training, so there is no need for physical training assistant district inspectors. This post is, therefore, superfluous and must be abolished.

I have already been making reference to the useless agricultural farms in the districts. I will not speak on the co-operative banks. I have been making reference to the Industries and Fisheries Departments but our speeches, I am sorry to say, always fall flat on our worthy Ministers. Our complaint is not that our Ministers are not in touch with public opinion. Our complaint is that, being in touch with public opinion, they do not care for it. What I want to impress on them is that they should pay heed to our word and should try to ameliorate the position of the province, as they are one of us and they must know better than we do.

Another remarkable feature, as has been stated by the leader of my Party, is the healthy reference to the High Court. A new era has dawned on the litigant public of the Punjab and a new chapter has been opened in the history of justice by the advent of Sir Douglas Young. His campaign against corruption, his campaign for the speedy disposal of cases is remarkable and is bound to do a lot of good. The observation that "justice delayed is justice denied" applies to this province best of all and I hope the trespassers will not be allowed to eat any longer the fruits of the lands upon which they have no right whatever, civil rights will no longer be trampled under foot and justice will no longer be bought, even-handed justice will be meted out to the poor and to the rich. The number of Judges is to be reduced and this is another sign of the good working of the High Court under the supervision of the present Chief Justice.

Another thing which is important to notice is our expenditure on the police. It has been stated that we will have to spend a lot more than we have already been spending. I should point out that there is no civil disobedience movement and no Ahirar movement and we do not stand in any special need of additional police. But the reason for this additional expenditure—and I do not agree with that view—is that as the population has increased by 1 per cent., therefore, the number of the police should be increased. How is it supposed that every man who is born after 1935 will be a ruffian and, therefore, police must be required to check the activities of that man? If he is properly brought up, if he is properly trained, there is no need for the police to come in at all. The increase of population is a matter of concern for the Health Department and the Education Department in the first instance. If the Health Department and the Education Department work earnestly I do not think there will be any need for the police to step in. I would like to say in this connection that the greater the number of the police, the greater is the number of crimes. That is at least my experience. There has been a new thana opened in our ilaga and I am sorry to say that if there is a quarrel between a husband and wife over the question of putting water in the *Huqqa*, one of the parties runs to the police station. That is the only thing the people learn from the imposition of additional police and by the establishment of thanas in the ilaga. As my time is up I resume my seat.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): First of all I should like to congratulate the honourable members of this House on the high level of the debate this year. I have carefully watched the general discussions of the budget during the last fifteen years and I have never listened to a general discussion in which the speeches have been of a higher level than they have been this time. At last the honourable members of this House are beginning to devote their attention to the larger problems of this province, problems which relate to the welfare of the people.

Before I reply to the various speeches made in the House, I should like to make a few general remarks. We hear a good deal about the poverty and ignorance of our people, and there seems to be a general desire on the part of all—the public and the Government alike—to improve the lot of the Punjabi. The thing to see and to drive at is the improvement of the economic condition of the people as a whole. If you see the budget debates in other countries, e.g., in Europe, the main part of their attention is devoted to the economic problems of their countries, and I think it should be our duty to devote a greater part of our time to the solution of our economic problems. The lines on which I feel we ought to move are, first, that there should be a free export of raw material. There should be no hindrance in their export. I was very glad to see in the budget speech of the Honourable Finance Member at Delhi that this year he had decided to remove the export duty on raw hides. Raw skins are a material which affect particularly the poorer zamindars and if there is an export duty on these their prices are bound to fall. Another point that ought to be borne in mind is that we ought to have barter agreements with foreign countries which export things to our country. I was very glad to see last year that the Government of India entered into an agreement with Japan by which Japan agreed to buy

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a certain amount of our cotton, with the result that this year we have already noticed a considerable rise in the price of Punjab cotton. Similarly I see no reason why there should not be an agreement between countries like Czechoslovakia. The latter is exporting thousands of shoes to our country. That is a line of action which I think might lead to better economic condition. The second line of action is that we ought to have industries within our province which will consume our raw material. The province has already made a good start by having a cotton cloth factory at Lyallpur, and I hope that there will be many more cotton factories put up in this province, with the result that our raw cotton will be consumed within the province itself and that there will be no need to export it.

I should like to draw the attention of Mr. Manohar Lal to one fact. That is this, that in the economic development of a country a government is incapable of helping the industry of that province unless it has full control over certain matters. One of those matters is the tariff policy of the country, and, the second, control over transport. In this province the Government have neither control over the tariff policy of the Government of India nor have they control over the freights on railways. If we want to export our wheat, we have to appeal to the Railway Board to reduce the freight on wheat, and if we want any protection for any of our industries we have to go to the Government of India and here lies the difficulty in the Punjab Government working out a five year programme or some other programme on its own responsibility for the economic development of this province. The honourable member for the University blamed my colleague for not drawing up a programme for economic development in this province at once. The difficulty is, as I have said before, that the Punjab Government have no control over matters which are of vital importance to the economic development of this province. On the other hand, you look at our income. The income of this province depends mainly on land revenue and water-rates and the total income from these two sources is about 7 or 8 crores a year and the total income of the province is only 10 crores a year—I am speaking roughly. If our population during the last fifteen years has gone up by 15 per cent. and our provincial income is stationary, what improvement can we make in the conditions of the public? We must do something which will enable us to increase our income in accordance with the increase in our population. You see our sources of income are more or less rigid. We can no doubt get Rs. 40 or 50 thousands from a cycle tax and perhaps a like amount from a cinema tax, but that is tinkering with the problem. The only source which can give us a substantial income would be the income-tax. Some members have suggested that we ought to go in for industrial development. Supposing the Punjab Government spent one crore on the development of industries, the Government of India are going to derive the benefit because the income-tax will not go to the Punjab. What will the Punjab Government gain out of it? If the provincial income is to rise, we must have some share out of the income-tax. Otherwise it is impossible for any provincial Government to develop the country.

I should like to ask your indulgence in permitting me to give a few figures, because just now a great deal of criticism has been levelled by a

certain section of politicians in England that Indians are incapable of administering the various departments in their charge. If I give these figures to show that Government have done good work it is merely to prove that the trust placed in the hands of the members of this Council has been discharged very honourably. Any work that may have been done by any department or any improvement made by any department is mainly due to the support and encouragement given by this House. Some members also have remarked that adequate progress is not being made in this province in various departments. Permit me to present a few figures to this House for Education Department to show what progress has been made since 1920 when the reforms came into operation.

In the year 1920-21 the total expenditure on education in this province was 85 lakhs and in the year 1933-34 it was a crore and fifty-nine lakhs. The number of boys that passed the matriculation examination in the year 1920 was 4,863 and in 1933 was 10,399. The number of graduates in 1920 was 639 and in 1933 was 1,498. The number of girls that passed the matriculation in 1920 was 46 and in 1933 was 590. Number of girls that graduated in 1920 was six and in 1933 was 73. In the face of these figures I am sure the House will feel proud of the progress made in education though that progress may be only very little as compared with the progress made by other countries.

I will now give a few figures to show what progress has been made by the Education Department in this province as compared with other provinces in India. So far as single teacher schools are concerned—which is supposed to be bad from the provincial point of view—we are the best province in the whole of India. In Madras there are 23,000 single teacher schools, in Bombay 36,000 single teacher schools and in the Punjab there are only 1,200 such schools. So far as compulsory education is concerned, the total number of rural areas under compulsion in the whole of India is 3,892, of which no less than 2,900 areas are in this province. Similarly, the total number of urban areas in the whole of India is 153 and the number in the Punjab is 54.

Honourable members must have seen the quinquennial report prepared by Sir George Anderson for the years 1927—32. From that report and from other reports published from time to time honourable members will have observed that the Punjab leads other provinces in India in several matters relating to education. As far as agricultural bias of text books is concerned ours is the best province. In Physical training also the Punjab leads the rest of India. In the boy scout movement we give a lead to the rest of the country also. The proportion in which the number of girls receiving education has gone up as compared with girls in schools in previous years is higher in this province than in any other province of India. Similarly the number of trained teachers is the highest in the Punjab as compared with the rest of the country. Thus, in the matter of education this Council has every reason to be proud of the achievements during the past fourteen years.

Some honourable members referred to fee concessions. The fee concessions given to agriculturists are already very liberal. In the primary classes all agriculturists and kamins are given absolutely free education. In the secondary stage there are no less than 38 tahsils in the whole province

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where agriculturists' and kamins' children get half-fee concessions. Similarly we have fee concessions for agriculturists higher up in schools. One honourable member made a suggestion that we ought to raise the fees of urban students and reduce the fees of agriculturists students. But there is one difficulty in giving effect to this suggestion. For, it is not all agriculturists that are poor. There are well-to-do zamindars also. On the other hand all urban students are not rich. There are also poor urban students and these will be hard hit by a fee system of the nature suggested by the honourable member.

I am sure the House will be pleased to know that the expenditure on the education of girls in this province has gone up considerably. In the year 1922 we spent Rs. 7,09,000, on the education of girls whereas in 1933 we spent Rs. 17,67,000. The progress of girl's education is proportionately the highest in the Punjab as compared with the rest of the country. According to the quinquennial report, for every two girls that went to school in 1927, the number in 1932 was five. The next best province was Bombay where for every two girls that attended school in 1927 there were only four girls in 1932.

I should like to say one word about higher education. Sometimes it has been remarked that we are spending a great deal of money on higher education particularly on colleges. I personally think that it will be a great mistake to shut down any of our colleges particularly the ones in the mufasil. It is only during recent years that Government have provided facilities for higher education in rural areas. Now we find that sons of our zamindars are getting higher education and are beginning to come forward to take their due share in the political and economic life of the province. Even if they do not find employment, I feel that the mere fact that educated men are living in a village is bound to uplift the people round about them. It will be a mistake if we ever adopted a policy of closing down the colleges in the mufasil. A great deal has been said about rural uplift in this country. You may appoint hundreds of lecturers to go to villages to lecture to people to do such and such things which might improve their lot. But the real uplift of the rural areas will never take place unless we do two things. One is to educate our masses; and the other is to give them food, that is, better their economic condition. I believe that rural uplift can only be done by the education of our people. Unfortunately we have not enough money to educate our masses and they therefore continue to be in ignorance and poverty.

I will just give a few figures to show what progress we have made in the Medical Department. The number of hospitals in 1920, that is before the reforms was 366 and the number in 1933 was 778. The number of patients treated in all the hospitals in the province in 1920 was 46 lakhs and the number treated in 1933 was a crore and forty lakhs. Thus it will be observed that the province has made considerable progress in all directions and that this Council may well feel proud of the use it has made of the opportunities offered by the reforms of 1921.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie** (Finance Secretary): In the first place I should like to acknowledge the kind remarks made by a number of honourable



members about the working of the Finance Department. I assure them on behalf of myself and my colleague, Mr. Grindal and the whole staff of the Finance Department that their good opinions are highly valued and are most encouraging.

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by the Deputy President).*

There are a few small matters about which I wish to say a few words by way of explanation. My friend, Mr. Muhammad Din Malak said—perhaps I may not have caught him correctly—that he thought that we were not getting our proper share of income-tax. We may not be getting our proper share, but I can assure the House that we are getting our due share under the present constitution. The amount to which we are entitled is regulated by one rule and one rule only. It is Devolution Rule 15 which lays down that when in any year after 1920-21 the assessed income exceeds the income of that year the province shall receive three pies for each rupee of the amount of that excess. This year we have received—a windfall for the first time for many years—of a lakh and a half and the next year we have been warned to expect a lakh and ten thousand.

The next matter is one which arose in the course of the speech of Mr. Roberts. Mr. Roberts said that he was surprised to see that we were still paying 5 per cent. interest on our loans. I do not think he quite understands the position. In brief it is this. We are not paying 5 per cent. on our loans. In the current year we pay  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. If honourable members will look at pages 20 and 21 of the printed budget they will see the exact amount of our outstandings and the amount of interest charged on them. Government of India charge us interest in accordance with the price of money at the time they themselves take up the loans. The Government of India have been very kind bankers to us and they have been extraordinarily obliging. They operate the provincial loans fund without any profit and whenever they succeed in the conversion operation the result of the profits are passed on to the fund and in due course accrue to the provinces themselves. We receive our full share of the benefit. I think Mr. Roberts got his figure of 5 per cent. from the average rate or what is called the 'flat-rate' which we charge the commercial departments. We get that rate by taking the average of the interest of all the money we have borrowed. The average does work out at the moment at 5.19 per cent. It is gradually decreasing and as more conversions are effected it will go down still further.

Mr. Roberts also said that we ought to be allowed free access to the money market, to borrow as much money as seemed good to us, at the most favourable rates possible and that we should be allowed to pay off the old loans which bear heavy interest charges. Such a course is unfortunately impossible. The Government of India must be the controlling authority in that matter. The Punjab is only one province. The Government of India has to finance nine. Occasionally if the Government of India itself has no loans maturing and does not wish to go to the market itself, it may allow us, as it did in 1934, to raise a loan. But it must be the judge. As for paying back the old outstanding loans, it could hardly permit us to do that when it had borrowed the funds, from which it has lent those loans to us, at a higher rate of interest and when those loans are not yet due to mature.

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

The third item mentioned by my friend Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi was the desirability of crediting temporary cultivation rents into a revenue reserve fund. He and certain other members seem to have doubts as to the revenue character of rents from temporary cultivation. Surely no item could be more purely revenue than such receipts. We can only treat it as such for all practical purposes until the article or the land or whatever is the source of it, is permanently alienated. If the land is sold, it is a different matter. If the land is bearing rent, yielding land revenue or malikana or whatever it may be, surely that is pure revenue and as long as we wish can be treated as such. It was decided a year ago to go back to our original system whereby this source had been credited to revenue on account of the comparative weakness of our revenue position. As to the formation of a revenue reserve fund, some members of the House will doubtless remember that such a fund was actually once formed in 1926, but was abandoned owing to the objections by the Government of India and the Secretary of State and also owing to accounting difficulties. My predecessor, Mr. Puckle, explained the matter very fully to the Council at that time some three years ago and he said that there was not really much point in taking 17 lakhs—as in this year—out of the revenue account when that was showing a deficit, and it would have been shown a deficit this year if the 17 lakhs had been put in it,—and putting it into a so-called revenue reserve fund, when in due course you will have to take it back again and put it in your revenue account to meet your deficit. It is a question of putting money in one pocket and then transferring into another pocket and then putting it back again into the first pocket. So, for practical as well as technical reasons, there are not very strong arguments for such a fund being instituted. It does not matter where your surplus is, so long as you have got one. It would be better to build up a revenue balance than to take arbitrarily a certain amount of money out of our revenue account and call it a reserve. When we have got a revenue balance then indeed we have a definite surplus which we can spend in any way which seems good to us.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): I am most grateful to honourable members who have given various suggestions with regard to the departments under my control. I assure them that their suggestions will receive careful consideration on my part. With regard to certain matters, however, there appears to be misapprehension in the minds of some members. For instance, the leader of the Unionist Party, Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, has brought forward a charge against the Government of delay in the execution of the Bhakra Dam. I think as a member of the Government of which he himself was not very long ago an ornament, he should have known that such things cannot be executed within a short period. There are difficulties and drawbacks which have to be overcome before a scheme of that magnitude can be executed. As regards the Bhakra Dam—I am sorry the honourable member is not present now—I assure him that everything possible has been done. I have gone through the files carefully and find that everything possible has been done to expedite the scheme. There were, however, certain hitches in the way over which the Punjab Government had absolutely no control. We had to carry on long and protracted negotiations with Bilaspur State in whose territories the dam was to be

constructed. The area required was about 20,000 acres and it would involve the depopulation of a great area of that State. A part of this area—I believe quite a large portion will be submerged in water including probably the capital town of the State. This is a serious problem and we are negotiating with the State authorities. Then there is the question of compensation, whether cash payment should be made or whether a portion of the British territory should be given to the State in return for the land. These are really difficult problems which are being considered. The last question that we are now considering is whether His Highness's Government would accept an exchange with one of our colony areas of 5,000 acres. A conference will shortly be held in which this question will be considered and unless that question is decided, I am afraid it is impossible to go ahead with the scheme.

With regard to the Haveli Project, I am afraid I cannot at the present moment hold out any hope. As far as the Punjab Government are concerned, we have held preliminary survey. But again this question involves the distribution of water not only between the various States but also between the various provinces of British India. I do not agree with my honourable friend, Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, when he says that the water belongs to the province through which it passes. This I think would be dangerous principle if accepted. According to that principle, there is another province also which is interested in Punjab waters, I mean the North-West Frontier Province and it would have a prior claim to all the Sindh water. I think it is a dangerous principle to follow and a principle according to which, if adopted, we ourselves would be losers. Another thing which Chaudhri Sahib should have realized is the position of the Punjab Government which is really subordinate to that of the Government of India and we cannot decide anything unless all these various questions are decided. A conference is now being held at Delhi in which the interests of the Punjab are being closely watched and His Excellency the Governor is taking a personal interest in the matter. Our representative will see that the interests of the Punjab do not suffer but are properly represented. But as long as that question is not decided, I am afraid I cannot give any hope. But as soon as that question is decided I can assure him there would be no further delay, although we cannot at present say whether it would really be a paying proposition.

Chaudhri Sahib next pointed out certain defects in the administration of the Criminal Tribes Act. He said that a certain number of zamindars were detained on suspicion under the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act for about two years and that even under section 110, Criminal Procedure Code, the accused are asked to furnish security for one year only. If these allegations are true, the matter will be enquired into. I have not seen the papers, but I do think that perhaps the proper course would have been to proceed under section 110. I think there is good deal in what the Chaudhri Sahib said. I assure him that I shall make personal enquiries into this matter and see what can be done.

With regard to forests, my friend, Sardar Ujjal Singh, has said that they are not a paying proposition and are not being run on business lines. It is a very difficult problem. These forests could be made to pay if we were to cut down all our forests in order to bring more money to the coffers of the Punjab Government. I am sure that every member of this House would

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agree that this would be a suicidal policy and would be disastrous not only for the province but perhaps also for the rest of India. As everybody knows by this time—not only the educated community but also the zamindars have realized—that on the protection and safety of our forests depends the prosperity of the whole country. So long as that policy of protection continues, I think it would be a very difficult task to make forests a paying proposition. The destructive policy was followed sometime ago, I think before the War, and some forests were denuded. The price of timber had gone up with the result that many capitalists both from this and other provinces rushed to the North-West Frontier Province. The Government were as careful as they always are in such matters, but the contractors went across the border and bought huge quantities of timber from the forests of the independent chiefs who never realized the danger of the forests being denuded. It was long after that the North-West Frontier Province Government realized the danger and they are now protecting not only their own forests but also the forests of the tribesmen and the chiefs on the other side of the border. We in the Punjab too are following the same policy, *viz.*, the protection of our forests. If my friend, Sardar Ujjal Singh, were to come and see some of the forests not only in this province but also in the North-West Frontier Province, he will find that we possess some of the finest ched forests in the world. That is due to the careful working of the Forest Department. It is really the wealth of the country which we are not depriving the country of when the rates are low and for which the posterity will owe us some gratitude. It would not be out of place at the present moment if I relate a story in this connection. An ancient king, they say, was once passing through a village when he saw an old man of 90 years planting fruit trees, —probably date trees which take very long to bring forth fruit. He asked the old man: “Why are you taking all this trouble in planting these trees the benefit of which neither you nor even your sons will be able to derive?” The old man turned round and replied: “Sire, if that policy had been followed by our ancestors, probably your majesty and I would have had to go without fruit to-day.” It is really for the future generation that we are preserving these forests and it is in the interest of the posterity, that we are not denuding them.

Some very useful suggestions have been made by Mr. Roberts in regard to the Hydro-Electric Scheme, that hydro-electric power should be used for preventing water-logging. I am a layman and I have not been able to consult the Chief Engineers but apparently there appears to be a good deal of force in Mr. Roberts' suggestion. I shall talk to the officers and if anything is possible it will be done. Water-logging is causing grave anxiety not only to the people but to the Government as well and it would receive proper attention.

Much has been said about the Rural Reconstruction Department. I am afraid there is some misapprehension in the minds of honourable members about the creation of this department. I assure them that no permanent department has been created. An officer has been appointed in order to co-ordinate the activities of the various departments of Government in the matter of rural reconstruction. It is not a separate department but a part of the general scheme of rural reconstruction. The idea is to utilise officers

of all departments for this work and to co-ordinate their work. Government would in this way be able to carry on without employing a large staff and is looking forward to a time when the policy of rural reconstruction is followed by other departments as part of their daily routine when the necessity for the Commissioner of Rural Reconstruction would altogether disappear. This policy has already been followed in most of the districts where meetings of officers of the various departments and non-officials are being held. In connection with this subject certain suggestions have been made for the constitution of panchayats. Government does realize the necessity of panchayats. I admit panchayat officers if appointed will have great influence over this reconstruction work. This point is receiving the careful consideration of Government. One lakh of rupees has been reserved for this purpose and as soon as the Council has passed this amount the question will be considered. (*An honourable member* : But no provision has been made in the budget for panchayats). We will consider the appointment of panchayat officers in this connection. Another windfall has also come in this direction. The Government of India is very keen about rural reconstruction. As you must have observed, they have allotted a crore of rupees for this work and I hope that the Punjab will have its due share. With this money from the Government of India I think it may be possible to appoint panchayat officers who will be most useful for this work of rural reconstruction.

I am not a student of rural economics. My friend Mr. Manohar Lal has stated that the British Government has not been able to do much and he has compared our country with Japan and countries of the west. As I have already stated, I am not an economist but I am sure that he will realize that every country has its own conditions and has its own circumstances. India is primarily a rural country and as far as it is possible for a Government to do has been done in the direction, Government have been doing their utmost for the main industry of the province, that is agriculture. If I may remind my friend, interest in this direction was taken from the early days of the British Raj. One of the Lawrence Brothers who I think came out to India in 1860, even in those early days gave instructions to settlement officers that the first duty of a settlement officer was to see that the people were prosperous. It was again not very long after that that a society in Lahore was started to improve fruit growing. In my own district I remember instructions were given by Sir James Abbott, the settlement officer, that gardens should be absolutely free from assessment of land revenue. The result was that the Hazara district in which our ilaqa was at one time included became the garden district of the province. In order to meet the needs of the daily increasing population of the country I think enough has been done by Government. We have got about the best canals in the world. It was in these ways that Government met the problem of the growing population. I must, however, admit that further encouragement of industries is necessary but as has been pointed out by my friend the Honourable Minister for Education and the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, it is being done. I do not say that enough is being done, but I am sure no stone will be left unturned to make further progress in that direction (*cheers*).

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** (North-East Towns, non-Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*) : It is really a matter of great credit that the Honourable

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Finance Member has presented a surplus budget at a time when some neighbouring provinces like the United Provinces and the Central Provinces are faced with deficit budgets. I whole-heartedly congratulate the honourable member on his success. I do realize that it is almost impossible to deal with various items of expenditure in so short a time as is at our disposal. However I feel called upon to make a few observations with regard to certain important matters. The very first thing to which I would like to advert is the announcement of Government's restoration of the cut in the salaries of Government servants. I have not the least hesitation in submitting that this action of Government is absolutely uncalled for. When we see that our country is face to face with a very serious situation inasmuch as the zamindars who make ninety per cent. of the whole population have fallen on evil days, the Government would have done well if instead of restoring the cut in the salaries of Government servants they had taken steps to reduce land revenue and abiana and thus had to some extent relieved the zamindars of their present distress. But perhaps the Government could not afford to displease or rather incur the wrath of their servants and for that reason they perhaps thought it advisable to restore the cut in the salaries of public servants. You know it perfectly well that the zamindars, on account of the present abnormal conditions, have been forced to part with the most precious things such as the sacred ornaments of their wives. In fact they are hardly able to make their two ends meet. The Government should have sympathised with these people and given them some relief but to our utter surprise they have turned their attention to the interests of their servants and restored the cut in their salaries. I am really sorry to observe that the Government have not paid the least attention to the question of unemployment which has assumed great magnitude.

The next point to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is that only the other day the Honourable Finance Member was pleased to say that a fairly large sum was provided for education and even to-day the Honourable Minister for Education has remarked that Government is spending large sums of money on education. But I ask, what is the good of the present system of education? It only produces clerks. Our position is the same as it was in 1880. Of course you produce fifteen

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or twenty thousand graduates every year. But they are good for nothing. They make only good clerks. In these days the graduates cannot secure posts drawing even Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 a month. I believe that the present university education is absolutely useless and should therefore be abandoned. I also believe and assert as I have asserted so often before in ladies meetings that university education should not be imparted to girls, for it is sure to prove as injurious to them as it has proved harmful to boys. I therefore submit that the sooner these colleges and universities are abolished the better. The primary or at the most the middle education is quite sufficient. The savings that can thus be effected may well be utilised on the expansion of primary education in the province. You should see that not a single boy or a single girl is left without education. The present system of education is of no use at all. We should see that whatever education is imparted to our boys and girls is of some use in their after life.

Again it has been said with pride that dispensaries have been opened in almost all places, in cities, towns and villages. So far so good. But I take serious exception to the appointment of civil surgeons who draw very fat salaries. In most cases the salary of a civil surgeon exceeds the total expenditure of the dispensary to which he is attached. This highly paid official is altogether useless. He usually comes to hospital under his charge at 11 o'clock and after signing some papers placed before him by his clerk goes back to his bungalow at lunch time. Of course he attends to one thing and that is that he gives a certificate of fitness for work or of illness to any person who requires it on payment of a fee of Rs. 16. He is also prepared to visit an outdoor patient on payment of a similar fee. That is what he actually does in his official capacity. I am constrained to observe that Government in order to effect saving in their expenditure, may not mind curtailing the supply of food to indoor patients in hospitals or prisoners in jails but would willingly become party to a huge waste of public funds on these highly paid officials. Time allowed to me being over I will conclude my remarks by submitting that the post of civil surgeon should be abolished as being absolutely unnecessary.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani** (West Punjab Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) : It is no use addressing empty benches and I shall, therefore, content myself by saying only a few words on matters which are uppermost in my mind. To start with my impression is that the budget which has been presented is in reality a deficit budget. To call it a surplus budget is a misnomer. We know not what would be the position at the end of the financial year and even if we can make both ends meet, even if the anticipated revenues come in we cannot be sure what would be the actual expenditure. Knowing the habit of the Government as we do and with the experience of every year when supplementary grants come up towards the close of the financial year we can very well see that there must be an extra expenditure of at least 7 to 10 lakhs of rupees. This year too the other day we were busy in disposing off supplementary grants totalling about 8 lakhs of rupees. If this is to be repeated towards the close of the next financial year, we can very well conclude that we will not at all be in a happy position, of having been able to pull through or of having been able to effect any very great improvement in the revenues of the province, or again of having been able to control expenditure or of having had a surplus towards the end of the year. That I think would be claiming too much. Facts do not allow us to warrant such a conclusion. Here I may submit that after the ceremony of presenting the budget is over, new schemes are conceived, establishments are engaged, and works are undertaken and all that is done without any reference to this House. The result is that when supplementary demands are presented to the House, the House finds itself in a very unenviable position. If we criticise those demands we are told: Here you are; we have engaged the *amla*; the work has been half done; we have gone so far; our commitments are this and that; if you now throw out the demand it would be a very great loss to Government and everybody stands to lose by it. At the same time the House realizes fully well that its veto would be of no avail as His Excellency would restore the grant. So the position is that every year the budget is presented to us; there are certain

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schemes pending with some departments, or with the heads of those departments, but in order to make the budget balance they are not put forth at the proper moment. They are executed in the course of the year and when the year is almost over all those charges are put before the House in the shape of supplementary demands and as a matter of fact they are sanctioned every year. This is a practice which I deem most reprehensible. After all there should be a sense of responsibility felt by heads of departments and the Government should come down upon them if at the proper time when the budget is drawn up they do not disclose the various schemes which they consider very urgent and which must come up during the course of the financial year. There cannot be any justification for treating the House in the way in which the Government has been doing. I am sounding a note of warning that in future the House would not put up with any unusual expenditure amounting to lakhs of rupees on the pretext that those schemes were conceived during the year and were considered urgent and without the sanction of the House or even bringing them before the House, Government were obliged to put the schemes into execution, and incur the expenditure. That is one of the points which I wanted to put before the House because I consider it very important.

In the next place I notice a dangerous spot in the speech of the Honourable Finance Member and I think it is time now that we should protest against it. He has told us that among the chief heads of revenue the stamp duty is going down. Certain reasons are given for the reduction of that income. They may or may not be valid reasons but what concerns us most is, that it is suggested that in order to keep apace, in order to raise the revenue from stamps, it is suggested that the Transfer of Property Act should be introduced in this province. The proposal to introduce the Transfer of Property Act, it is suggested, will be seriously considered in the Punjab. Now, the alienations *inter vivos* have been going on during the past centuries. They are not features of the British administration, and we know that they are based on custom and it is a canon of customary law that people living in the villages and the towns of the Punjab have from times immemorial been alienating immovable property and they have made gifts of immovable property without any writing, without any stamp duty being levied from them, and I consider it a violation of the rights and privileges of the citizens of the province to introduce a wholly unnecessary law which is against the established custom of the province, and derogatory to the rights which I enjoy as a citizen of this province. A man on his death-bed wants to make a gift of his immovable property. He can do it by a mere word of mouth. All that is required is that it should be established in a court of justice by evidence of persons who were present there. It is very convenient to everybody. It is a very simple thing, it is a thing to which people of this province are accustomed from times immemorial. To take away this right, because otherwise the Government cannot find money enough to pay their officials drawing high salaries and growing fat over it, and because Government wants extra money to restore the cut would be simply unjust. That the right of the subjects of His Majesty should be taken away by introducing the Transfer of Property Act in this province is wholly unsound and cannot be upheld by this House.



and I am sure that when that measure comes up before this House it will be opposed.

I have noticed that there is a tendency not only in the honourable members of this House but on the side of Government, a tendency to ignore the rights and privileges of those who are residing in towns and are popularly known as the urban population. There is equally a tendency to protect the rights of people who are known as rural. I think the latter is all right. They are the backbone of the country and we do not grudge it. The Government might do whatever they can to uplift people who are engaged in agriculture and we have nothing to grumble about, but all the same why this treatment for the urban people? Why should we be treated as step-daughters of the administration? Do we not pay taxes? Are we not in every way helping the administration? Why is it that whenever anything is to be taken out of our pockets, both the representatives of the rural population and the Government are jolly glad over it? Why should our rights be trampled under foot? If at Lahore or Amritsar people have legitimately taken to devices to rob the Government of stamp duty, Government should apply the law on the point. They are not justified in imposing a law which is against the rights, the established rights and privileges of the people of the province.

Again a suggestion has been made by the leader of the Unionist Party that the rural people are already heavily burdened. They have to pay too many taxes. Taxes should now take the form of taxes on entertainments in the towns, taxes on bicycles and taxes of this sort. Here too I would like to point out that it is going too far. It is not within the province of Government to tax people in the town for entertainments. Towns have got their municipalities and we all know that the municipalities are hard pressed for funds and the legitimate province of the municipality is the town. I think that the taxes which have been suggested by the Leader of the Unionist Party, to which party I also belong, are strictly speaking municipal taxes and the Government has no legitimate right to levy them. My friend, the leader of the Unionist Party, forgot that even cycles are being used freely by the villagers, rather they take a double advantage for when they ride in the villages they as a rule have two people sitting and not one as in towns. Moreover, the cycle is now commonly used by students in every town and I am very glad to see that villagers and rural people have taken to education and they send their children to be educated in towns. They also use cycles. So in a way my friend's rural population would also be taxed and the villagers would curse him for the suggestion. If you look into these fantastic ideas on taxation rather carefully, you will find that they are not the proper sphere of Government but that they are municipal taxes and within the orbit of the municipality. The latter should levy such taxes if necessary and Government should find sources of revenue elsewhere.

I also notice that the Irrigation Department which brings in a very large share of the provincial revenue, nearly spends all that it gets. Here again I would press upon the Revenue Department which controls the Irrigation Department, and upon the Chief Engineer who is in charge of

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this department and upon all others who are connected with the administration of the Irrigation Department, to take pretty good care that its expenditure is reduced within reasonable limits. The department has tarred roads along the canal banks and its officers use cars everywhere. It is only common knowledge that the supervision work can be now reduced to a very great extent and when all these facilities exist, very long journeys can be undertaken within a very short period and the petrol duties can be performed very efficiently in much less time. Consequently it is clear that the department does not want such a very large establishment and therefore an appreciable reduction can fairly be effected in the administration of the Irrigation Department.

With respect to excise, it is a pity that excise is one of the principal heads of revenue in this province. Rather one is ashamed to see that out of the four sources upon which we have to depend for our revenue excise is one. It is just possible, as is hinted in the opening budget speech of the Honourable Finance Member, that there is illicit extraction of liquor going on without detection because of inadequate staff. If that is really the reason why this illicit distillation is going on, then, of course, I think this House would not grudge giving the department some more money to have extra staff to cope with it. But at the same time I would suggest that this revenue should as far as possible be not treated as a mainstay, rather it is a commercialised evil and it should be looked at in that light and all possible attempts made to discourage profiteering in that sphere. This may well be done by inculcating the habit of abstemiousness among people and by instilling in them the virtue of discarding this vice.

With respect to increased production of agricultural produce and all that and the very learned discussion that followed, I have not much to say. But I would simply say this much. Taking the land as it is—it has been under cultivation especially in canal irrigated areas for a long time—I think the doctrine of maximum area and diminishing returns is now coming into full sway. To say that production is increasing because of the seeds and doings of the Agricultural Department I think would not be scientifically very correct. It is just possible that where ordinarily an acre would produce ten maunds of cotton, by an improved seed it might produce 12 maunds. All the same it cannot be denied that all over the areas where there has been intensive cultivation the return per year has almost been halved. If an acre of good land was producing 20 maunds of cotton some 20 or 15 or 18 years ago, it is now producing only 10 maunds. If we can get extra two maunds, by improved seeds, I do not think it is a thing upon which any head of department can take any just pride. The reason why there is an obvious increase in production is this that there is unemployment and there is a slump all over. People cannot find work. So naturally they have now to take recourse to lands that are less fertile. More land is being brought under plough and there must be some return, though a very small one and on the whole the production of the province so far as agricultural products are concerned, shows an upward movement and that deludes the Honourable Minister in charge of this department, and he is in a position to put forth the argument that because of the activities of his staff they have now been able to augment the produce of this province.

I think that is a fallacious argument and an argument that would not stand. With these remarks I would resume my seat.

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair).*

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** [Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural]: At this fag end of the Council meeting, although some of the members have recouped themselves by fresh tea, I shall not weary them but shall make only a few observations.

There has been a downpour of congratulations on both sides. There seems to be a Mutual Admiration Society here where members have praised the Government members and the Government members have praised the non-official members. As regards the budget, there is not the least doubt that both the Honourable Member for Finance and his lieutenant Mr. Ogilvie have kept a very vigilant eye on the expenditure and income of the province and they really deserve congratulations for it. But one should remember also to see whether this so-called budget for the year 1935-36 is really a surplus budget. The surplus only amounts to Rs. 56,000 and the honourable members will agree that even for a big firm this sum of Rs. 56,000 for a year is absolutely a very insignificant sum, and especially when it has been admitted by both these gentlemen that the area under wheat in the coming year will be less by 9 lakhs of acres it is only problematical whether we are going to have a bumper harvest. No one can say that we are really going to reap any benefit on account of the rainfall which we have had only a few days ago. Further, no one can be sure about the capriciousness of nature. Very adverse strong winds in this very month might mar the prospect of a very good wheat harvest. Government members as well as non-official members are perfectly aware that last year there was expected to be a bumper wheat harvest, but adverse strong winds very seriously affected the yield of wheat. The grain was very thin and shrivelled and the yield was found to be about one-half or a little over one-half of what was expected at the beginning of the year.

It has also been admitted by the Honourable Finance Member that we are going to have less income from the Lyallpur settlement and that is a district in the province which has been so far contributing more than 1½ crores of rupees to the coffers of the province. Everything depends upon the commutation prices. Those prices are based on the normal price for the last 20 years but during that period there have been very abnormal prices after the War and during the War and that is the period which will probably be taken into account by the Settlement Officer. We do not know at present as to whether those years of abnormal prices have been included by the Settlement Officer or not. If those are to be included, then naturally Government will lose a good deal of money not only in the coming year but also in subsequent years. In any case Government is going to have less revenue from the Lyallpur district as a result of the settlement operations. That is another consideration which ought to have been kept in mind by the Finance Department.

A good deal has been said about the extraordinary receipts from the rent of temporary cultivation. I think that it is technically land revenue. No doubt it is derived from land. But as regards classification I think it would be rather dangerous if not a mistake to regard it as a permanent source of income, as a permanent source of land revenue, because when these

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lands are sold away these rents will disappear and then our finances will be affected by the revenues which are shown now.

As regards excise, I do not agree with the remarks made by some honourable members that it is not a source of revenue. It is a source of revenue; and the reason why we have been getting less revenue from that source is that not sufficient supervision is exercised to check illicit distillation. There are certain districts in the Punjab which are addicted to this vicious habit of drink and there has been in the past a good deal of illicit distillation and when Government appointed additional staff it was checked to a certain extent and it also led to an increase in the income of the Excise Department. Most probably that additional staff has now been reduced. It is time that Government increased the staff so that it may have two effects, namely, first that it will increase the income to Government and secondly, that it will probably lead to temperance in the province.

As regards stamps, the Honourable Finance Member is perfectly justified in saying that there have been evasions of this duty. As a collector I have had experience of these evasions and the civil courts generally do not pay any attention to the detection of such evasions and to the punishment of the offenders. In certain districts of which I have been in charge every month we used to have an increase of two, three or four thousand rupees from this duty. Though Government has taken steps now to appoint certain auditors to go round, the knowledge and experience of these auditors is not sufficient to cope with this problem. Moreover I am told that these auditors are only of the status of readers who do not possess sufficient experience or knowledge of stamp law. They simply take instructions from the Financial Commissioners and then go round courts and offices and then send up a sort of a report. I think it will be in the interest of Government if it appoints an experienced civil officer on this duty. I am sure that if this step is taken Government will be a gainer of between 30 and 40 lakhs or at least of 20 lakhs a year and these evasions will be put a stop to.

I think that a major portion of the income is consumed by the salaried officials of Government. There is no country in the world which spends so much on its services as India. Even the 5 per cent. cut has been restored. At the same time it has been said that the new entrants to the provincial and subordinate services will get 15 per cent. less. This seems to be a contradiction. Because if there was a need to reduce the salaries of the provincial and subordinate services, then the 5 per cent. cut also ought to have remained. I do not want to be blamed that I make this remark because I am no longer in the service. My remark is a logical consequence of the action taken by Government. I, however, welcome to a certain extent the action of the Government in restoring the cut, for it will at least make the services contented.

As regards development of the province, the Government has been in labour for the last 14 years and it has not brought forth even the proverbial mouse. A good deal has been said by the Sardar Sahib and the Honourable Minister for Education to show what progress has been made in their departments. A good deal of facts and figures have been referred to. I shall just take the Education Department for examination. I may tell the Honour-

able Minister that practically nothing has been done for education. Night schools have been abolished on account of financial stringency.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Yes, because it was simply waste of money.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Why then did you start such schools ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** It was only by way of experiment.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Some of the primary schools also have been abolished. Is that also because of waste of money ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Yes, unnecessary schools have been abolished.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Then the Honourable Minister has given us figures to show the increase in the number of students in the middle and high schools. Can he tell us how many students of the first or second primary class have gone up to fifth or even fourth primary class ? Is this what he calls progress in education ? I submit that the so-called progress in education is only a farce. What is happening in schools is that the names of a number of boys are kept on the rolls of the school and when the inspecting officer comes round the teacher gets hold of the children of the village or town and says that these are the boys whose names are on the rolls. But when the inspector goes away these boys also disappear. Perhaps the Honourable Minister is not to blame. For, what can he do with only 160 lakhs allotted for education in this province, a major portion of which is spent on the services over which the Minister has no control ? If we take the case of Egypt, it will be found that before the Government came into the hands of the Egyptians more than 90 per cent. of the population was uneducated and illiterate, but when the Government came into the hands of the Egyptians a few years ago they framed a programme by which by the year 1943 all boys between the ages of 7 and 13 will be in schools. We have not got any settled programme like that. We have been following a policy of drift. It is said that ours is a poor country. Take then the case of Persia and Afghanistan. They are no richer than ours. I am told that they are sending their boys to foreign countries to study every branch of science and industry so that when they come back they may take charge of the various departments in their own countries ; whereas, here we are simply tinkering with one scholarship here and another there. I do not think that real efforts are being taken in the matter. Government must, as in other countries, frame a programme for five years or so and then work it up. But then, here we have no control over our money. The Ministers are satisfied with the fat salary they draw and simply keep time.

As regards the Agricultural Department, from what I have seen of the working of this department in the districts I am led to believe that there are too many officers in this department. I do not grudge the Agricultural College at Lyallpur and its staff, nor even the research staff. But I do not see any need for these assistant directors and deputy directors. What is the use of having so many officers ? They have got no work. They take recess for two months and more and spend their time in some hill station. They

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do not go to the hill stations for any special research work but only for recouping their health.

What has the Government done to benefit the zamindars? It can boast of having supplied good seeds. But as regards boring of wells the Government could have done a great deal to the zamindars if it had offered advances for boring wells, but the conditions of boring imposed by Government on these zamindars are very hard. One condition is that if the boring proves unsuccessful, then the zamindars have to pay so much per foot of the boring done. That is the reason why the zamindars are reluctant to dig wells. They hesitate to sink tube wells. The Government simply proceeds on a commercial basis and does not have any sympathy for the agriculturists.

As regards the industries of the province, it is unfortunate that we have got a gentleman in charge of the department who is not a technical officer. How can we expect any initiative on his part? He is simply carrying on. Then there is the MacLagan Engineering College without a workshop. What is the use of such a college where people cannot have any practical training? This simply increases the number of discontented people in the country. If there had been a workshop attached to the college, people could have got training in machinery. The same may be said of the Engineering School at Rasul. I suggest that if some money can be spared by reducing the salaries of high Government officials it may be usefully employed on industries and the development of the province.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I would join the chorus of appreciation which I have heard from my colleagues on the front benches with regard to the character of this debate. I think I may assure the unofficial members on behalf of Government that we welcome a general debate of this kind in which the chinks in our armour may be pierced by the keen arrows of their criticism. I must confess that several of those arrows have pierced the chinks and while it may not be entirely pleasant it is distinctly good for me and will help me to do my job all the better. One honourable member complained—this is a personal matter—that I had been guilty of snubbing a non-official. I think it was Sardar Habib Ullah Khan. I must say that that is the last thing that I wish to do. At the same time I admit that I am something like the animal in the French zoo on whose cage is fixed a notice—

“Cet animal est méchant. Quand on l’attaque, il se défend”—This animal is naughty: when one attacks him, he defends himself.

If any one attacks me I am prepared to defend myself. And above all I am ready to defend myself when I think that the attack is unfair. So long as honourable members will confine themselves to fair and legitimate criticism I sincerely hope that they will have no complaint whatever to make of my reply. In that connection I must say that I was a little surprised that two members of the House for whom I have a very great regard indeed should have suggested that we had cooked our budget in order to make the restoration of the 5 per cent. out or rather its discontinuance possible. It was I think an unworthy insinuation. They know Government, I think, too well to feel justified in making any such statements. Government does not work on those lines. The most alarming part of the criticisms that I have

heard is that they have been directed to the accuracy of our estimates of revenue. The estimates of revenue can never be accurate. If they turn out correct, it is a matter of luck. As one member has said, or perhaps a newspaper has said and a member has repeated, a single dust storm will easily wipe out the budget balance of Rs. 56,000 for which we have budgeted. The inference is, I presume, that we should also cut down our expenditure so as to budget for a much larger balance. With regard to the income from land revenue, I think I should remind members that the shortage in the coming rabi crop, the shortage in the area, will be mainly in the barani area because the rains failed. The barani area is mainly in districts of which the settlement is fixed and therefore the demand will not fluctuate to anything like the extent that one might expect in other areas. At the same time the outturn is likely to be so good that suspensions and remissions will not be required on any great scale. In that connection I have not forgotten that Chaudhri Riasat Ali has told us about the ruin of the gram crop and the notorious existence of *Kungi* in wheat. In regard to the first I have no doubt heard complaints that rain has caused some damage to the gram crop. But it is not so about the other. I very much doubt whether there is any serious disease in wheat. I have recently motored through part of the province during the week end and another officer has motored from Delhi up to Lahore and the impressions that we have gathered personally as also from the statements of the various zamindars is that the wheat crop is distinctly a healthy crop. (*Some honourable members: Wheat is excellent.*) That is my impression. I would also remind honourable members that if we deduct the extraordinary receipts of 17 lakhs we are budgeting for exactly the average figure of the last six years so far as land revenue is concerned. I think there is a very fair chance indeed of our attaining that figure and it would have been wrong to budget for a lower figure. I admit that it is a matter on which the Finance Member is bound to feel anxious because you can never be sure of your receipts. You can estimate your expenditure fairly accurately but not your receipts. As I have said, the inference that was meant to be drawn, I think, was that we should have spent less, at least we should spend less than we have budgeted for. I would ask, is it wise that a province which is generally spoken of by other provinces, though not by ourselves, as about the richest province in India, is it wise that such a province should stop all development because of what I hope, and I have reason to hope, is a temporary depression and one which has begun to pass away? I do not think that we should go as far as that and stop all development of the province and simply carry on. It is true that we have this year and we propose to have next year to some extent a programme in development, notably in the direction which we have already mentioned frequently, I mean rural reconstruction. This is not an entirely new matter. To my mind it would have been very wrong indeed not to go ahead with this development simply because we may have in one year a slight deficit. But I still hope that it is going to be a slight surplus; but it might be a slight deficit and I do not think that even if we are sure that it will be a slight deficit we should absolutely stop all development. We should remember that in the present year we are expecting a surplus of 35 lakhs and last year also we had a surplus. Surely we may set that to our credit and go ahead with the development of the province.

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Another criticism that has to some extent gone home is that made by Mr. Manohar Lal in his *extempore* and very excellent speech and also that by Mr. Sadiq. They complain that we do not plan sufficiently far ahead for the development of the province and lay the charge that Government lives from hand to mouth and indulges in no planning and does not frame any schemes which will last for several years. That charge is not entirely fair. I remember as far back as 1907 when I had the charge of what appeared to be my first permanent district, Government at that time launched a five or six year programme for road making. That is now entirely out of date. Those roads have been made long ago and we have gone far ahead. We have had in recent years and are still carrying on our plans for road making for developing communications of the province. We have had several three or four year plans for the development of education and they have been carried out, if not in full at least nearly in full. We have had at least two five year programme on which I can lay my finger at once and I believe there are others. They have a five year programme for the development of agriculture which was drawn up to a great extent by our present Governor when he was Finance Secretary. I am not quite sure whether the present Minister for Agriculture was in charge of the department at that time or not. (*An honourable member* : Yes.) Then he with the aid of the Director of Agriculture and our present Governor drew up a five year programme which I have no reason to disbelieve has been carried out, though I cannot say I know the details. It has been the habit of the Government to draw up a programme. The recent depression no doubt has given a check to that salutary habit. But I have not the slightest doubt that we are beginning to see a glimmering of better things. Mr. Sadiq's complaint was that we do not encourage industrial development of the province sufficiently and the remedy which I understood him to advocate was that we should set apart three lakhs every year to finance industrial schemes which had passed the test of the joint development board. I understand that privately he has explained that what he really meant was that the Punjab Government should guarantee such schemes, not that it should finance them directly. Mr. Sadiq may have forgotten that the Punjab legislature passed an Act, the Industrial Loans Act and that under that Act during the last three years approximately one lakh of rupees per annum has been advanced to industrial concerns for the development of industries. One lakh is not a large sum and it would be better, no doubt, if we could expend three lakhs which Mr. Sadiq has asked. But I am not quite sure that I approve his proposal that Government should guarantee new industrial ventures. If it does so, then shareholders are led to invest in the guaranteed ventures and it is quite possible that the concerns may not be efficiently run and then the finances of Government will suffer. So also when Government directly takes part in the financing of industrial enterprises, you may have trouble like that which we have at present with the Sonapat sugar factory. Many people say that they were induced to invest in it because Government was a partner in the enterprise and now their affairs are in difficulties. Whether they can be extricated or not I do not know, but the position is by no means a satisfactory one. There are such difficulties but at the same time Government is prepared to advance money under the Industrial Loans Act. This seems to be the soundest



scheme even though Government suffers to a considerable extent under it, because we have had to remit considerable sums due to us on account of loans advanced under that Act.

Members have complained that sufficient money has not been given to the development of industries and sufficient money has not been devoted to the beneficent departments. It may be of interest to the House to have explained to them—many members know, but some may not know it—the method by which the available money is distributed amongst the different departments. New schemes are first of all considered departmentally. If they receive administrative approval—and for that they have to be referred to the Finance Department also for agreement,—they are entered in a list of 'candidates' we might call it for entry into the schedule of new expenditure. This list is scrutinised by the Government as a whole, including the three Ministers—the three Ministers have their say quite as much as members—and the cabinet as a whole selects the schemes which it thinks are really desirable and then they are entered in the schedule of new expenditure. That is how the available money of the province is allotted. It is not a matter of the reserved departments pinching so much and refusing anything to the beneficent departments, nor is it a matter of a scramble. The position is considered fairly and the cabinet as a whole determine how the available money shall be spent. There are many detailed criticisms that I would like to answer, had time been available, but the time of the Council is practically up and I think I have dealt with most of the principal criticisms. But I should like to assure Chaudhri Chhotu Ram that we are quite alive to the necessity of developing new sources of revenue. The recommendations of the Sources of Revenue Committee have been very carefully considered and at the present moment we have under consideration certain new sources. The bicycle tax for instance is one which we are very anxious to put on; whether it is practicable or not we do not know. There are many great difficulties. It will require a very large staff indeed to insure that every bicycle has paid its annual tax if the tax is levied in the annual form. If we levy the tax at the source that is on sales, there are very nearly insuperable difficulties. Similar is the case with the question of taxes on cinemas. The tax which he mentioned on aerated waters has been turned down on the ground that aerated water is one of the very few luxuries of the poor. During the hot weather it is a little bit hard if he is not allowed the luxury of drinking a bottle of soda water or other aerated water. Mr. Sadiq complained that we are doing little for the development of industries. At the same time he criticised the hydro-electric scheme. Most of us are beginning to take that scheme as going to be the salvation of the province and whether it was the best way of producing electricity or not, it certainly was a bold venture in the interests of the industrial development of the province and I think the Ministers concerned should be given credit for their foresight and courage in starting such a very large scheme. Another proof of our anxiety to help industries whenever a good opportunity occurs is the encouragement that Government gave to Mr. Sri Ram of the Delhi Cloth Mills when he proposed to set up his Cloth Mill in Lyallpur. Members can now go there and see one of the best mills in India, if not the very best which has been built on land leased by Government at very low rates, and other kinds of facilities were given to Mr. Sri

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Ram to induce him to set up his mill as quickly as possible. Whenever any other sound scheme is produced, I think members will find that my words are true that Government will at once come to their help. One member suggested that the Jail Department should be made self-supporting. I think that a little consideration will show that it is quite impossible. It is true that an energetic and capable superintendent of the Ludhiana Jail has managed to make an income out of its factories sufficient to pay for the clothing and food of the prisoners, but that cannot possibly cover the cost of the staff or the buildings. As I said in the beginning of my speech, I quite welcome fair criticism and although I have no time now to reply to the various criticisms that have been made through this debate, I have made a note of practically all that has taken place and all that requires action will be attended to (*cheers*).

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M., on Tuesday, 5th March, 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

*Tuesday, 5th March 1935.*

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P. M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### OATH OF OFFICE.

*Mr. D. Macfarlane (Chief Engineer, Buildings and Roads) was sworn in.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### PLAY-FOR-ALL ARRANGEMENTS IN SCHOOLS.

**\*4142. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the respective numbers of recognised primary, middle and high schools (for boys and girls separately) which have had during the last academic year no daily arrangements of play-for-all in the school time-table as well as no suitable play-grounds according to the standard of departmental requirements in each case ;
- (b) if there are any, whether Government proposes to take any action in the matter ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) In the great majority of Government and district board schools drill and minor games find a regular place in the time-table. This is not so in a number of municipal board and private recognised schools. It is sometimes impossible to find space for ground games and drill in city schools. To collect the detailed information required by the honourable member would mean a very heavy burden of correspondence and consequent expenditure. The answer could not be completed probably within several months. It is therefore not in the public interest to collect this information if the honourable member is content with the statement that Government fully realises the importance of physical training and games, and is constantly taking action to make them more efficient, with the result that it is safe to say that physical training and games in the Punjab are at a higher level than in any other part of India.

#### GOVERNMENT-OWNED WELLS OPEN TO DEPRESSED CLASSES.

**\*4143. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the percentage of Government-owned wells (situated on such Government grounds as tahsil, court, police-station, Government school and hospital building, etc.) the platforms of which are open in actual practice to the use of depressed classes in the Punjab ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** (Chief Secretary): The honourable member is referred to the reply given to question No. \*26831 on the 24th February, 1930, to which Government are not in a position to add anything.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DEPRESSED CLASSES.

**\*4144. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the percentages of municipalities and district boards which have seen their way so far to provide, within their jurisdiction, scholarships for children of census-recognised depressed classes in middle departments and a free supply of books and writing material to them in primary classes respectively?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon:** The time and labour which will have to be spent in collecting the information will be out of proportion to the value of the statistics asked for. It is in the public interest that the honourable member should state her real object in asking this question, and perhaps I can give her the information she needs.

#### DEPRESSED CLASS STUDENTS IN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

**\*4145. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain:** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of students of the census-recognised depressed classes enrolled on the 31st December, 1934, in the final classes of Government Industrial Schools;
- (b) if the number of their students is very small, what additional facilities by way of scholarships, stipends and fee concessions Government proposes to provide to their children?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang:** (a) Forty.

(b) All students of the depressed classes are allowed half-fee concessions. Besides, a certain number of such students are allowed exemption from payment of entire fees on grounds of poverty. On the same grounds, they get their due share in the award of stipends.

#### INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS TOURNAMENTS.

**\*4146. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of districts where inter-school sports tournaments have been revived recently;
- (b) the number of districts where they were stopped some years ago;
- (c) the causes which led to their stoppage in those districts and whether those causes have ceased now to operate;
- (d) the number of districts where unpleasant fracas occurred during District Tournaments during the last tournaments, and the nature of action taken by authorities in each case as a deterrent measure against such happenings?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

#### SEEDS.

**\*4147. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the percentage of rural areas in which pure seeds approved by Government agricultural experts have come entirely or predominantly into use so far in the Punjab ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I regret that it is not possible to give the data required. The attached statement shows the areas, according to the estimates of Deputy Directors of Agriculture. These figures, however, cannot be taken to be exact. They are the nearest guide we have. I may add that in the case of crops like wheat, of which improved varieties have been distributed for some years, even the areas not regarded as pure contain a large proportion of improved varieties in the mixtures which are grown.

*Statement showing total area of various crops in the province during the year 1933-34 and the areas sown with improved seeds.*

1	2	3	4
Crop.	Total area in the Punjab.	Area under improved varieties.	Percentage of 3 to 2.
	Acres.	Acres.	
Wheat .. .. .	9,772,860	4,168,000	42.6
Cotton Desi .. .. .	1,640,279	1,062,800	64.8
Cotton American .. .. .	809,123	809,000	100.0
Sugarcane .. .. .	465,991	187,300	40.2

#### UNCLAIMED CHILDREN.

**\*4148. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state communitywise (Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs and census-recognised depressed classes) the number of children born during the past year in various hospitals of the Punjab, who were unclaimed by their parents or relatives and how they were disposed of in each case ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A statement containing the required information is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

Name of Hospital.	Number of unclaimed children born in 1934.	How they were disposed of.
1. Lady Hailey Women's Hospital, Bhiwani (Hissar).	4 Hindu .. ..	Sent to the Bhiwani Orphanage.
2. Zenana Mission Hospital, Palwal (Gurgaon).	2 Hindu .. ..	Died in the hospital.
3. Memorial Mission Hospital, Ludhiana.	4 (2 Hindu and 2 Muslim.)	Died in the hospital.
4. Punjab Mental Hospital, Lahore	1 Hindu (born to an inmate).	The child was handed over to Lala Karta Ram, Ravi Road, Lahore.
Total ..	11 (9 Hindus and 2 Muslims.)	

**THEFT REPORTS.**

**\*4149. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- the respective numbers of theft reports duly received from Hindus and non-Hindus during the last financial year at different police stations of Gurgaon district ;
- the respective numbers of convictions secured by the police so far on those very reports of aggrieved Hindus and non-Hindus ;
- the respective numbers of Hindus and non-Hindus themselves amongst constables and higher officials in the police force of the Gurgaon district on 31st March, 1934 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a)—

Hindus .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	140
Non-Hindus .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	79
(b) Hindus .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	51
Non-Hindus .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	80
(c) Hindus .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	270
Non-Hindus .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	273

**DIET MONEY.**

**\*4150. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that diet money deposited by persons conducting cases in judicial courts of the Punjab lapses to the Government if undistributed to witnesses and unclaimed by

depositors for one reason or the other during the course of a financial year ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that judicial courts take care to provide themselves with the addresses of depositors at the time when this diet money is deposited ;
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to stop the practice referred to in (a) above in the present administration of justice in the Punjab by returning these undistributed amounts of diet money to depositors through postal money-orders, of course with money-order commissions deducted out of depositors' dues ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) No. Under the rules deposits of diet money lapse after one year only if (1) the original deposit does not exceed one rupee and has not been claimed for one full account year, or (2) a balance not exceeding one rupee is left at the close of the financial year after payments are made. Other deposits do not lapse unless unclaimed for more than three complete account years ;

(b) Yes ;

(c) Undisbursed diet money deposits not exceeding Rs. 25 are returned to the depositor by money order after deducting commission under the rules already in force. Government see no adequate reason for a change in the existing rules.

#### ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

**\*4151. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the respective numbers of clerks, gazetted (P. E. S. and I. E. S.) and non-gazetted (S. E. S.) officers of the Punjab Education Department in receipt of additional allowances on 31st March, 1934, for the performance of any additional duties, and the amount of additional allowance money secured to them from different sources at different places throughout the Punjab during the last financial year ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that they performed these additional duties without any dislocation of their own work for which they were being primarily employed ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that they were whole-time paid Government servants ;
- (d) whether Government propose to take any action in the matter by annual redistribution of this additional work amongst different officials by rotation with a view to abolish the system of additional allowances resulting in heart-burning amongst the unfavoured many ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

## HAISIYAT TAX, KARNAL.

**\*4152. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether any complaints have been received by the Government from the assesses of haisiyat tax of Karnal district regarding the assessment in which serious allegations have been made against assessing authorities;
- (b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made; if so, with what result, and whether any of the allegations have been substantiated?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) Inquiries are being made.

## HAISIYAT TAX, KARNAL.

**\*4153. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the income realised from haisiyat tax by the District Board, Karnal, during each of the last three years?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The income realised by the District Board of Karnal from haisiyat tax during each of the last three years was—

Year.					Income.
					Rs.
1931-32	..	.	..	..	27,671
1932-33	..	..	..	..	24,152
1933-34	..	..	..	..	22,028

## HAISIYAT TAX, KARNAL.

**\*4154. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) how many appeals have been filed from the haisiyat tax assessment orders to the District Board, Karnal, in the years 1932, 1933 and 1934; in how many appeals has the tax assessed been totally or partially reduced and in how many cases have the appeals been altogether rejected;
- (b) how many appeals have been lodged with the Commissioner, Ambala division, against the orders of the District Board, Karnal, regarding haisiyat tax assessment during each of the



last three years and how many such appeals have been totally or partially accepted.

(c) if the number of appeals accepted has been quite large, what action has been taken against the assessing authorities and men in charge;

(d) whether Government proposes to institute any impartial enquiry into the veracity of the allegations made against the assessing clerks or subordinates in view of the extraordinarily large complaints against them?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(c) The haisiyat tax inspectors were warned by the chairman of the board.

(d) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to part (b) of her question No. \*4152.<sup>1</sup>

*Statement showing the total number of persons assessed by the Assessment Committee and the total number of appeals accepted or rejected.*

Year of assessment.	Number of persons assessed.	TOTAL NUMBER OF APPEALS FILED TO THE DISTRICT BOARD AGAINST THE ORDERS OF THE HAISYAT TAX ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE AND THEIR DISPOSAL.				TOTAL NUMBER OF APPEALS FILED TO THE COMMISSIONER, AMBALA DIVISION, AGAINST THE ORDERS OF ASSESSMENT.			
		Appeals filed.	Appeals rejected.	Appeals partially accepted.	Appeals accepted.	Appeals filed.	Appeals rejected.	Appeals partially accepted.	Appeals accepted.
1931-32 ..	4,069	891	439	320	132	177	101	74	2
1932-33 ..	4,761	681	244	233	204	71	45	22	4
1933-34 ..	4,392	914	413	242	259	174	65	75	34

#### RETRENCHED TEACHERS.

**\*4155. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) the number of teachers retrenched in different district boards in the province since January 1931 up to the present time due to financial stringency, communitywise;

(b) the rules as to employment of teachers when new appointments are being made;

[Shrimati Lekhwati Jain.]

(c) whether new hands are appointed or old retrenched teachers preferred ;

(d) how many of such retrenched teachers have been re-employed in each district board, communitywise, and how many in all have been newly employed communitywise during the above period ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Jullundur District Board brought trained and certified teachers under reduction in March, 1931, and employed untrained and uneducated drill masters in their stead ;

(f) the reasons for preferring untrained over trained teachers ;

(g) whether any retrenched drill master was re-employed in the vacancy in the District Board School, Banga, District Jullundur, in May 1934 ; if not, why not ;

(h) whether the retrenched teachers are informed when any post falls vacant ; if not, why not, in view of the fact that these posts are not advertised ;

(i) whether there is any circular of the Director of Public Instruction to the effect that S. V's. may be appointed in place of trained drill masters ;

(j) if so, why physical training instructors are appointed and whether the S. A. V's. and B. T's. cannot work in their place ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### ELECTION OFFENCES.

**\*4156. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of persons convicted of election offences in the elections of municipal committees, district boards, small town committees, panchayats, Legislative Council, Legislative Assembly and Council of State since 1920 in each of the districts of the Punjab, communitywise ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

#### ELECTION PETITIONS.

**\*4157. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of election petitions filed against the successful candidates in the elections to municipal committees, district boards, panchayats, small town committees, Legislative Council, Legislative Assembly, and Council of State in each of the elections held in the Punjab since 1920 and how many of such election petitions have been accepted ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** A statement giving the available information is being laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of election petitions filed and accepted since 1920 in respect of election to the Municipal Committees, District Boards, Panchayats, Small Town Committees, Legislative Council, Legislative Assembly and Council of State in the Punjab.*

Serial No.	District.	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES.		DISTRICT BOARDS.		PANCHAYATS.		REMARKS.
		Total election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Total election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Total election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Hissar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	The Deputy Commissioner has not given separate figures. In all 15 elections petitions were lodged out of which 11 were rejected. Four are still pending.
2	Rohtak ..	32*	6	3	1	..	..	*Two are pending.
3	Gurgaon ..	1	..	4	1	..	..	
4	Karnal ..	6†	2	2	1	..	..	†One pending.
5	Ambala ..	4	1	6	1	..	..	
6	Simla ..	4†	3	..	..	..	..	†One pending.
7	Kangra ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
8	Hoshiarpur ..	1	..	2	1	..	..	
9	Jullundur ..	1	..	2	..	..	..	
10	Ludhiana ..	8	1	5§	..	..	..	§One pending.
11	Ferozepore ..	23	4	5¶	..	..	..	¶Three pending.   Two pending.
12	Lahore ..	46**	5	..	..	23	6	**Eleven pending.
13	Amritsar ..	17††	8	1	1	..	..	††Seven pending.
14	Gurdaspur ..	8	3	4	..	..	..	
15	Sialkot ..	10	1	3	1	..	..	
16	Gujranwala ..	2	..	6††	..	..	..	††Two pending.
17	Sheikhupura ..	4§§	..	6	1	..	..	§§One pending.
18	Gujrat ..	12	1	11	2	44	9	
19	Shahpur ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	
20	Jhelum ..	8	..	9	1	18	1	One pending.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

Serial No.	District.	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES.		DISTRICT BOARDS.		PANCHAYATS.		REMARKS.
		Total election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Total elections petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Total election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
21	Rawalpindi ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	*Two pending.
22	Attock ..	4*	..	1	..	..	..	
23	Mianwali ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	
24	Montgomery ..	6	1	2	..	..	..	
25	Lyallpur† ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	†The Deputy Commissioner has not given separate figures. In all 12 election petitions were filed, but none was accepted.
26	Jhang ..	5	1	3	..	Information is not available.		
27	Multan ..	1	..	1	..			
28	Muzaffargarh ..	1	1	2	..	..	..	
29	Dera Ghazi Khan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	Total ..	211	37	80	11	83	16	

*Statement showing the number of election petitions filed and accepted since 1920 in respect of election to the Municipal Committees, District Boards, Panchayats, Small Town Committees, Legislative Council, Legislative Assembly and Council of State in the Punjab.*

Serial No.	District.	SMALL TOWN COMMITTEES.		LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.		LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.		COUNCIL OF STATE.		REMARKS.
		Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Election petition lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Hissar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nd	Nd.	
2	Rohtak ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nd	Nd.	
3	Gurgaon ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	Nd	Nd.	

Serial No.	District.	SMALL TOWN COMMITTEES.		LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.		LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.		COUNCIL OF STATE.		REMARKS.
		Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	Election petitions lodged.	Election petitions accepted.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4	Karnal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	*Three pending.
5	Ambala ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
6	Simla ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
7	Kangra ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
8	Hoshiarpur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
9	Jullundur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
10	Ludhiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
11	Perozepore ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
12	Lahore ..	5*	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
13	Amritsar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
14	Gurdaspur ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
15	Sialkot ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
16	Gujranwala ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
17	Sheikhupura ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
18	Gujrat ..	13	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
19	Shahpur ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
20	Jhelum ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
21	Rawalpindi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
22	Attock ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
23	Mianwali ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
24	Montgomery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
25	Lyallpur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
26	Jhang ..	No information is available.								
27	Multan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
28	Muzaffargarh ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
29	D. G. Khan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nu	Nu.	
	Total ..	32	1	24	10	7	2	..	..	

## LAND HOLDINGS.

**\*4158. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state the total number of land owners or land holdings in each district of the province at the end of 1934 having an area (i) less than 10 acres, (ii) less than 50 acres, (iii) less than 100 acres and (iv) above 100 acres ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The only information that is available is contained in publications Nos. II and 4 of the Board of Economic Enquiry which are obtainable from the publishers : "*Civil and Military Gazette*" Press, Lahore.

## VILLAGE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION.

**\*4159. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government of the Punjab has received any circular from the Government of India to watch the newly started "Village Industries Association" by Mahatma Gandhi;
- (b) if so, the contents of that circular and whether Government will lay a copy of it on the table of the Council;
- (c) whether Government views the activities of the said Association with suspicion and whether it will encourage them or put an embargo on them;
- (d) whether Government has instructed its local officers and the police to keep an eye over the workers of this Association;
- (e) if not, whether it will allow them to work unhampered, till they break any law ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) and (b) It is not in the public interest to disclose correspondence with the Government of India.

(c) and (e) The attitude of the local Government will depend on the activities of the Association and its workers.

(d) It is not in the public interest to reply to this question.

## LOCAL FUND CLERK, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, HOSHIARPUR.

**\*4160. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the grade of the Local Fund Clerk (Deputy Commissioner's Office, Hoshiarpur) has been raised to Rs. 75—5—125 and the post has been given to a Muhammadan clerk passing other senior men on the list; if so, reasons for the same ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** *First part.* No.

*Second part.*—Does not arise.

## EMBEZZLEMENT BY GULZAR MUHAMMAD, DISTRICT NAZIR, HOSHIARPUR.

**\*4161. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Gulzar Muhammad, District Nazir, Hoshiarpur, was accused of temporary embezzlement of Government money and of tampering with records;

(b) if so, what action was taken against him by the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur ;

(c) whether it is a fact that shortly after the discovery of the aforesaid embezzlement, he (Gulzar Muhammad) was transferred to the English office of the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur, as head clerk ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The fact is that Gulzar Muhammad, District Nazir, was found guilty of keeping in his possession till 24th May 1938 the pay of an official drawn from the treasury on 21st April 1938. There was no bad faith.

(b) For this the District Nazir was censured.

(c) There was no embezzlement ; but it is a fact that he (Gulzar Muhammad) was transferred at the same salary to the English office.

#### ENQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF DOGAR SINGH, OFFICE KANUNGO, UNA.

**\*4162. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on the report of Raja Gulab Khan, Revenue Assistant II, any enquiry was held into the conduct of Dogar Singh, Office Kanungo, Una, by Chaudhri Kanwar Bhan, Extra Assistant Commissioner ;

(b) the finding of Chaudhri Kanwar Bhan, Extra Assistant Commissioner, in the case against Dogar Singh, Office Kanungo, and the orders passed by the Deputy Commissioner ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Originally, on the report of Sardar Kishen Partap Singh, Tehsildar, Una, 21 charges of embezzlement, misappropriation of Government money and gross negligence, were drawn up against M. Dogar Singh, Tahsil Office Kanungo, Una, and under the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, the departmental enquiry was held by Lala Kanwar Bhan Dideja, Additional District Magistrate.

(b) The finding of Lala Kanwar Bhan Dideja, Additional District Magistrate, in respect of all the 21 charges was in favour of M. Dogar Singh. The Deputy Commissioner agreed with the finding of the Enquiring Officer in respect of 9 and disagreed in respect of 12 charges.

#### COW SACRIFICE IN VILLAGE ALAMPUR KOTLA.

**\*4163. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur, recommended that Muslims should be permitted to sacrifice cow in village Alampur Kotla, thana Tanda, on the occasion of the last Bakar Id ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It is not in the public interest to disclose the opinions of officers whose decisions are not final.

## HINDU-MUSLIM RIOT IN VILLAGE BADLA.

**\*4164. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Hindu-Muslim riot took place in village Badla, district Hoshiarpur, some time ago ;
- (b) how many persons on each side were challaned by the police ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) A riot occurred between Sainis and Muhammadans of Harta which adjoins Badla village on the 29th of April, 1934.

- (b) Twenty Sainis and five Muhammadans.

## SHEIKH ABDUL HAQ, SUB-JUDGE, LYALLPUR.

**\*4165. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) when Sheikh Abdul Haq, Sub-Judge, was posted at Lyallpur, and how many cases have been sent for disposal in his court up to this time ;
- (b) how many out of these cases were compromised by the parties outside the court, in how many cases decrees were granted to plaintiffs by court, and how many cases were dismissed by the Judge ;
- (c) the number of such decrees which were granted to Hindu plaintiffs against Muhammadan defendants by Sheikh Abdul Haq, Sub-Judge, from the time he took over charge at Lyallpur up to 15th of January 1935 ;
- (d) in how many cases appeals were filed against his orders, and the number of appeals accepted and rejected respectively by the appellate court ;
- (e) how many Mustajari sales of agricultural lands were confirmed by the abovesaid judge in cases where non-agriculturist Hindus were plaintiffs ;
- (f) the number of pending cases including execution applications in the abovesaid court ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Government do not consider that it is in the public interest to collect information of the kind required by the honourable member, when the purport of the question is to cast imputations on the impartiality and integrity of a judicial officer. Any person aggrieved by the judicial decisions of the officer in question has a legal remedy. I may also remind the honourable member that machinery exists for full enquiry into specific charges of corruption against Government servants, on the understanding, of course, that, if the charges are frivolous or ill-founded, the Government servants concerned will have the full protection of Government and of the law.

## PUBLIC PARTIES TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

**\*4166. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has expressly prohibited the giving of public parties to Government servants ;



- (b) whether it is a fact that in spite of these orders, the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur, recommended that a public party be given to Misra Dawarkanath, Magistrate, 1st Class; if so, what were the circumstances under which the recommendation was made and what was the result of this recommendation;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a party was accepted by Misra Dawarkanath, Magistrate, 1st Class; if so, on behalf of how many persons;
- (d) whether it is a fact that as many as 87 persons were invited to attend the said party?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** (Chief Secretary): (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendation was made at the repeated requests of certain leading inhabitants of Hoshiarpur town. The Commissioner refused to sanction a public party but suggested that his personal friends might give Mr. Dwarkanath a farewell party of a substantially private and informal character;

(c) Mr. Dwarkanath accepted a private dinner party at the house of a personal friend.

(d) The number of persons who attended the dinner is not known.

COMPLAINT AGAINST KHAN SAHIB DR. NOOR MUHAMMAD, LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4167. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain:** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the causes of delay in submission of a report by the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, promised in answer to starred question No. 3870<sup>1</sup> (c) by Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali, M. L. C.?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang:** There was no undue delay on the part of the Deputy Commissioner as he had to make certain inquiries before submitting a report. On receipt of the report in December 1934, Government have called for the explanation of Khan Sahib Dr. Noor Muhammad under the proviso to section 16 (1) of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911.

NOMINATION TO LUDHIANA MUNICIPALITY.

**\*4168. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain:** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) the names of gentlemen whom Mr. F. A. Connor, Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, recommended for nomination to the Ludhiana Municipality in 1932 before giving over charge to the present Deputy Commissioner;

(b) whether any change was made by the present Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana;

(c) if so, under what circumstances?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) and (b) Such information is treated as confidential and it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

(c) Does not arise.

#### INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE, RUPAR.

**\*4169. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to place the following on the table of the House :—

- (a) Copies of applications, dated 25th November, 1931, and 26th November, 1931, submitted by Pandit Gangaram Sharma of Rupar, in connection with the affiliation of Intermediate College at Rupar, to the Registrar, University of the Punjab, with the decision of the Syndicate on 27th November, 1931 ;
- (b) A copy of telegraphic application submitted to the Registrar, Punjab University, by Pandit Gangaram Sharma, in the first week of December, 1931, in connection with the Intermediate College at Rupar, with a copy of reply communicated to him,—*vide* letter No. 21784 of 8th December, 1931 ;
- (c) Copies of the applications of Pandit Gangaram Sharma, to the Registrar, University of Punjab, dated 25th July, 1934 and 21st November, 1934, and note thereon by the Registrar, dated 21st November, 1934, and note of Vice-Chancellor, dated 11th December, 1934, with the decision of the Syndicate arrived at on 10th January, 1935 ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The following papers dealing with the affiliation of the Intermediate College, Rupar, are being laid on the table :—

- (a) Copies of applications, dated the 25th November, 1931, and 26th November, 1931, submitted by P. Ganga Ram Sharma of Rupar, to the Registrar, University of the Punjab, with the decision of the Syndicate on the 27th November, 1931.
- (b) A copy of telegraphic application submitted by P. Ganga Ram Sharma to the Registrar, University of the Punjab, in the first week of December, 1931, with a copy of reply communicated to the former,—*vide* Registrar's letter No. 21784, dated 8th December, 1931.
- (c) Copies of the applications of Pandit Ganga Ram Sharma, dated the 25th July, 1934, and 21st November, 1934, to the Registrar, University of the Punjab, and the decision of the Syndicate arrived at on the 10th January, 1935.

It is regretted that copies of the notes of the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar's note cannot be supplied as such notes are confidential and their publication is not in the interest of the public service.

*Copy of an application, dated the 26th November, 1931, from Gangaram Sharma to the Joint Registrar, University of the Punjab, Lahore.*

WITH reference to your letter No. 9032, dated the 11th May, 1931, and the conversation I had with you and the Vice-Chancellor on the 24th instant, I have the honour to submit as follows :—

- (1) That the Dayanand College, Rupar, was duly opened on the 23rd May, 1931. The names and qualifications of the Principal and members of the staff of the College have als,

been submitted to you and provisionally approved by you. (Refer to the list attached) I may add that in spite of very late announcement regarding the opening of the College, more than 50 boys sought admission to the First Year Class of the College. Some of them, as is usual, did not turn up after the long vacation, but the numbers at present on rolls are about 40. So the need for a College at Rupar has been clearly established. Regular work with the First Year Class has been going on since the beginning of June last. And we have spared no pains to appoint an efficient staff for each subject taught as could be desired.

(2) Regarding the raising of the endowment fund I beg to invite your kind attention to the following facts:—

(a) That the first Inquiry Committee which visited Rupar and reported to the Syndicate in January, 1930, recommended that the endowment fund should be made up as follows:—

(i) Five shops on ground floor, 45 Khar, Bombay, 21, free from lien with Rs. 15,000.

It seems that this report was not accepted by the Syndicate because at that time there was another College at Ambala,—*vide* the Vice-Chancellor's order, dated 18th February, 1930, in which the words "there was no demand for a College at Rupar" occur.

(b) The second Inquiry Committee recommended that the endowment should be made up of the 5 shops at Bombay *plus* a sum of Rs. 25,000 which they consider as an equivalent of Rs. 50,000 and these recommendations were accepted by the Syndicate in their entirety.

(c) On our own application, the Endowment Fund was changed from the above, to Rs. 40,000 to be paid this year and Rs. 10,000 next year. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, unprecedented financial crisis and failure of certain banks, the full sum of Rs. 40,000 is not as yet made up. Therefore it is hereby prayed that the following alternative terms may kindly be accepted by the Syndicate:—

(a) The five unencumbered shops at Bombay (which have already been approved by the Syndicate as an equivalent of Rs. 25,000 *plus* Rs. 15,000 this year and Rs. 10,000 within the next twelve months, or

(b) Rs. 30,000 now and Rs. 10,000 next year and Rs. 10,000 the year after next.

There is a lien on the 5 shops on the ground floor at Khar Bombay which will be approximately met by a sum of Rs. 9,000. In view of the fact that it may take some time to clear off the lien and thus delay the registration of the trust deed, I will place the above sum at the disposal of the trustees in addition to the sum of Rs. 15,000 with a further guarantee that if any extra sum is required to wipe off the lien, I will undertake to pay that also.

(3) I am willing to execute the trust deed on or before the 1st December, 1931, if any of the above two terms (a) or (b) is accepted by the Syndicate. There will be no material change in the principal terms of draft of the Trust Deed but for any minor technical and consequential changes Rai Bahadur Lala Durga Das and the Vice-Chancellor may kindly be authorised to approve them.

(4) I may add that the Arya Priti Nidhi Sabha, Punjab, Lahore, are going to consider finally the question of making up of the full Endowment Fund as detailed in the draft of the Trust Deed as approved by the Punjab University, on the 28th instant, which is unfortunately one day after the meeting of the Syndicate. Nothing can be definitely said about the decision of the Sabha, but in case the decision is favourable I will register the Trust Deed as it is on or before the 1st December, without any change.

(5) The principle laid down by the Punjab University regarding the Endowment Fund is that the income from the Endowment Fund *plus* income from fees should be enough to meet the total recurring expenses of the College. So far all reports made as regards our budget estimates were based on conjectures. Now, however, we are in a position to state facts and figures, more or less, exactly. And we are now in a definite position to state that the recurring expenses of the college will be very nearly met by income from fees *plus* income from Endowment Fund from the next year onward when the number of students will be more than doubled. It may also be noted that the present staff of the College will need no reinforcement for some years to come, so there is no likelihood of increase in expenditure on this most important item.

The other grounds for special consideration of this application are—

The boys reading in the Rupar College are generally poor and very few of them will be able to afford education at any other college, and specially the 16 Muslim and 12 Sikh students out of the total forty are very, very poor indeed and most of them cannot afford to have college education anywhere else. This is an additional ground for a particularly sympathetic consideration of our case by the Syndicate which has been indulgent in other cases of private colleges at Gujranwala and Lyallpur, etc.

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

(6) As the change in the conditions of the Endowment Fund is not material, but only technical, it is prayed that the alternative proposals (a) or (b) mentioned above may kindly be accepted by the Syndicate and time of the registration of the deed be extended up to the 1st December, 1931, and the matter may be placed before the Senate at their meeting of the 4th December, 1931.

(7) In case of the failure of the registration of the Trust Deed on or before the 1st December, it is further prayed that the Syndicate may kindly condone the technical shortage of lectures, if any, of the present students of the College and permit them to be transferred to other colleges affiliated to the University of the Punjab and give them sufficient time to join other colleges, if they so choose.

*Members of the Staff.*

1. Mr. K. C. Verma, M.A. (English and Sanskrit)—Principal and Lecturer in English.
2. Mr. P. C. Malhotra, M.A. (Economics and History)—Lecturer in Economics and History.
3. Mr. Choteylal Sharma, M.A. (Sanskrit), Lecturer in Sanskrit and Hindi.
4. Mr. Uttam Chand, Popli, M.A. (Mathematics), Lecturer in Mathematics.
5. Mr. Bhevesh Chandra, Munshi Fazil (Matriculation in English), Lecturer in Persian and Urdu.

*Copy of an application, dated the 26th November, 1931, from Gangaram Sharma, to the Joint Registrar, University of the Punjab, Lahore.*

In continuation of my letter to you, dated the 25th instant, I have the honour to state that the alternative proposal (b) given by me on page 2 of my letter, for acceptance of the Syndicate should be read as follows:—

Rs. 30,000 (Rupees thirty thousand) now,

Rs. 10,000 (Rupees ten thousand) before the enrolment of the First Year Class of 1932, and

Rs. 10,000 (Rupees ten thousand) one year after that.

I undertake to fulfil this condition as stated above.

*Copy of paragraph 19 from the proceedings of a meeting of the Syndicate of the Punjab, dated the 27th November, 1931.*

19. After considering an application, dated the 25th November, 1931, from the Founder of the proposed Dayanand College, Rupar, and a subsequent letter, dated the 26th November, 1931, the Syndicate decided to adhere to its former decision. It was further decided that the Syndicate gives permission to the students who joined the 1st Year Class in the institution at Rupar to migrate to other colleges affiliated to this University and to condone the deficiency in the period of enrolment in an affiliated college under Regulation 2 (a) (i) at page 169 of the Calendar.

*Copy of a telegram, dated the 4th December, 1931, from Pandit Gangaram Sharma, to the Registrar, University of the Punjab.*

NOTICE rejecting application. Depositing 30,000 now, 10,000 later instead 40,000 immediately by Syndicate. Shocked public students parents. Continuing study outside impossible for poor Muhammadan-Sikh students. Present deficit 10,000. Public parents ready to subscribe. Parents subscribed 2,300 to day. Remainder public collecting. Founder assures University 40,000. Registration Trust Deed shortly. Senate meeting to-day. Next far off. Delay might harm students. Undersigned pray specially considering following to-day application be recommended to Government on condition founder Registering Trust Deed before date fixed by Senate. Few days be granted for execution of Trust Deed.

*Copy of a letter No. 21784, dated the 8th December, 1931, from the Joint Registrar, University of the Punjab, to Pandit Gangaram Sharma, Founder, Dayanand College, Rupar.*

WITH reference to an unconfirmed telegram, dated December, 4, 1931, from yourself, all students, Secretary, Arya Samaj, etc., I am directed by the Vice-Chancellor to inform you that in any case it is not possible to reconsider the Syndicate decision with effect from this year. The students must therefore arrange to join the 1st Year Class in affiliated colleges by the date already fixed.

*Copy of an application, dated the 25th July, 1934, from Gangaram Sharma, Founder of Dayanand College, Rupar, to the Registrar, University of the Punjab, Lahore.*

With reference to your letter of 29th March, 1934, I beg to request you that this letter may be considered as an application for affiliation of the Intermediate College at Rupar from next year (May 1935).

Please take into consideration all my letters and information supplied to you by me after the receipt of your letter No. 2139 of 13th March, 1934, as part of the application.

I submit that for a decision regarding the Endowment Fund, it is necessary for you to decide—

- (a) What is the annual deficit expected every year;
- (b) What will be the annual income from the source of the fees.

In my opinion the deficit of the Intermediate College at Rupar will not exceed Rs. 1,000—Rs. 1,500 annually in any case.

As regards the deficit question you will please consider the following points:—

- (1) Seventy boys were admitted in the first year in 1931. I am quite sure that the number of students in both the classes will not be less than 100 in any case.
- (2) About 400 boys appear every year from this area for the Matriculation Examination.

There are many high schools in Ambala, Simla and Hoshiarpur Districts which can send their boys for higher education to Rupar College.

The names of the following schools are given for your information which may be considered as the feeder of the institutions:—

- (1) Government High School, Rupar.
- (2) Public High School, Rupar.
- (3) Khalsa High School, Chamksaur, one mile from Rupar.
- (4) State High School, Nalaghar, 12 miles from Rupar.
- (5) Mission High School, Kharar, 16 miles from Rupar.
- (6) Khalsa High School, Kharar, 16 miles from Rupar.
- (7) Khalsa High School, Anandpur, 23 miles from Rupar.
- (8) State High School, Bilaspur, 40 miles from Rupar.

Keeping in view the above facts I request that you may kindly draw a clear issue regarding the deficit and decide the amount of endowment accordingly, which may be a normal income, including fees, sufficient to meet the annual current expenses.

I respectfully submit that any recommendation in the matter without deciding the same issue will be contrary to the spirit of the rule for individual donors (see Punjab University Calendar pages 449 of 1930-31). I have already referred the matter in my letter of 11th February, 1933, 19th or 20th March, 1934.

Please also see:—

*The letter of Collector of Bombay, of the Chief Officer, Bandra Municipality and my different letters on the subject of ownership and normal income from rent after bearing sufficient margin for taxes, repairs, vacancy, etc.*

The rates of fees to be charged for students will be the same as Government rate, i.e., Rs. 10 monthly.

*SUBJECTS:—English, History, Economics, Sanskrit and Persian will be taught.*

I AM considering to hand over the charge of the institution to a body to be registered under Act 21 of 1930. The names of the members of the Committee will be communicated to you later on.

For Endowment Fund I propose as follows:—

- (a) I am ready to hand over any of my two buildings, i.e., 50, 51 and 34-A. The monthly rent of all the buildings is the same and they are of similar design and adjoining each other. It is understood that every pie of loan on buildings and lands due to Government will be paid directly by me or will be handed over to the Trustees who will be authorised to pay the amount of total liability in one lump sum or in agreed instalments to the Bombay Government as they think fit, or
- (b) I am ready to hand over one of the above buildings free from any liability with a sum of Rs. 10,000 cash in the beginning and a sum of Rs. 5,000 at the time of enlistment of the Second Year Class (next year 1936).

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

According to my estimate, this is the maximum Endowment Fund which can be demanded. Anyhow if you still differ, I request you that you may kindly guide me properly and do not reject my application.

There is a practice in Bombay University, namely, to grant affiliation in the first instance for five years, in some cases. If you think proper, you may kindly grant affiliation for five years. In the meantime the conditions of Endowment Fund will be completely carried out.

I draw your attention to the fact that I have spent about Rs. 9,000 with this proposal, i.e., in travelling, repair of the building, books for college Library and deficit of the college for a few months, in addition to the loss of my reputation and valuable time.

I am leaving for Punjab in the first week of August, 1934.

An early decision will be more beneficial to the institution as there will be ample time to fulfil the various conditions regarding affiliation of the said College.

*Copy of an application, dated the 21st November, 1934, from Pandit Gangaram Sharma, to the Registrar, University of the Punjab, Lahore.*

With reference to your letter No. 6616, dated the 8th August, 1934, I have to submit, in continuation of my application, dated 25th July, 1934, as follows:—

- (1) The Inquiry Committee discussed four points with me and the difference arose on the following points which I have now tried to meet:
  - (a) They desired me to arrange for a Cash Deposit in addition to the buildings. I was not at that time in a position to arrange for any cash. Now in this application I have made provision for Rs. 25,000 cash as well,
  - (b) It was pointed out at that time that properties in question are under a lien of the Bombay Development Department. I have made a provision in this application that Trustees will be at liberty to pay Rs. 90 per mensem as monthly instalment for about 15 years towards the adjustment of the entire loan with interest payable to Bombay Government according to the Government terms or they can pay out Rs. 25,000 the total sum at a time, viz., Rs. 1,05,000 for repayment of the land loan and building loan.
- (2) Two months rent is considered a fair margin for taxes, repairs, and casual vacancies, as sanctioned by the Government under section 78, part II of the City Municipal Act, 1925;
- (3) The assessment relating to the annual rent, income, casual vacancy, repairs, etc., is supported by the Chief Officer of the Municipality,—vide his letter No. 9989 of 1934, dated 20th March, 1934, originally submitted to you;
- (4) I will submit a list of the members of the Managing Committee and Board of Trustees later on;
- (5) I will also comply with the terms of the decision of the Syndicate, dated 15th April 1931, relating the affiliation of colleges. The terms regarding the Endowment Fund will be fulfilled by me as below—
  - (a) One building situated on plot no. 47, 5th Road, Khar Road, Bombay, the annual rent of which is at present estimated Rs. 1,740 by the Chief Officer of the Municipality which is under a lien of Bombay Development Department for a sum of about Rs. 10,500 (land loan Rs. 3,500 and building loan Rs. 7,000) repayable by monthly instalment of Rs. 90 for fifteen years. This building will be made over to the Trustees.
  - (b) A sum of Rs. 25,000 cash partly for meeting the above liability on the building, if required, but chiefly to form the endowment fund of the college. In case the loan is repaid by monthly instalments no part of this amount need be utilised for repayment of the loan.
  - (c) A sum of Rs. 10,000 will be added by the Managing Committee of the college to the Reserve Fund for which I on my own behalf as well as of the Managing Committee undertake to make up as follows:—
    - (1) Rs. 5,000 after one year from the date of affiliation or say in 1936.
    - (2) Rs. 5,000 after two years from the date of affiliation or say 1937.

Under the circumstances narrated above I submit that this case may be laid before the Syndicate for decision. I have endeavoured to meet all the objections raised by the Sub-Committee and I believe the Syndicate will now see its way to grant the affiliation prayed for.

As it is desired to start the institution in May 1935, it is obvious that no avoidable delay should be made to decide this question.

The rate of fees will be Rs. 10 per month and the subjects to be taught, for the present, will be English, History, Economics, Sanskrit and Persian.

I will be at Rupar after 10th December, 1934, for two weeks. Please give me reply at Rupar as well as a copy of the same at 49, Khar Road, Bombay.

Thanking you in anticipation, and hoping for the affiliation being granted to the proposed college as early as possible.

*Copy of paragraph 7 from the proceedings of the meeting of the Syndicate of the University of the Punjab, dated the 10th January, 1935.*

7. The Registrar stated that after considering an application from Pandit Gangaram Sharma, dated the 21st November, 1934, and the Registrar's note thereon, dated the 27th November, 1934 the Vice-Chancellor had referred the question to the Syndicate along with his opinion expressed in his note, dated the 11th December, 1934. The Syndicate agreed with the Vice-Chancellor that it did not favour the idea of a college at Rupar at all especially if it was to be founded by one individual of limited means.

#### SHOP SITES, JHANG.

**\*4170. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that for not proper circulation of Government's letter No. 3975-C, dated 14th November, 1931, and the refusal of Jhang authorities to accept cost price of shop sites outside the chaur at the rate of Rs. 15 per marla, the shopkeepers of Jhang district had suffered a heavy financial loss; if so, whether Government enquired as to which officer was responsible for this trouble, and what was the result of the enquiry?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the Tahsil officers, there was some delay in advertising the orders contained in Punjab Government letter No. 3975-C., dated 14th November, 1932, in Chiniot tahsil. Government later on extended the application of these orders to the whole of Jhang district up to 1st October, 1933. The circumstances leading to this delay in advertising the orders in Chiniot tahsil did not warrant any action against any officer, and Government is not aware of any financial loss suffered by the shopkeepers of Jhang district.

#### GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1935-36.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd (Finance Member) :** I have to communicate to the Council that all the motions for appropriation contained in the Order Paper are made on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor.

#### EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon (Minister for Education) :** I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,000 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Expenditure in England under the Control of Secretary of State.

*The motion was carried.*

**EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND UNDER THE CONTROL OF HIGH COMMISSIONER.**

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,21,600 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Expenditure in England (other than Stores) under the control of the High Commissioner for India.

*The motion was carried.*

**REFUNDS (TRANSFERRED).**

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,53,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Refunds (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

**REFUNDS (RESERVED).**

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,09,300 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, 1936, in respect of Refunds (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

**LOANS BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS (TRANSFERRED).**

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,80,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Loans by Provincial Governments (Transferred).

**Mr. President** : Motion moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,80,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Loans by Provincial Governments (Transferred).

*Interest on loans.*

**Chandhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

The object of this motion is to criticise the high rate of interest that is charged on loans. These loans are made to co-operative credit societies and co-operative mortgage banks, municipalities, district boards and other local bodies and loans under the Industrial Loans Act. In all these cases the rate charged is always more than 6 per cent., or to be exact 6½ per cent. This rate at this time of financial stringency is too high because the Imperial Bank and all other banks that are registered under the Indian Companies Act advance money to recognised societies and other people at a much lower rate. For instance, the rate of interest in the Imperial Bank at this time

<sup>1</sup>To criticise the high rate of interest charged.



is only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and here the Government charges  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and usually the burden falls on the poor zamindars. Even the mahajan can lend money at 6 per cent. to recognised societies or to those men who are of note and the Government charges even more than that. What is more improper is, that when an instalment is not paid in time then compound interest is charged, and the borrower has to sign a statement that the instalment not paid in time will be treated as the principal money advanced. Thus the thing works hard in two ways, and it is a double hardship sometimes on account of the failure of the zamindar—

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** These are not loans advanced to zamindars.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** The rate of interest charged to co-operative societies is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. These societies lend money to zamindars. Ultimately the burden falls on the poor zamindars in many cases. Similarly in the case of municipalities the burden falls on the tax-payers. So, in fact this high rate of interest is a hardship not to those societies so much as it is to people who take money from them. Of course the Honourable Minister may say that sometimes these societies take money for their own use. I have not said that the money is taken exclusively for the zamindars. A share of the money goes to the zamindars and some of it is spent by the societies, but in no case is there any justification for this high rate of interest when the banks can advance money at a much lower rate. For this reason I think Government should lower this rate of interest as much as possible and I think that in no case should it charge more than 3 per cent. at this time.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** What bank lends money at 3 per cent. ? It would be very interesting to know.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** The honourable member has not correctly understood me. What I mean to say is that a deposit in the Imperial Bank will fetch an interest at the rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and a loan can be taken from that bank at 3 per cent. on the security of that deposit.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The honourable member is referring to various loans. I want to ask whether there is any particular loan to which he has objection ? They are all at different rates.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** There is no particular loan in view. I say that generally the rate of interest is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. This is the usually accepted rate which has been charged by Government for a number of years.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Wrong, wrong, quite wrong.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** That is the rate charged for taqavi loans.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** For taqavi loans the rate is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

**Mr. President :** May I ask the honourable member to state the rates to which he takes exception under various items ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Advances to cultivators, co-operative credit societies and municipalities. I have taken the whole grant. This is a cut under the whole grant.

**Mr. President :** My question is what rates is the Government charging to which the honourable member objects ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** My information is that the rate is 6½ per cent. This is the rate on the taqavi loans and from this I conclude that this must be the rate charged on other loans. (*An honourable member :* This does not refer to taqavi at all.) Whatever rate is charged by Government must be a uniform rate. It may be less but there are no figures given here and I have been compelled to fall back upon my own information. At least on debts advanced before 1931 it is 6½ per cent.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie** (Finance Secretary) : The facts are that for all these loans except for loans to the Punjab Co-operative Central Bank the rate of interest charged by the Punjab Government is 1 per cent. above the rate at which we can borrow from the Government of India. In the case of the Punjab Provincial Co-operative Bank the rate of interest charged by the Punjab Government is ½ per cent. above the Government of India rate as their credit is supposed to be somewhat better. The Government of India rate at present is 8½ per cent. and, therefore, the rate on taqavi loans and all the other kinds of loans is 4½ per cent. with the exception of loans to the Punjab Provincial Co-operative Bank to whom the rate is 4 per cent.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** It may be true but the question is that these rates are higher than the rates prevailing in the market from the recognised associations and for that reason I wanted to thrash the point and request that these rates may be lowered. With these words I move my motion.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved is—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : It needs hardly any explanation from me that the lowest possible rates are charged. If the Punjab Government borrows at 8½ per cent., we charge an additional 1 per cent. from district boards and municipalities ; and in the case of co-operative banks a special concession is made and only an additional ½ per cent. is charged. Therefore at present 8½ per cent. and 4 per cent. is the interest charged on these loans and I am sure every one will agree with me that that is not an excessive rate of interest. In view of what I have said I hope the honourable member will not press his motion.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** In view of this answer by the Honourable Minister, I will not press my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,80,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Loans by Provincial Governments (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### LOANS BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS (RESERVED).

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member) : I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,87,500 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, 1936, in respect of Loans by Provincial Governments (Reserved).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,87,500 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, 1930, in respect of Loans by Provincial Governments (Reserved).

*Rate of interest on taqavi loans.*

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural): I move—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving this cut is to urge a lower rate of interest on taqavi loans.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please state which item in the demand relates to taqavi loans ?

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** In the demand (page 499 of the budget) there is an item "advances under the Agriculturists Loans Act."

**Mr. President :** The reduction is to the total grant ; but the honourable member now says that his motion relates to one particular item in the demand. The motion is, therefore, out of order.

*Interest on loans.*

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving the motion is to criticise the high rate of interest charged. The rate of interest charged by Government for loans granted to agriculturists is 6½ per cent. I do not know whether the Government has since reduced the rate of interest—it has not, at any rate come to my knowledge—but the rate entered in the form which the borrowers have to sign stipulates 6½ per cent. and it has not been altered. Thus an agriculturist, who has taken a loan of Rs. 500, has to pay Rs. 99-11-0 on each crop. I hope the Honourable Finance Member will inform the House as to whether he has since issued a circular letter to charge lower rate of interest. But in any case it is a fact that on loans borrowed in 1931 the rate of interest is 6½ per cent. and there has been no reduction in the rate of interest on that loan ever since. I submit that this rate of interest at present is very high even though the loan might have been borrowed in 1931. Further, the Government charges interest at this rate even on the unpaid interest on loans of 1931, so much so that this 6½ per cent. becomes compound interest rate. Government must remember that these loans are advanced under a statute and so it is obligatory on its part to advance these loans either for improving the land, or purchasing cattle or for buying improved seed. While it is not only obligatory on the part of Government to advance these loans, it indirectly stands to gain by these loans ; for, when the land is improved or when it is made to grow better crops on account of improved seeds or otherwise, the Government gains in land revenue. Therefore it is incumbent on Government to reduce the rate of interest especially when we can borrow at 2½ per cent. or at the most at 3½ per cent. in these days with proper securities. If I take a loan from a bank they will charge me only 3½ per cent.

<sup>1</sup>To criticise the high rate of interest charged.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Can the honourable member get a loan from the Imperial Bank at  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Does the Honourable Member mean to say that the Imperial Bank does not pay  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on deposits ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Can the honourable member get a loan at  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Why should I borrow ? (*Laughter.*) In any case I should like to have an assurance from the Government that they will not charge more than  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. If that is done, the zamindars will feel very much obliged to the Government.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie** (Finance Secretary) : I explained just now that the rate of interest charged by the Punjab Government on all forms of taqavi loans except that of the Punjab Co-operative Bank is one per cent. above the rate at which it borrows from the Government of India. If we borrowed from the Government of India at  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. we do charge the zamindar  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** At what rate do you now borrow ?

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie :** We now borrow at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and we charge the zamindar  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. It might seem that we stand to gain a profit out of this transaction. I can assure honourable members that so far from making any profit on these transactions we incur a substantial loss. The number of bad debts which has to be accommodated within the very small margin of one per cent. amounts to a most formidable figure. Within the last five years we have had to write off as irrecoverable 35 lakhs of taqavi loans. I can assure the honourable gentleman who has moved this cut that one per cent. above the rate of interest charged will not cover losses on such a stupendous scale as that. In point of fact we do make the zamindars of this province a handsome present by only charging them one per cent. above the Government of India rate. The Banking Committee which examined our affairs in this province some five years ago actually called attention to the fact that the Punjab Government was even before the slump set in, before the zamindar was placed in difficulties in which he has recently been placed, even then that the Punjab Government was steadily losing by only charging one per cent. above the Government of India rate. If we were to lower the rates even more than we have done already it would, in the interests of the province, undoubtedly become necessary for the Finance Department to scrutinise with much greater care than at present the allocation of money for the purpose of taqavi loans.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** One point remains unanswered. With your permission I would like to ask the Finance Secretary, what about the loans that were contracted before this reduction came on ? Have the rates of interest on these also been reduced ?

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie :** They cannot be. The money was borrowed, say at 5 per cent. from the Government of India and we lent it to zamindars at 6 per cent. and we have still got to pay our 5 per cent. to the Government of India.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : After hearing what the Finance Secretary has

said, I need not make a lengthy speech. I will only refer to one point and it is in connection with the loans which have already been advanced by the Government of India to the Punjab Government. The Finance Secretary stated that the central Government charged interest from the provincial Government at the rate of 5 per cent. and that the provincial Government charged only 1 per cent. more than these rates of the central Government on the loans which they advanced to the zamindars. This means that the provincial Government charged 6 per cent. whereas they paid 5 per cent. Charging 1 per cent. more than the rates of interest which they pay is not exorbitant, but in these days loans can be had at comparatively far lower rates of interest. The Government have already converted some of their debts and have also granted a remission of 35 lakhs to the zamindars. It was very kind of them, but the zamindars will feel all the more obliged if the Government would very kindly try to convert these loans also, so that the rates of interest paid on them could also be reduced. I gave notice of a cut with the same object but unfortunately my motion was out of order. I have made my submissions and have drawn the attention of the Government to this important matter by speaking on the cut which is now before the House. I hope the Government will not hesitate to do this little favour to the zamindars in addition to what they have already done for them.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): The Finance Secretary has already tried to explain that we still have to pay the old rate of interest upon the loans which we borrowed from the Government of India and that makes it impossible for us to reduce the rate of interest on those sums which we have lent. Actually when we floated our loan direct ourselves two years ago the Government of India very kindly let us repay, I think it was about a crore and a quarter, which we were not entitled to repay at that time and the Government of India was put to difficulty with other provinces on account of their kindness to the Punjab. But you cannot generally wipe out past loans. I think a slight reduction in interest has been made by the Government of India but it is impracticable to pass it on to the individual loans made by the Punjab Government. Taking it broadly the effect is that we are still paying to the Government of India at the rate at which we borrowed and the Government of India are still paying to the banks and individuals from whom they borrowed at the old rate. When they cannot convert all their outstanding borrowings, they cannot pass on any great relief to us and we cannot pass on any great relief to those to whom we have lent.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: It is admitted by the Honourable Finance Member that the interest on those loans which they had borrowed is very high. That being so, whatever difficulties there are, they must be met. The question is not impossible of a solution. The amount of taqavi is not very large and the money needed can be easily found somehow or other. The best thing is for the Punjab Government to pay to the Government of India and then charge the zamindars at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or even 4 per cent. This money can easily be found. For instance, there is the reserve of Rs. 56,000 and even this amount would be a relief to the zamindars. Again we intend moving a motion in respect of the restoration of the 5 per cent. cut in the salaries of Government servants. In connection with that though the pay of all Government servants may not be subject to the 5 per cent.

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

cut at least some relief may be found by cutting the pay of some of the Government servants. We can discuss this point when we come to that subject and that will be one way of finding money. If there is any elaborate process to be gone through, that should not deter us from giving the necessary relief to the zamindar. The Government of India will never refuse to have the total amount of taqavi paid back to them at once. If that is not possible, you can yourself raise a loan. The question is easy of solution, and I hope the Government will make an earnest effort to solve the problem and give relief to the zamindar by reducing interest on old outstanding loans. This is not impossible of achievement.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I do not know whether I am entitled to speak again. But the honourable member who spoke last is under one very great misapprehension and I think it ought to be corrected. It is this. The member appears to assume that the Punjab Government can, at any suitable, moment go into the open market and raise a loan at a low rate of interest with which to pay back the loans that it owes to the Government of India at a high rate of interest. If it were as simple as that, of course we would have done it. But if the honourable member had been attending to the earlier debates in this present session, he would have heard that in answer to Mr. Roberts it was explained that the local Government is not its own master in the matter of raising loans for very obvious reasons. The finance of India is done mainly through the central Government which by borrowing on a very large scale is able to save a certain amount of interest. If all the Governments went into the market and competed for loans, the rate of interest would undoubtedly be considerably higher than the rate at which we are now able to borrow. Therefore the Government of India keeps control of the borrowing of local Governments and when the Government of India itself has raised loans at a particular rate of interest and passed these loans on to the local Governments it is quite obvious that the central Government, which is bound not to repay the money before a certain date, cannot possibly let the local Governments repay before that date. Otherwise its finances must go entirely wrong. I hope the honourable member understands that.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** If that is the explanation I will not press my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,87,500 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, 1936, in respect of Loans by Provincial Governments (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

#### STATIONERY AND PRINTING (TRANSFERRED).

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 60,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Stationery and Printing (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

## STATIONERY AND PRINTING (RESERVED).

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,19,200 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, 1936, in respect of Stationery and Printing (Reserved).

**Mr. President:** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,19,200 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, 1936, in respect of Stationery and Printing (Reserved).

*Economy in printing and stationery.*

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 50,000.

The total demand under this head is over 9 lakhs and the motion that I have made is meant to effect economy in the working of this department. It will be very difficult for me to point out the exact items under which economy is possible, but I think in view of the conditions prevailing in the province it would be best for heads of departments to do their level best to bring down the expenditure as low as they can. The reduction that I have proposed is a very modest one. It is not even 10 per cent. of the total demand under this head. I think it will come to about 5 per cent. of the total demand. I, therefore, propose that the total grant be reduced by Rs. 50,000 in the interests of economy.

**Mr. President:** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 50,000.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural): The honourable member for Rohtak (Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram) has moved a very good cut. Just now the Honourable Finance Member was saying that they had no money in hand. Now here is one way to find the money. A sum of Rs. 50,000 can be found by adopting the way suggested by my honourable friend. This will serve the purpose for which I was making a request of the Government. If a real effort is made money can be found from several heads and my honourable friend says that he can point out the exact heads under which he can find the money. So it would be best to accept this amendment just now and reduce the expenditure under the various heads my honourable friend points out. I am sure if they do this they will find enough money. After all in such cases we can save as much money as possible by exercising a little economy. The superfluous expenditure can be avoided. The money saved can be utilised for paying up the taqavi loans to the Government of India and to charge a low rate of interest on the loans to zamindars.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): Sir, it is not easy to point out under what specific heads money can be saved in connection with this demand. But I am sure that if the officers of the department pay a little attention to economy, a considerable saving can be

3 P. M.

<sup>1</sup>To urge economy.

[K. B. Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi.]

made in the total amount which is well over 9 lakhs of rupees. An instance can be given to show that saving can very easily be made only if there is a will to economize. Recently when printing work was done for the new Reforms Department a saving of several thousands was made. Similarly much money can be saved from this department only if there is a desire to effect economy. In view of the fact that ours is not a very satisfactory budget this year, there is a real necessity of making a saving wherever it may be possible. With these words, I support the amendment now before the House.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): As may have been observed, no definite suggestion has been made or lines indicated by which economy can be effected and it is really difficult for me to see how I can reduce this large sum without properly considering how and under what head it should be done. With regards to the policy of general economy, as Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi himself has very kindly admitted, every effort is being made to cut down the expenditure as far as possible. If the departmental reports that are being published are just looked into, the Council will feel convinced as to what lengths we have gone in the matter of reducing printing matter. In the first elections, I remember, the expenditure was over 4 lakhs and the main item consisted of printing. But on the very first occasion after that the Government did their level best to reduce the expenditure. One of the big items of expenditure was for reprinting of the electoral rolls for the whole of the province which cost an enormous sum. The Punjab Government consulted the Legal Remembrancer and altered the rules with the result that instead of reprinting the whole electoral roll, only the lists of amendments were printed. I cannot give the exact figures but on the very next elections we were able to cut down the expenditure by more than one-half. I think where originally we spent 4 lakhs we managed within 2 lakhs on the next elections. Great credit no doubt was due to Mr. Tyson who went on thinking over the matter and found ways and means to reduce the expenditure. During the last elections we have reduced the expenditure still further. It is difficult for me to say under what head we would be able to reduce the expenditure, but we have been doing our best in the past and the various heads of departments are always anxious to reduce expenditure. I would quote one instance which I remember. In one case where the original estimate was for about Rs. 50,000 the actual expenditure showed a saving of Rs. 18,000. I assure the Council that every effort will be made to reduce the expenditure, but it is very difficult to tell definitely where it will be done. I cannot therefore accept the motion for reduction.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I just rise to say a few words to invite the attention of the Honourable Member for Revenue to one or two important points. He has himself stated in his speech that by making a little effort he was able to save forty or fifty thousand rupees in the printing of electoral rolls and some other things. I, therefore, feel perfectly confident that if he tries earnestly and pays sufficient attention to other items, it will be quite easy for him to make a handsome saving.



I should like to refer to another important matter. In the present Demand there is a heading "Stationery supplied from Central Stores" and for this item the budget estimate is Rs. 3,10,970. - I think, that this store is in England and we spend this huge sum of money on foreign stationery.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** No, this stationery comes from Calcutta, and the stores are there.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** I am under the impression that indigenous articles are not used in these stores. But if you find that you are buying this at a high price, you might refer the matter to the central Government and with their permission devise some means by which you may be able to effect economy. Again, the total expenditure on this head in 1933-34 was Rs. 7,92,691. But in the year 1934-35 the revised estimate became higher and this year the demand is for Rs. 9,19,200. The cut moved by my honourable friend, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, to reduce the total demand by Rs. 50,000, is perfectly justifiable, and I think this reduction can be made easily. In my opinion it will be much better to work on the figures of 1933-34. As compared with the past two years, no new item is in view now which calls for an increased expenditure. Therefore, if the Government is really in earnest and is anxious to economize, it can certainly cut down its expenditure and make an appreciable saving. With these few words, I support the motion under discussion.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : With your permission, I want to put in a word or two in support of the motion before the House. It has been rightly pointed out that it is very difficult for members on this side of the House to suggest particular items in which reduction can be effected. But this is a desirable factor from one point of view. This cut does not bind down the Government to any particular individual item, it is only to ask the Government to devise ways and means to come to a definite conclusion so that they might save the required sum which happens to be only Rs. 50,000 out of a sum of 9 lakhs which hardly comes to about 5 per cent. of the total. I therefore support the motion under discussion.

**Mr. F. C. Bourne** (Secretary, Electricity) : I think it is rather difficult for Government to meet a suggestion of this nature when no indication whatever is given as to in what respect we are intended to reduce the expenditure. I think the House can take it as a fact that every item in this budget has been very thoroughly and carefully considered and checked and that wherever it has been found possible in the various departments to cut the expenditure down, it has been cut down. My own experience of the Government Press shows that every effort is made to economize and many successful efforts have been made during the past year. I cannot say whether the actual budget volumes before me is a case in point but in the Civil List for instance considerable saving has been made in the way it is published. The office which worked under the name of clearing office devoted a large amount of its time devising means by which printing can be done more economically than it has been done in the past. Mr. Davis who is in charge of the Press has succeeded in obtaining a large number of advertisements for various Government publications which though not

[Mr. F. C. Bourne.]

exactly an economy provide Government with funds to meet expenditure. It is possible that honourable members may have in their minds the item stationery purchased from Central Stores. That is the heading from which all the pencils, rubbers, papers and penholders, etc., come. Another honourable member has recently suggested that we might effect economy by purchasing these things ourselves. I do not think any gentleman of commercial experience would expect economy from purchasing on a small scale when you can purchase on a large scale through the Central Stores in Calcutta where you have every facility for getting your material from the cheapest market. Mr. Davis himself suggested to me that we might start purchasing our supplies in the Punjab. I said why should we stand the expense of our own purchasing staff when with small additional expense in the shape of our small share in the Central Stores' overhead expenses we can purchase more cheaply and efficiently. Any officer who has indented on the Central Stores knows that in doing so he has to sign a certificate in very solemn words that he has carefully checked the estimate and is fully satisfied that all articles shown are required by him and I do not think that officers generally sign these entirely blindly. My own experience in a district is that efforts are made to keep these indents down as far as possible. I do not think anything would be gained in passing a cut of this nature. If any honourable member can suggest any actual item which can be cut down, any item which he considers extravagant, there is no question that efforts will be made to meet his wishes. But I suggest that an arbitrary cut of this sort may be a dangerous expedient.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** It is true that none of the non-official members who have spoken on this motion have been able to suggest any particular item in which a reduction can be made, but that has happened for obvious and natural reasons. Non-official members are not supposed to know the detailed working of the departments. It is the business of the heads of departments and those who serve under them, that is, salaried servants of the Crown, to find out definite directions in which reductions can be made. This cut has been described as arbitrary and it is arbitrary in the sense that we have not suggested any definite item which can be omitted or any particular item in which reduction can be made. But the desire of all the non-official members is plain. They confess their inability to make concrete suggestions of economy; they only make a request to the members of permanent services to find means to effect this reduction. It has been suggested that in the absence of concrete suggestions it would be impossible for Government to make this reduction and that all the items that have been placed before the Council have been placed after very careful consideration and the officers have not sent these blindly. That is a very fallacious argument. That argument can be put forward in respect of anything and everything. However, I desire to make just one suggestion. A slight reduction in the quality of the paper used will suffice to bring down expenditure under this head. Am I to suppose that our officers are not prepared to lower the quality of paper they use? Certainly they can do so and they ought to do so. Another thing to which I may draw the attention of the official members is that we held an informal consultation this morning.

The consultation was among some representative members drawn from each group in the House and we came to an informal decision that this cut should be pressed. I hope official members will take note of that decision.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I am very sorry indeed to hear from Chaudhri Sahib that the non-official members have arrived at a decision before hearing any of us. They have arrived at an *ex-parte* decision. I may appeal to the good sense of the House to come to a conclusion after honourable members have heard us. The reasons that we have already given have sufficiently shown that every care is being taken to effect economy. I think Chaudhri Sahib, who has himself been a Minister, will realise that it is impossible to give an undertaking however unpleasant it may be to the honourable member without going into the figures. The only assurance that Government can give in the matter is that every possible step will be taken to economise the expenditure. As for the increase, I cannot inform the House off-hand what it is due to. But as far as I am aware the Gurdwara elections which are now coming on was one item of expenditure. Another item is the printing expenditure on account of Council elections. It is very difficult for me without scrutinising the figures to inform the House of the other items of expenditure nor, I am afraid, would it be possible for me to give any assurance of the sort that is required. As regards economy Government officers are very careful so that we have cut down the departmental reports and their length. It is no secret that from His Excellency the Governor down to the lowest official all use economy slips and the same envelopes are being used over and over again till they are actually torn. About the quality of the paper if my honourable friend would take the trouble of coming and seeing my office and of going to the Government Press he will find that we use foolscap paper only when there is necessity otherwise we use badami paper and paper of still cheaper quality. The paper on which the last electoral rolls were printed was the cheapest quality available. Under these circumstances I hope that Chaudhri Sahib will take the facts into consideration and accept my assurance that every economy will be practised in the expenditure that is to be incurred under this head in the course of next year.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 50,000.

*The Council divided : Ayes 15 ; Noes 28.*

AYES.

Atzal Haq, Chaudhri.  
Akbar Ali, Pir.  
Allah Dad Khan, Chaudhri.  
Arjan Singh, Sardar.  
Bishan Singh, Sardar.  
Buta Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.  
Chhotu Ram, Rao Bahadur Chaudhri.  
Gurbachan Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar.

Habib Ullah, Khan Bahadur Sardar.  
Jawahar Singh Dhillon, Sardar.  
Lekhwati Jain, Shrimati.  
Manohar Lal, Mr.  
Muhammad Yasin Khan, Chaudhri.  
Ram Sarup, Chaudhri.  
Zaman Mehdi Khan, Khan Bahadur Malik.

[ Mr. President. ]

NOES.

Anderson, Mr. J. D.  
 Bahadur Khan, Sardar.  
 Bourne, Mr. F. C.  
 Boyd, The Hon'ble Mr. D. J.  
 Dobson, Mr. B. H.  
 Fazl Ali, Khan Bahadur Nawab.  
 Firoz Khan Noon, The Hon'ble  
 Malik Sir.  
 Gokul Chand Narang, The Hon'ble  
 Dr. Sir.  
 Haibat Khan Daba, Khan.  
 Hearn, Mr. J. W.  
 Janmeja Singh, Captain Sardar  
 Bahadur Sardar.  
 Jaswant Singh, Guru.  
 Labh Chand Mehra, Rai Sahib Lala  
 Latifi, Mr. A.  
 Macfarlane, Mr. D.

Marsden, Mr. P.  
 Mayadas, Mr. Ernest.  
 Mohindar Singh, Sardar.  
 Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, Khan  
 Bahadur Mian.  
 Muzaffar Khan, Khan Bahadur  
 Captain Malik.  
 Muzaffar Khan, The Hon'ble  
 Nawab.  
 Ogilvie, Mr. C. M. G.  
 Puckle, Mr. F. H.  
 Rahim Bakhsh, Maulvi Sir.  
 Roberts, Mr. W.  
 Sanderson, Mr. R.  
 Sheo Narain Singh, Sardar Bahadur  
 Sardar.  
 Tate, Mr. T. B.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,19,200 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, 1936, in respect of Stationery and Printing (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

#### COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,96,300 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, 1936, in respect of Commuted Value of Pensions—Capital Expenditure.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,96,300 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, 1936, in respect of Commuted Value of Pensions—Capital Expenditure.

#### *Rates for commutation of pensions.*

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** (Lahore, Sikh, Rural) : I move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving this motion is to draw the attention of Government to the fact that the rates fixed for Indians differ from and are lower than those fixed for non-Indians, and therefore it is very hard and unjust that Indians should, in this matter, be treated in a stepmotherly manner. The Indians put in the same number of years of service as non-Indians do to become eligible for pension. It will be found that insurance companies, while insuring the lives of Indians and non-Indians or any of human being for the

<sup>1</sup>To draw attention to the difference in rates applicable to Indians and non-Indians.

matter of that, apply no discrimination in their rates, and I can see no justification in the fact that because one is an Indian one should earn less as compared with a non-Indian, after completing the same specified number of years of service. Therefore, it is natural to expect that everybody is treated in the same way whether he is an Indian or a non-Indian. In the case of insurance companies, when a certain person is insured for life with a certain company, then after ten or twenty years, that is after the period for which he is insured, he gets the same amount whether he is an Indian or a non-Indian or whether he is an African or any one else. There should be no discrimination. Therefore, I strongly urge that this discrimination which is at present created between Indians and non-Indians should be done away with. In the case of Indians it has been found that they are treated more harshly than their non-Indian brethren while earning their pensions, though the rate as originally fixed for them is lower than the rate fixed for non-Indians. Therefore I want to draw the attention of Government to this difference and urge that it should be done away with and the rates for both Indians and non-Indians should be the same, especially now when we are on the threshold of the new constitution under which there will be equality between Indians and non-Indians. I see no reason why Government should not move in this matter and do away with the discrimination which has been created between Indians and non-Indians.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie** (Finance Secretary): I think the honourable member is under a slight misapprehension. There is no question of difference in rates for commutation of pensions between Indians and Europeans. The difference is between those of Asiatic and non-Asiatic domicile, that is to say, an Englishman domiciled in India would receive the Indian rate. The reason for that is that the rate of mortality applicable to people of Asiatic domicile, whether Indians or anybody else, is higher than the rate applicable to people of non-Asiatic domicile. These rates are laid down by the Government of India on the actuarial data which they have collected. We use the same rates, which merely amount to a measure of protection in the same way as an insurance company has to protect itself where conditions of climate and so on differ.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): The reason given by the Finance Secretary does not seem to be very convincing. He only made a distinction between Asiatics and non-Asiatics, but Indians are also Asiatics. The difference only seems to be between the Europeans and Indians or Asiatics.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The difference lies in the domicile.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan:** All the same it involves the inferiority complex.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It is a question of climate and the expectation of life.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** The rates are the same.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I have to pay more insurance premium when I am in India than when I am in England.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** You are also living in this country. Then why these differences ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Because of the climate people are expected to die earlier in this country. The expectation of life is lower.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** You have also lived in this country for thirty-five years. Your health also must have deteriorated.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie :** I am afraid there is still some misapprehension. Perhaps I did not speak loud enough last time. There is no question of race in the matter at all. An Englishman who on receiving his pension is declared to be or is of Asiatic domicile draws the Asiatic rate. An Englishman whose domicile is in Europe and who returns to Europe on retirement draws the non-Asiatic rate. If there was an Indian with a European domicile then he would draw the European rate. The difference is not racial but climatic.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** May I know the percentage of Europeans who have adopted this Asiatic domicile ?

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie :** I do not know but there are quite a number of them. I think you will find a great number of retired English officers living in places like Conoor, Ootacamund, Kulu, Mussoorie and elsewhere.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Mr. Ogilvie has given some sort of explanation in this respect but still I must confess that I am not convinced. Commuted pension is given on the expiry of one's service on the ground that he has put in so many year's service. (*An honourable member :* No, no.) Still you cannot be sure that Europeans will live for so many years and the Asiatics will die after so many years. Anyhow I have nothing more to say but simply to point out that this distinction should be ignored in the case of both Indians and Europeans.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd (Finance Member) :** Perhaps I might help to remove the honourable member's doubt, if I repeat what I did say before. When I first came to this country, the British insurance company in which I was insured charged me extra for living in India and that is the usual practice of insurance companies, because the expectation of life in a climate like that of India, especially in tropical parts, is not as good as the expectation of life in a non-tropical climate.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Was terrorism rife in those days ? (*Laughter.*)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It has got nothing to do with that. It is due to a very much smaller animal than the terrorist. It is due to the mosquito mainly. That alone is responsible for the difference and in other countries the difference is due to yellow fever and things of that kind. It is an actuarial question whether the expectation of life is longer in one country than in another.

**Mr. President :** 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. 6,96,300 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, 1936, in respect of Commuted Value of Pensions—Capital Expenditure.

*The motion was carried.*

#### SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS (RESERVED).

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 43,33,900 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, 1936, in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions (Reserved).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 43,33,900 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, 1936, in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions (Reserved).

#### *Substitution of provident fund for pension.*

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** (Lahore, Sikh, Rural): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be omitted.

In moving this cut I want to urge upon the Government the necessity of substituting provident fund for pensions, because, as has been admitted by the Honourable Member for Finance, life in India is shorter than life in England and the death rate is higher in India as compared with the death rate in England. Therefore it seems essential that the provident fund system should be substituted for pensions.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** In whose interest, Government or the pensioner's?

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** In the interest of the pensioner who has worked for Government day and night. The North-Western Railway and all the other railway companies have the provident fund system and their clerks and other employees are greatly benefited on retirement. The clerks retire at the age of 55 and there are very few of them who live to the age of 70 or 80, in fact most of them die four or five years after their retirement and therefore their large families which they have to support have nothing to live upon after their death. If the provident fund system is introduced then the employee on his retirement will get a sufficient amount of money for the support of his dependents and for the education of his children. He can marry his children and deposit his money in the bank on the interest of which the poor family of the clerk can live. With these words I urge that Government should substitute the provident fund system for the pension system.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved is—

That the total grant be omitted.

**Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie** (Finance Secretary): Sir, the question of substituting the provident fund in one of the various forms which such a fund may

<sup>1</sup>To urge the substitution of provident fund for pension to Government servants.

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

take for the system of pensions was considered at great length by the Government of India and by this Government in 1929 and 1930, and after every possible method had been examined it was reluctantly decided that such a scheme was impracticable unless we were prepared to add materially to our existing pension charges. If honourable members will look at the already formidable total of our superannuation charges, I think they will agree that in the present circumstances it is out of the question to increase them. There are two methods both of which were examined at the time. One is the abandonment of pensions altogether and their substitution by a contributory provident fund of the type now enjoyed by railway servants. Such calculations as have been possible to be made on this very complicated subject tend to show that the benefits enjoyed by railway officials under their scheme may be substantially more than those enjoyed by pensionable officers outside that department on similar rates of pay. Much of course depends upon the rate of interest. A very small change in the rate of interest makes a very large difference in the total sum. The alternative which was thought to be less expensive and therefore possible was the commutation of a portion of the pension at the commencement of the officer's service, that is to say, an officer joining the service abandons a portion of the pension to which he would ultimately be entitled on retiring and in return receives a guarantee of a lump sum payment to his heirs or dependents in the event of his death, that sum to be calculated in accordance with the actuarial estimate of the value of the pension at the time of his decease. The idea was abandoned because in the first place it was thought that the amount thereby rendered available would be insufficient for the sustenance of dependents; and secondly, because it was expected that any system which satisfied the principle that the total cost to Government should not be increased, would not be acceptable to the officials concerned, as the cost of providing this lump sum payment to the dependents of officers who died would in the end have to be borne by those who survived. At present one officer in four dies before he draws his pension or shortly after it becomes due to him. Government then gained it but these gains would be decreased if it had to make a lump sum payment to the officer's heirs. The money has to come from somewhere and naturally it would have to come from the surviving officers who would draw proportionately smaller pensions. They would naturally not agree to lose a portion of the provision originally made for them, and to which they feel themselves entitled.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the total grant be omitted.

*The motion was lost.*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 43,33,900 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, 1936, in respect of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*



## FAMINE.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,000 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, 1936, in respect of Famine.

*The motion was carried.*

## HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (TRANSFERRED).

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,50,700 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, 1936, in respect of Hydro-Electric Scheme—Capital Expenditure (Transferred).

**Mr. President:** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,50,700 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, 1936, in respect of Hydro-Electric Scheme—Capital Expenditure (Transferred).

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram:** I move—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving this reduction is to urge employment of statutory agriculturists.

**Mr. President:** The demand under consideration relates only to works. It does not relate to services at all. Therefore the motion of the honourable member is not in order.

*Electric power for agricultural purposes.*

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** (Lahore, Sikh, Rural): I move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

I wish to draw the attention of Government to the desirability of supplying electric energy to the villagers at very cheap price. If Government supplied energy to the cultivators at a very cheap rate, at a rate which would compare very favourably with the cost at which they have to irrigate their lands from wells at present and do other agricultural operations, it would greatly enable them to improve their lands and derive greater profit from their lands than they are doing at present. When the hydro-electric scheme came into existence Government gave a hope to the agriculturists that cheap energy would be given to them so as to enable them to better their agricultural conditions. But nothing tangible has been done so far to enable the cultivators to realise their hopes. At the time when lands were acquired for laying transmission lines and for other purposes connected with the electric scheme, no compensation was paid to these landlords, and the latter did not press for the compensation in the hope that they would be better off when the scheme came into working order as they would be enabled to improve the rest of their land with the aid of electric energy. This hope has now been shattered. Furthermore, many of these cultivators who own lands where these towers are laid are afraid of cultivating the soil near about the towers for fear of getting electrocuted. Thus, not only have they lost the land acquired for the purpose of laying these towers, but they have lost the adjoining land also.

<sup>1</sup>To urge for the supply of power for agricultural purposes.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please speak to the motion before the House?

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** I, therefore, urge strongly on the Government to see its way to give energy to these agriculturists at a very cheap rate so that they may be able to work their irrigation wells and also effect improvements in their cultivation. With these words I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Land-holders, General) : I fear that the object of the motion is not properly worded in the order paper. It says that the object of the motion is to 'urge for the supply of power for agricultural purposes.' What the honourable member means is that the cost per unit should be so low that the agriculturists may be able to avail themselves of the energy profitably. So far as the use of energy is concerned it is made available to agriculturists even now, and they can make use of it for any purpose they like.

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** I may just tell Raja Sahib that it is not available to agriculturists at all. Whenever we ask the Chief Engineer to supply energy for our agricultural purposes he asks us to produce fifty people who are prepared to consume electric energy. Evidently he expects us to act as agents for doing propaganda work so that we may be able to collect fifty consumers before we can get the energy.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh** (Multan division and Sheikhpura, Sikh, Rural) : Two years ago a resolution was moved by my friend Sardar Gurbachan Singh on the present subject and the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government on that occasion gave an assurance to the House that energy would be supplied to the agriculturists provided their lands were not at a great distance from the sub-station or if a sufficient number of agriculturists would come forward for that purpose. I may inform the Honourable Minister and also the House that my land at Sheikhpura is situated very close to the sub-station so much so that two big towers are laid on my land. My land has even been spoiled in the manner mentioned by Sardar Jawahar Singh. If I remember aright I made an offer to the Chief Engineer that I would give possession of my well to Government on any equitable terms in order to enable it to have demonstration farm there and get water pumped for irrigation purposes with the aid of electricity. I also offered to take energy for purposes of cultivation of my lands. Where was the response from the Government? In his speech on the resolution to which I have already alluded the Honourable Minister said :—

They can have electricity if they want it. Sardar Buta Singh asked a question the other day and he was absent when I answered that question. He put me a point blank question, will the land near Sheikhpura sub-station get electricity? I replied that there would be no difficulty. If a zamindar owning any land near a sub-station does want to have electricity for agricultural purposes, it would certainly be supplied to him. But suppose a zamindar in Mananwala or some other such place which is situated probably 30 miles from the Sheikhpura sub-station where Sardar Buta Singh's land may be situated wants electricity, he will have to think twice before he makes such a request to the Electricity Department; because it would mean an enormous expenditure which must be borne either by the Government or by the zamindar

concerned. \* \* \* (An honourable member: What would be a reasonable distance)? Say, if it is within 8 or 10 miles it would be easy to take the current.—*Punjab Debates, Volume XXIII, page 703.*

I offered to take current and convert my land into a demonstration farm so that people may see for themselves the advantages of using electricity for agricultural purposes. But there has been no response from Government to my offer. I may perhaps be told by Government later on while replying to the debate that Government is making a survey or that water is not good or some other such like excuse. Generally a zamindar is conservative and does not want to change his old ways. That is why he does not come forward to consume electric energy for purposes of cultivation. But if he sees the advantages of using electricity with his own eyes he is sure to come forward and take the energy for the betterment of his agricultural pursuits. So I would request the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to take immediate steps to give this power to the zamindars for the agricultural development of the province.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated non-official): It was probably in March, 1934, that a question was asked in regard to the rate at which electric current would be supplied to persons who wished to raise water from their wells. The reply given was to begin with rather

4 P. M.  
intricate, and not easily understood. It showed that the rate was extremely high and beyond the capacity of an ordinary agriculturist to pay. I think it also presumed that the water courses should be made pucca so that no water may escape by percolation. It is of course a good idea that water channels should be made as water tight as possible, but the department should take into account the conditions as they are, and not bring in the idea of lined channels. They must consider whether a zamindar can afford to have pucca channels. Why work out a calculation which presumes that pucca channels will be provided? I, therefore, beg that the Department may consider this matter further and so revise their rates on this subject that first of all they may be understood more easily and secondly they should not be based on pucca channels.

**Professor W. Roberts** (Nominated, non-official): Although I shall not feel that I can vote against the Government in this matter, I wish to say a few words in favour of this motion, particularly the pumping aspect of the hydro-electric power. I have here a report by the Director of Agriculture of the United Provinces and it is a remarkable fact that in that province this department is being very definitely utilised for helping the public. Their charges for electricity are very low indeed compared with what the department is charging in the Punjab. They have gone down to as low as one anna a unit after 2,000 hours' work. Further, for certain periods when the demand for power is low, their charges are as low as three pies per unit. There must be plenty of opportunities in the Punjab where pumping could be done in those hours when there is no demand for industrial and other purposes. Another point is, I understand that Government have some kind of scheme for using hydro-electric power somewhere in Amritsar. As compared with that, the utilisation of hydro-electric power in the tracts which are already water-logged presents two or three definite advantages. One is that you would be reclaiming land which is at present waste, and by a water distribution system at hand you have only to put the water in the canal and it will take it 100 or

[Prof. W. Roberts.]

200 miles further. In Amritsar or whatever district where they are proposing their scheme, they would have to build new channels and incur all this extra expense as compared with dealing with waterlogged tracts. I, therefore, earnestly request the Government to consider whether some fairly big projects could not be undertaken to give power for this purpose particularly as a study of this budget reveals that more than three-quarters of the money for running the Punjab is derived from the agriculturists.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to support the cut moved by my honourable friend. When last time we passed a resolution that hydro-electric power should be made available for the use of the zamindars, we gave a large number of ways in which the Government could do something and the answer of the Honourable Minister was that provided that there was a proper system and that a sufficient number of agriculturists were coming in, he would be able to do something in the matter. But up to this time, this power has not been supplied to anybody. Now, the installation of this electric power is being run apace and it has been carried up to Lyallpur, I suppose, from where it will go to Sargodha or Khushab. Near about that place there is an area known as the thal area which is lying fallow just in the vicinity of the river, where tube wells can be sunk at a small cost and the electric power can be used. Therefore, if the question is considered sympathetically, an arrangement can be made to supply water to the zamindars holding land in that area and by this means thousands of acres can be irrigated. This will increase the revenue of the Government and will be a means of prosperity to these zamindars who own this large area. This is one instance which I can give where this electric power can be used to advantage both to the Government and to the zamindar. There is no reason why an effort should not be made for making electricity available to them. Every year money is asked for expediting the laying of lines of this hydro-electric power. So I think this time the line should be run towards Jhang and Mianwali and other places will come in. I do not think that if the current is taken there, people will not go in for it. Wells can be sunk at a small cost. As for the objection that in this motion nothing has been said whether the electric-power should be supplied at a minimum cost, the very words indicate that it is a request to supply electricity and that all facilities required should be provided. It is not necessary to put down everything in a motion and honourable members have made it clear in their speeches that all possible amenities and facilities should be provided so that the zamindars may be induced to make more and more use of this electric power. One of the means by which you can do it would be by lowering the rates per unit. Otherwise if you make it more costly to irrigate with electric power than with the help of bullocks and persian wheel, they may not go in for the power. You must make it more cheap as compared with the cost of lifting the water with the help of bullocks and persian wheel and if an effort is made in this direction there will be no difficulty in the zamindars coming in in large numbers to take this power. With these words I support the motion.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : I support whole-heartedly the motion which is now before the House. It is really a thousand pities that the Government is

willing to do everything where the interests of urban people are concerned and refuses blankly to move an inch where the interests of the zamindars are concerned. I do not think it is necessary to convince the Government that the interest of the zamindar means the interest of everybody in the country. If there is improvement in agricultural conditions, every community in the country will benefit by it; the Government itself will reap rich harvest out of it. It is, therefore, necessary that power generated by the hydro-electric scheme should be made available to the zamindar and it should be done immediately. The Government should not lose sight of the fact that it is from the pockets of the zamindar that money spent on the scheme has come. He should, therefore, be the first to benefit by it now that the scheme is in operation and everybody is getting benefit out of it. If electric energy is supplied to the zamindar, he will instal a motor at his well and his fields will become very fertile by the use of abundant water drawn by lift irrigation.

It has been said before on behalf of the Government that so long as 50 applications are not received by the department, electricity cannot be made available to the people living in a particular locality. But everybody knows that the zamindar is not a man of subtle wisdom. His intellect has been rendered blunt by long years of suffering and toil. He cannot understand things very easily and quickly. It takes him a long time to appreciate the advantages of improved methods of cultivation. Not very long ago the Government offered him squares of land for cultivation. He accepted the offer very reluctantly and that too after a good deal of hesitation. But later on when he knew by experience that squares were nothing short of a God-sent blessing he bought them at high prices. It was after a good deal of botheration that the Health Department was able to convince him that the rat was a really dangerous thing and it should be killed if he was to avoid plague. His simple mind saw no connection between the killing of a rat and the prevention of plague. But later on, experience taught him that the officers of the Health Department were right and now there is no greater enemy of rats living than the zamindar. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture knows that whenever a new agricultural implement is brought into the market it fails to attract the notice of the zamindar. Long after others have benefited by its use the zamindar makes his appearance to buy it. Now if the Government is really desirous of seeing the zamindar profit by the electric power they should at once supply the energy to one or two of them. When people in the neighbourhood see that those who irrigate their fields by the system of lift irrigation have good harvests, they will hasten to ask for its supply. This is the right course to adopt. This is how the zamindar can be educated in the use of electric power for agricultural purposes. After all it is the zamindar's money that the Government has spent on this scheme. It is with his money that we have made roads for the benefit of all and sundry. It is with his money that houses of all of us are lighted with electric lamps. It is with his money that great and magnificent bungalows have been constructed for the use of big officials of the Government. The roads on which he walks are not broad enough even for the passage of a bullock cart. No one can walk on them in darkness. But the Government does not pay attention to these things. Whenever questions of the betterment of the lot of the zamindar

[Ch. Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.]

come up the Government shows only lip-sympathy and holds out promises which are never to be fulfilled. The simple zamindar keeps silent as he does not know how to agitate. It is high time that the Government should take interest in this affair and supply electric energy to the zamindar as soon as possible.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural): If any instance was needed to show the Government's utter lack of response to public opinion, perhaps this question affords a striking instance of that fact.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang**: No, no.

**Sardar Arjan Singh**: We have heard from day to day criticisms from non-official benches. In the first instance there was a stage when serious criticism was offered as to the utility of this big scheme that had been undertaken. Next stage came and as responsible people it was pointed out and the members certainly clearly realized that after all it was no use, as they put it, crying over spilt milk, having undertaken this enterprise, having spent about 7 crores of provincial money in this undertaking, it was no use to give up this enterprise at this stage. The next important question, therefore, on which the public opinion concentrated itself was how to utilize the opportunity that had been afforded to us, how to make the best of a bad bargain that we had entered into. Reference has been made to a resolution which was moved by my honourable friend, Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh. It was in identical terms with the motion under discussion that efforts should be made to make current available for agricultural purposes and if I remember aright, I think, there were no two opinions as to that resolution, even the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government pointed out that he would take the earliest opportunity to see that current is made available in suitable cases. Of course we would be very glad to learn from the Honourable Minister as to what has been done during this year. It has been very rightly pointed out that in the first instance we propose to get something out of our capital expenditure of 8 crores. That is one thing that public funds should be augmented in some way or other and as they put it, *... , ...*, that will be one of the ways to earn something. But another thing is that it has been urged that if cheaper rates are provided that alone will solve the problem because it has been rightly pointed out that the fall in prices has been considerable and there is absolutely no reason why Government should not in the first instance afford facilities for the zamindars to take advantage of the current and thus enable the zamindars to make up. Of course we are told by my friend from Sheikhpura,—he put his case in an admirable manner—that the wells in the locality round Sheikhpura are already there and the Government will be solving the problem of water-logging as well with the same power it will be supplying water for agricultural purposes. Thus if the current is made available in such like areas, two objects will be served. Therefore I would strongly support this motion.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): Those members of the House who spoke on this motion have my full sympathy. Unfortunately, they do not understand the difficulties of the position and it is my hard lot, I must say, to try to explain from time to time the difficulties that the Hydro-Electric Department has to

face. There are some very wrong impressions about the nature and the uses of electricity and I believe that it is really these wrong impressions regarding the nature and uses of electricity which are at the bottom of this grievance. Electricity is a commodity which does not unfortunately travel on its own legs. It has to be carried and it has to be carried by means which are very costly. If for instance, we can by some miracle press a button here at the sub-station at Shalamar and say "now appear at Sheikhpura in the well of Sardar Buta Singh—"

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** It has already appeared there.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** And if we were to press a button somewhere at Jullundur or Ludhiana and say "now appear in the fields of our friend Chaudhri Abdul Rahman" that would to a certain extent solve the difficulty. But unfortunately it is not so and in order that electricity may be taken from one place to another it is necessary to incur heavy outlay in the form of sub-stations and in the form of towers and transmission cables and so on. Sardar Buta Singh has just complained that his well lies somewhere near the source of electricity at Sheikhpura, somewhere near the sub-station within the area of supply, let us assume, and yet he has not got it. I am not sure if Sardar Buta Singh's well lies actually within the area of supply, for instance within the area where electricity is being actually supplied to houses. If it is somewhere there then it should not be at all difficult to supply electricity to Sardar Buta Singh, to work his wells. But that will be only a part of the show. Sardar Buta Singh cannot go to the Chief Engineer and say "I want electricity give it to me" and sit quiet. That is not sufficient. What Sardar Buta Singh has to do is a two-fold task. The first thing he has to do is that he should supply himself with motors by means of which he can use electricity to lift the water from his well. Without that a wire taken to his house will not help him.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** I am prepared to do that.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** No one who understands electricity can fail to understand this. He must first incur expenditure in order to provide himself with motors in order to use electricity which would be supplied by the Hydro-Electric Department. This is one thing. If he puts a motor somewhere near his well a separate chamber will have to be constructed where he can put his motor. Then in one hour or so the whole of his well will be empty and if the motor is worked longer the building of the well and the masonry may collapse. I am telling you from my own experience. You must have tube-wells.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** I have tube-wells.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Then I cannot understand why Sardar Buta Singh has not got electricity up to this time. If he has sunk tube wells, if he has got himself provided with motors, then it is his fault if he has not applied for electricity. He should have taken a printed form obtainable from the local manager's office, filled it up showing how much energy is needed by him and at what place or places he needs it. If he had done this and still failed to get it, then I would have certainly sat upon the Chief Engineer and he would have sat upon the local manager there and asked him to show reason why electricity was not supplied to Sardar Buta Singh. But

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certainly some stage has been omitted by my friend. He must have omitted some stage either he has not supplied himself with motors—

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Or he has not salaamed somebody.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** No salaaming in this department. These people have strict instructions. I would mention for the satisfaction of my honourable friend that it once came to my notice that one of our officers was not addressing the public properly and I had to send instructions that he should understand that he is not a hakim, he is a seller of a commodity and is in charge of a commercial department and he must conduct himself in a way in which traders must conduct themselves who want to sell their wares. It is fully known to all officers of the Hydro-Electric Department that I will not stand any such non-sense and that they must conduct themselves as public servants and they should do everything to please their customers and if any one behaves like a hakim he will have to go away where he can find scope for his *hakimana* tendencies. (*Hear, hear*). But I wanted to make this clear that there must have been some stage omitted in the circumstances to which Sardar Buta Singh has referred. Otherwise if his well is situated within the area of supply, there is no reason why, everything necessary being done, he should not get the current. We are all getting current for lifting water from our wells in our houses. There must be many gentlemen who have got tube-wells in their houses to supplement their municipal supply of water by water from thier tube-wells and those wells are being worked by the current supplied by the Lahore Electric Supply Company and I do not know why Sardar Buta Singh has not got energy.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** What is meant by the area of supply?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** By area of supply is meant the area where electricity can be supplied without fixing a separate sub-station. That is the working definition. It has a technical definition but I need not go into it. If, for instance, his well is situated in the neighbourhood of bungalows that get electric current, then if he is prepared to pay the tariff rates there is no reason why he should not get electricity. Probably he is not prepared to pay the rates mentioned in the tariffs and he thinks it pays him more to employ bullocks than to employ electricity. If he thinks it would be more costly to employ electricity then it is a separate question.

Now I come to the question of rates raised by Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan. I fail to understand why he should not get electricity for his well if it is situated within the area of supply and why anyone else should not get current if his well is situated within the area of supply. As Raja Sahib pointed out Sardar Jawahar Singh's motion as it stands really defeats itself. He says agriculturists should be supplied electricity. But who has refused it to them?

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** I have been refused by the Chief Engineer.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** If I had the privilege of cross-examining him, I shall show that there is some snag in his demand and that the demand or request whatever it was, was not made in a



proper form. In the first place, it was not clear whether he wanted electricity within the area of supply. Suppose he wanted it in a place 15 miles away from the nearest cable. I will supply even there if he guarantees me a return of 7½ per cent. on the capital outlay. He will get electricity as soon as circumstances can permit. But is he prepared to pay for the transmission? It is no use saying my well lies 20 miles from the nearest sub-station, give me electricity. I cannot take electricity by lorry or by some other means. We have to put up sub-stations and who is going to pay the cost? Supposing we get Rs. 10 a month by working his farm and we have to spend Rs. 50,000 for putting up a sub-station and the cables, are you going to permit the Chief Engineer to do so? You will blow me up in no time, if we spent Rs. 50,000 to earn Rs. 10. It is a commercial undertaking and it must be run on commercial lines. If you really want electricity without considerations of revenue, you can get it without any cost. You have only to pass a Bill that so far as Hydro-Electric Department is concerned it would not be treated as a commercial concern and electricity should be distributed to zamindars free of cost because zamindars are contributing so much to the revenues of the province. I say honourable members cannot make such an absurd proposition. I am sure they are too sensible to suggest it. But unfortunately when some honourable members get up and say that zamindars do not get electricity they omit to take account of all the stages intermediate from the generating station up to the place where they want electricity to be taken. Here is a gentleman coming from Rahon. Probably his place is about 35 miles from the nearest sub-station or may be even more. How can he get electricity? He may be very very anxious to have it and we on our side may be very very anxious to let him have it. But how can we take it to him? How will it pay us? Thirty-five miles of cables, transmission lines, towers—all these have to be put and Rs. 5,000 is the lowest cost per mile. (*Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit*: Can it not be sent by air mail?) I was just saying if some scientifically minded man like the learned Pandit could discover some means of conveying electricity in little parcels from one place to another which can be used like radium perhaps without any apparent reduction or loss on the way, that might be some solution. But unfortunately no scientist has yet arisen who would enable the Hydro-Electric Department to transport electricity in small parcels to be distributed all over the countryside. Unless that is done it is really idle to talk of Government not supplying electricity to the zamindars. Let zamindars just provide the means of receiving it and they will get it. Unless of course this House passes some law that profit shall be no consideration whatsoever, zamindars cannot get electricity without paying for it. If they provide that electricity shall be supplied to them at all costs it would mean that they take out something from their right pocket and put in the left, or that Government takes from them in another form. If Government is not to earn anything from the Hydro-Electric Department, the zamindars will have to pay for the upkeep of the department in some other way. That is certainly not the means which would commend itself to honourable members.

One thing more which requires to be understood is that electricity is not being wasted. There are some honourable members who seem to be under the impression that we are generating much more than we have use for. That is not really the case. (*Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh*: Nobody has

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raised that question to-day). But the impression has been conveyed to me by some zamindars. I should like to take this opportunity to remove that impression also and I am glad to know that no honourable member here is suffering from that wrong impression, and that all of them agree with me in saying that there is no electricity which is going to waste. Every bit of it, every unit of it is being spent to bring money to the coffers of the Government. To add to the revenue of the province, every bit of it is being sold. But the argument is, you are producing so much and the country will need only so much; the rest is going to waste. So give us that either for nothing or at a nominal rate. This delusion should not at all exist and I am glad of the assurance that is given that nobody here is under that delusion. (*An honourable member*: Far from it. The impression is that you cannot produce sufficient electricity). That is the right position to take up. The honourable member (Sardar Ujjal Singh) has been on the committee and he knows all about it. The real thing is this. We are producing only a small quantity and that small quantity is selling like hot cakes. It is being paid for by people at the market rate. Does the House want me not to sell it to those who are ready to take it and pay for it at the rates that we have fixed in order to give it to people who have not got the means to purchase it and who have not got the machinery to receive it and to whom it is really impossible to take electricity unless those two conditions have been fulfilled. Naturally if the zamindar members here are even slightly commercially minded they would not think of such a course. It is their commodity, it is a provincial asset on which about Rs. 7 crores have been spent rightly or wrongly. That huge sum has been spent and now their concern should be to get as much return on their capital as possible and that is what the Hydro-Electric Department is trying to do, by selling it to people who are ready to take it and pay for it. I may, however, for the consolation of zamindar members of the House submit that Government is thinking of augmenting its sources of electric supply and our Chief Engineer is already employed on exploring the means for it. For instance, if any honourable member is here who has been to Broth he would remember that there is a big storage tank which keeps water in reserve from which the tunnel is filled and then emptied into the pipes which run the turbines in our generating house at Jogindernagar on this side of the mountain range. The strength of the water there is about 100 cusecs and it can only produce a certain quantity of electricity. If the number of cusecs in the reservoir which is the source of supply to the tunnel could be raised, the amount of electricity which can be generated in that very power house could be easily raised. The cables are sufficiently strong, the towers are sufficiently strong, the pipes are sufficiently strong and the turbines are also sufficiently strong to produce much more than at present. It is only the motive power which is not sufficient and we are out in search of a place where we could build another dam, a big dam for diurnal storage of water which should give us an inexhaustible and augmented supply of water and increase the motive power. As soon as we can locate such a site—the Chief Engineer is after it—we shall build a dam there at a very low cost and then the supply of electricity may be increased cent. per cent. It would then be possible to give it at much cheaper rates than the rates at which it is being sold at present. The real problem, therefore, is how to produce more.

Some honourable members seem to be under a wrong impression—I particularly address my remarks to Mr. Roberts who was kind enough to take part in the debate. He has referred to a scheme in the United Provinces and he pointed out that under that scheme it is expected that it would be possible to supply electricity at 3 pies per unit. It would be a very good thing. But the House should remember that the Hydro-Electric Department here cannot act independently of other departments. In the United Provinces Sir William Stampe, the Chief Engineer, is not only the Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Department but he is also the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Department. Three departments should combine here and if we can secure the combination and co-operation of all these three departments something more can yet be done. The fourth department (*pointing to the Honourable Finance Member*), the most important department is sitting there. The three departments are Agriculture—and we cannot find a greater enthusiast than our present Minister for Agriculture, he has all that can be desired of him and he has the interests of agriculture next to his heart—then Irrigation—we cannot do without the co-operation of the Irrigation Department—and last, Hydro-Electric. Over all these three there is the Finance Department and its purse strings should not be held too tight. So that, all these three departments with the Finance Department have to co-operate in order that we may be able to show something like the scheme to which Mr. Roberts has referred and which it is contemplated in the United Provinces to introduce. We must have five hundred tube wells which they contemplate having there or something about that number. These wells cannot be sunk by the Hydro-Electric Department. It is not its business. That is the business of the Irrigation Department or of the Agricultural Department. The Department of Agriculture must find the money for tube wells and when they have been sunk 'bullocks' shall be supplied in the form of electricity. But zamindar members here complain, we have no electricity; electricity should be supplied to the Thal ilaqa from Lyallpur. (*Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan*: No, not from Lyallpur). If the honourable member had said Lyallpur, that would probably be the nearest station. If the Agricultural Department has been put in possession of sufficient funds it may sink 500 tube wells either near Amritsar where Sardar Jawahar Singh's land is or somewhere near Sheikhpura where Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh's land lies or in the Thal ilaqa where Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan's land may be and if we are anywhere near and the cost is not prohibitive we shall be able to say to any of them: You have got tube wells, you have purchased motors, you have put up all the necessary installations; we shall see whether you are within a sufficiently near distance to enable us to take electricity there. Of course the whole thing will have been considered before that. Otherwise no one is going to sink tube wells if he cannot get electricity. If he is within a short distance we shall say, "here is the electricity, your tube wells will be set going." But to expect that the Hydro-Electric Department should come to the rescue of the zamindars until they have sunk tube wells and they have the means of receiving is too much. That is going to the wrong place. The four departments I have mentioned at least should combine before the water supply in the form of tube wells in the province can be augmented. (*An honourable member*: But now it is said that there is no spare energy). That is true what I have said is subject to the second and third stages coming in. But if those stages do not materialise there is no use sinking a tube well or of

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taking electricity to zamindars' farms or anywhere else, as the rates would be prohibitive. That is of course a condition precedent. At present there is no spare energy which can be taken away from industrial areas on to the farms of zamindars at nominal rates. I told the House what had happened. It was expected—Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh knows it because he was on the committee—that it would take 12 years before even this electricity, the power of 36,000 kilowatts could be sold. The demand for electricity is increasing at such a pace that we are almost sure that by the end of 1939, that is within less than four years, the whole of the energy would have been consumed, would have been taken up. (*An honourable member*: Does it mean that you will have to spend another 8 crores to supply us with electricity?) No. You may have to spend one crore to take it to suburban areas to the zamindars. (*An honourable member*: The entire energy is not being consumed now.) I was told that no one here was under that delusion as if some electricity was lying spare or was going to waste. We are only producing as much as is being required. (*An honourable member*: Is it not a fact that the plant is not fully loaded up?) Yes, the plant is not being fully loaded up. It is being rapidly loaded up. The position is simply this, whether we should now produce at once 36,000 kilowatts and then go out in search of cultivators who will take the energy not knowing where we can find such customers to whom this electricity could be taken and then who are prepared to purchase it at prices at which it will pay Government to sell it to them. The quantity produced is so small even now. That is the difficulty because even as we produce we get people ready to purchase from us. We have got applications to the extent of 24,000 kilowatts and 16,000 have been connected. (*An honourable member*: How much are you producing?) We are producing just as much as is being consumed, no spare energy. It is about the same at cent. per cent. load factor. It is 9,000 kilowatts but spread over a load factor of 50, say it is 18,000 kilowatts or so. I am speaking subject to correction. It is more or less a technical matter and I might be wrong. I may tell you I was most surprised to know from a closer study of the scheme when I had to administer this department, I was most unpleasantly surprised that we were getting such a small quantity after such a big outlay. I thought the quantity would be so much that it would satisfy the requirements of the whole province. That is unfortunately not the case. As a matter of fact although every year almost this question comes up, only this morning I was inquiring from my Chief Engineer how many applications had as a matter of fact been received from agriculturists for supply of electricity and he told me that altogether three applications had been received up to this time in the whole province for supply of current for agricultural purposes, only three applications, and the noise is as if thousands were asking for it and they were not getting. Only three applications in the whole province. I ascertained from him only this morning. He might have made some mistake but this is what I was told that applications had come only from three persons for the supply of current for agricultural purposes. (*An honourable member*: I personally know of ten persons who have applied.) Possibly he was considering only three big demands. I wanted this information because I knew that I might be called upon to say something about this case and this is the information that he gave me. However I shall refer to him again. In

fact he gave me even the three places from where the applications had come—one from Sheikhpura, one from between Amritsar and Tarn Taran and the third was from a place within ten miles from Amritsar. Altogether three applications. Manawala people want a big load of electricity and I may tell the House that as soon as an application was received from these Manawala Sardars, estimates were taken in hand and now detailed project estimates are being prepared. As soon as these estimates are ready and it is found that it will pay the Government, pay the province, pay the zamindars—for they are the masters and the money belongs to them and the shop belongs to them—as soon as it is found that it will pay them, we will connect it. But if it is found that it will be a dead loss to Government which means to the people, then it may not be possible to supply even to these people. The same applies to the other two places. There might be some other small applications which were considered too small for any considerable outlay, but if we do not get any return at all no Chief Engineer can entertain such an application. In order to assure the House that Government is not turning a deaf ear to the demands of the zamindars in this respect, I would draw its attention to the fact that as soon as the debates in this Council were over last year, the matter was taken in hand by me and in co-operation with the Minister for Agriculture we devised a scheme. A specially competent officer was placed on duty and he has been surveying an area where there is a possibility of irrigating with the help of tube-wells worked by electricity, an area of over a lakh of acres and a detailed report is expected any day from him. The survey has nearly been completed and as soon as it has been considered by the proper authorities and Government is prepared to spend money on sinking tube-wells, the Hydro-Electric Department will come to the rescue and the people will find many tube-wells working on this land with electricity and the land now lying waste might yield revenue to the Government and income to the owners and also income to the Hydro-Electric Department.

I have received a note from the Superintending Engineer of the Drainage Circle about this matter and an assurance has been conveyed in the following words :—

Detailed examination of the first of these areas is nearly complete. Detailed contour survey plans have been prepared, soil tested and trial borings made at several points to determine the nature of strata and the quality and quantity of underground water available. The plans will shortly be forwarded to the Hydro-Electric Department for preparation of a detailed estimate. This estimate when complete will be submitted to Government for sanction.

It is proposed in the first instance to instal 20 tube-wells near Dhariwal Sub-station as an experimental measure. Further extension of the system is dependent on the results of this experimental scheme. Investigation in the other two areas will be continued in the meanwhile.

Thus, it is not that Government has done nothing in compliance with the wishes so forcibly expressed by this House last year. I can give the assurance again that Government will do all that is possible to bring electricity nearer home to the cultivators.

As regards the lowering of rates, it is the crux of the whole thing. That is again a matter of high policy and high finance. If this department is to be run as a commercial department, then certainly the higher the price the

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more ready will Government be to sell it to people who are prepared to pay the higher price. If the Finance Department is not prepared to look at this scheme as a commercial scheme and is prepared to run it as a philanthropic scheme or as a project which is primarily intended for the benefit of the cultivators, then revenue ceases to be a consideration. Then certainly a different policy will have to be adopted. Although I may tell you that when this scheme was floated, and it was floated during the time of my honourable friend Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, it was started as a scheme for the industrial development of the province and not for the agricultural development of the province. Expressly the scheme was started for industrial purposes.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** And agriculture is the chief industry of the province.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Undoubtedly it can be said that agriculture is the chief industry, but it was not in this sense that my honourable friend used the word 'industrial' at the time the scheme was floated and if we were to follow strictly the wording of the resolution, we should not listen to a word spoken to-day in this House on behalf of the zamindars, but personally I am prepared to go as far as possible to accommodate the zamindars and to help them with due regard to the financial interests of the province.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** The Honourable Minister said during the course of his speech that Sardar Buta Singh should have first arranged for pipes and motors for his well. I wish to ask him, cannot the department arrange to supply pumps and motors on hire?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The suggestion will be considered by the Hydro-Electric Department with a view to see whether they can open a big shop of electric goods including motors and pipes. If we get more money we shall keep a big store out of which we can supply. If the scheme is found to be financially sound—I cannot commit Government to this—there is no reason why Government should not do it.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture) :** I want to say just one word and that is about the two aspects of the scheme. The scheme as it at present stands can only be commercially profitable at the tariffs that have been fixed. I think the House may agree that the whole of the power in the first stage may be used for the most paying available load, but in the second stage cheap power may be provided for agricultural purposes. As the Honourable Minister has just mentioned the whole of the power available at present can be sold at high rates. I am sure no one in this House wants to sell power at lower rates than we can at present obtain. In the United Provinces electricity is being sold cheap and the facilities for irrigation and industrial purposes are provided. We have now to choose the cheapest method for securing power. It may be that harnessing certain falls on the canals may give electric power cheap for agricultural purposes. There is no reason why we should not be able to generate power at the same cost as the United Provinces is doing. (*An honourable member :* At what rate?) At some places off peak load, as Mr. Roberts pointed out, it is being sold at three

pies a unit. So we have either to harness canal falls or go to the second stage of Mandi Scheme and get power for agricultural purposes. In this connection certain experiments are already in progress in Gurdaspur. Bores have been put down to determine the water supply, and the area has been selected, estimates for serving it will soon be ready. The Experiment if taken in hand will show what scope there is for extension of tube-well irrigation in the Punjab. For myself, from what I have seen, in the United Provinces I can say—and I have asked several officers of the Agricultural Department and our Engineering Department to go and visit those stations in the United Provinces and these officers, both engineering and agricultural, have been convinced—that it is possible to extend tube-well irrigation in the Punjab if electricity can be secured at rates at which it is available in the neighbouring province. Therefore I think from the financial point of view our best course is to get the best value for the power from Mandi now and then explore the best means of getting power cheap for agricultural purposes.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani** (West Punjab Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) :

The Honourable Minister has made a clever speech although it is most disappointing. In answering Sardar Buta Singh he took advantage of the fact that Sardar Sahib had made the mistake of bringing forth his own personal case before the House and so the Minister made much of it. Then he took up the question of providing electricity to a place at a distance of 35 miles. This offered him another opportunity of scathing criticism and he took full advantage of it. That was a personal case again and the Minister conscious of the fact that these two gentlemen would not be in a position to reply went at them. His next contention was that it was not his business alone. He could do nothing in the matter without the advice of the Agricultural Department and he pointed out the various difficulties that stood in his way if he were to take initiative in the matter of supplying electricity for agricultural purposes. In the third stage of his speech

the Honourable Minister said that he had been doing something, that he had just given instructions to the Chief Engineer and that the latter was making certain experiments and something might come out of it. In the fourth stage he ended by saying that after all, the agriculturist population of the province had got no very good claim upon the electricity because the Leader of the Unionist Party on a certain occasion said that this electricity was meant only to help industry in the Punjab. In this rambling and confusing oration it is really difficult to gather what the Honourable Minister really meant. Is he or is he not in right earnest to devise means to put forth schemes to benefit the agriculturists with the aid of the electric power? Is he in sympathy with the aspirations of the agriculturists who have mostly financed the whole scheme costing more than 8 crores? Or, is he simply there to point out the difficulties of complying with the wishes of the agriculturists? The Honourable Minister's speech was not at all encouraging, and not at all sympathetic. It was merely an eye-wash. I do not think that this is the correct attitude of a Minister of a province which is essentially agricultural. I therefore appeal to the Honourable Minister to be more sympathetic and do his best to see that electricity is made available more and more for agricultural purposes.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh** (Sikh, Urban): The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government said that the original object of starting the hydro-electric scheme was to develop the industries of the province but, so far as the rates that are being charged are concerned, it does not appear that industries can be developed on these conditions. In fact all the energy is being used for luxury purposes in towns. Unless the rates are reduced people cannot avail themselves of the electric power for industrial purposes. I may perhaps mention here my own personal experience. The engineer in charge of the commercial section of this hydro-electric scheme asked me to utilise electricity in my factory at Jaranwala. I worked out the cost, and it came to slightly more than what my total bill came to with the steam plant. So I wrote to him back to say that unless charges were reduced it would not be possible for me to use electricity in place of steam. If the cloth mill at Lyallpur is using electricity it is only because Government have given some concessions to the factory. Otherwise it would not at all be possible for that factory to use electricity. The cost of generating hydro-electric current at the terminals was estimated at something like eight pies per unit. With this high rate it will not be possible for the people to purchase electricity either for agricultural or industrial purposes. So, only if the Government writes off some part of the capital and then reduces the charges it will be able to sell power for such purposes. I fear that even with the second stage of development of this scheme it may not be possible to reduce the cost of generation to less than six pies per unit. I cannot understand how it is possible to reach the stage at all when it will be possible to sell electric power as cheaply as the United Provinces Government is selling or proposes to sell. The chief point is to find means by which the price of current can be lowered. I do not believe that the electric department is unwilling to sell electricity for agricultural purposes wherever it is possible. I can well understand the difficulties of the department when a demand is made for the supply of a small quantity of power at a distance from a sub-station. But wherever possible the Hydro-Electric Department should supply power for agricultural or industrial purposes whenever a demand for the same comes forth.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar City, Muhammadan, Urban): My friend said that the original idea of starting the hydro-electric scheme was to help the development of industries, but I cannot understand why the agricultural interests also should not be served by this power. Simply because it was meant only for industrial purposes and not for agricultural purposes (*The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: Whoever said that?) The trend of the speech of the Honourable Minister, so far as I heard him,—I was unfortunately not present in this House to hear the earlier part of his speech and so I heard him only in the later stage—gave me the impression that his argument was that because the scheme was intended for one purpose it could not be utilised for any other purpose. Probably he does not seem to think that the prosperity of the Punjab mainly depends upon agriculture. Further, the interest that is paid on the capital borrowed for the scheme comes mainly from the tax paid by the agriculturists. Therefore there is no use extending this scheme unless the benefit of the electric energy is given to agriculturists also. I should think that there is something wrong with the electricity department if it is not in a



position to supply energy for use by the agriculturists. Whenever any question arises about a municipality out comes the Minister and says the municipality is badly managed, and so an executive officer should be appointed to look after the affairs of the municipality; but what about his own department? Has he ever enquired into the administration of his own department? No doubt I concede that the scheme when it was originally started was a badly calculated scheme and my party is entirely to blame for it. (*An honourable member*: I am glad you admit it.) I shall be quite frank and honest. I have accepted this blame several times on the floor of this House. But the fact that my party made a mistake is no justification for the Honourable Minister to make further mistakes. The scheme originally started with an estimate of 2 crores but it subsequently mounted to 7½ crores. If this thing had happened with a municipality the Minister would have surcharged the members of the municipal committee for this extra expense, for their negligence or want of prudence. But has the Minister ever attempted to surcharge the Chief Engineer or whoever was to blame for this extravagant expenditure? At least he should have punished the officials who made wrong estimates at the outset, or who made wrong calculations. If this scheme had been started at the time of war we could understand that accurate estimate would not be possible because of the fluctuations of prices of materials during war time. But that the engineer concerned should have made this miscalculation in a time of peace and made this another Backbay scheme of Bombay passes my comprehension. But there is no use weeping over the past. We must try to make the best possible use of the scheme and derive the greatest advantage from it to the country.

My friend who has just disappeared from the House mentioned about the second stage of the scheme. I ask, why not bring the second stage at once? If we have spent 7½ crores on the scheme so far, I do not see why we should not spend another crore on the second stage so as to make the energy cheaper. The House has never said 'no' to any scheme brought before it. The cost of generating electricity here has been calculated at eight pies per unit. But the cost of generation of power in Switzerland at the lakes is only two pies. The energy produced in Switzerland is supplied to the industrialists in northern Italy at 2½ pies per unit. Where is the comparison between 2½ pies charged to industrialists in northern Italy and nine pies charged to the industrialists in Pathankot? The time has come when Government should revise its policy and see that energy is supplied cheaper than at present and with that object it must proceed with the second stage much quicker. I do not think the second stage will cost very much because the cost of machinery has gone down. Money is also available at a very low rate of interest. But, of course Government is never sympathetic in such matters.

Again there is a personal case. I know a person who applied that he had a well on one side and that he wanted to send his water to the other side of the road. It was about 32 feet and the estimate was Rs. 250 for taking the water there. They want cement, tiling and so on. All this makes the cost so high as to prohibit it. I therefore request my honourable friend to deal with this matter sympathetically. Invest Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000 or even one lakh over a small tahsil, give them motors, collect

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money at cheap rates and then say whether after spending that money, you are not able to get good return. Unless you spend money on experiments and research work, how can you hope to get any return? Take a certain portion of the line between Amritsar and Lahore, say 10 miles, and give the people cheap power. Make them contribute something and see whether on that area your experiment is paying. If it is paying, then we will extend it; otherwise we will abandon it. Even if the experiment is a failure, it does not matter. Let 2 or 3 or 5 lakhs go. In any case all of it will not go. Because the pumps and other material will be there. Only the man will not be getting the full advantage. Unless you spend the amount and make an experiment, you cannot succeed. If you sit here and make your calculations just like the sweetmeat seller, calculating that it will cost so much of sugar, so much of this and that, it is no good. This is not the way of conducting business for the good of the country. Let the department come forward and say that the Finance Department is refusing to give them help. This Council will be ready to advise the Minister even to incur a loss if necessary. The blame will not be on Mr. Ogilvie or Mr. Boyd, but it will lie on the shoulder of the Council. We are ready to ask you to borrow one lakh or ten lakhs for experimental purposes. England is spending millions of pounds in research and experiment. So the time is come when you should not go on calculating but to launch the scheme in some areas and work it. (*The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: We are doing it.) I hope they are doing it and they will do it. In my next cut motion I will give them some concrete way in which to proceed in this affair.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural): I have great sympathy with the cut which has been moved by the honourable member for the Lahore Sikh constituency. Unfortunately the problem requires the serious consideration of the Government. There is no section of the House which would not like to see the chief industry of this province, namely agriculture, flourish. Nor is there any section of this House which would like to see that the industrial awakening in this country should receive a set back. Unfortunately the policy of the Government is neither to help the agricultural industry nor to help the industrial awakening of this country and this is quite patent from the way in which electricity is generated by the hydro-electric scheme at Mandi and is being utilised. There is not the least doubt that the chief income of this province comes out of the pockets of the agriculturists and therefore it is essential that if they pay largely for the running of this Hydro-Electric Department, they should get the chief benefit from this department. What is being done at present is that the electricity which is generated is being utilised for lighting or electrifying the urban areas in this province. These urban areas could easily have been lighted up or electrified by private companies as is the case in Lahore and several other places. The policy of the Government seems to be that the hydro-electric scheme should replace these private companies and the electrification of these urban areas should be done by means of the hydro-electric scheme. What the Council should earnestly impress upon the Minister and the Government is this: I do not blame the Minister at all because he was one of the opponents of this scheme when he was on these

benches and we then knew it would prove a white elephant which when actually put into operation would not benefit the people who were told that they would receive the largest benefit out of this scheme. What appears to be the case is this. Here are a large number of rivers of this province which can be utilised for electrical purposes as is done in the case of the United Provinces. There the Government had not to go to the heights of the Himalayas for getting electricity. They yoked all these various rivers for producing electricity. A scheme of that type was placed before the Council which was called the Madhopur scheme. If the Government here were to look upon these schemes and if the Government were to give some encouragement to these private companies to get electricity from these rivers and by other methods, the urban areas would be sufficiently supplied with electricity thus generated. The industries would flourish and the electrification of various towns would take place and this hydro-electric scheme of Government could be utilised by the agriculturists all over the province. That is the real crux of the problem. What I am submitting is this. Now we are told by the Minister for Industries that there is no electricity which we can give to agriculture now and even if there is a demand that demand cannot possibly be met and now we have to go to the second or third stage and in the second and third stages certain materials are required, such as tube-wells etc. (*Interruption.*) What I am submitting is that a certain number of tube-wells have to be sunk; certain materials have to be supplied by Government and so there would be really very great difficulty in giving this energy to either Sardar Buta Singh or other persons who desire it. That seems to me to be the real answer which the Government has given to this very just cut which has been moved. The point that I am submitting very respectfully and very earnestly for the consideration of the Government and this House is that they should permit private companies to get electricity from all over the province or from whatever part they could get it and that electricity must be utilised for urban areas. The remaining electricity should be utilised by people who want to benefit by agriculture. That is really how we can meet this present demand. Unfortunately people cannot say, we want electricity. There might be three applications; there might be 3,000 or even 10,000 applications. The Government would still have to give an answer to them. It is useless to say, there are only three applications and so we cannot give. If there are more applications, would the Government have agreed to give electricity? Whether the application is made by one or two or one hundred or ten thousand, the main point is that you must release your electricity for agricultural purposes and you must permit private companies and other people to go into the field and get electricity from every source possible for purposes of electrification of these urban areas. That is the simple solution which suggests to me as a layman; I am not an expert, but I can quite understand these things and how they can be adjusted. But there seems to be no desire on the part of the Government to do anything. They have practically killed many private companies by starting their own electrification and the result is that in order to show that this white elephant which they have created in a moment of forgetfulness is paying they have to kill other enterprises which are paying. It is absolutely essential that the Government which takes largely out of the pockets of the agriculturists

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and whose main source of income is irrigation and land revenue, should benefit them by this scheme.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh** (Jullundur, Sikh, Rural) : I had no intention to take part in the debate because I felt that it would be futile just as the united efforts of the House two years ago proved of no avail. My resolution to the same effect as the present motion was adopted by the Council two years ago, but it looks as if it has been thrown into the waste paper basket. Nothing has been done by Government to give effect to it. But after hearing the Honourable Minister I am tempted to say a few words on certain facts which he has placed before the House. The first point is with regard to the cost. He told us that the cost of transmission lines is Rs. 5,000 per mile. If the report of the United Provinces Electric Scheme is looked into it will be observed that the cost of transmission lines there is only Rs. 1,500. So is the case with regard to transformers. I speak subject to correction. My information is that the cost of transformers here is more than Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 7,000 whereas in the United Provinces it is only Rs. 800. Besides the big staff that is engaged here on this scheme is so costly that the cost of production goes very high. I see no reason why the expenses in this respect cannot be brought down so as to reduce the cost of production.

It has been stated that when the second stage is brought into operation the zamindar can get cheap energy. But no assurance has been given as to when that stage will come into operation. I am inclined to doubt whether that scheme will ever be put through. Even when it comes into operation we may be told that it is difficult to give electricity to zamindars at cheap rates as the Government can get a better return by selling energy at higher rates for luxury purposes. Thus our demand for electricity may be postponed for a third stage.

The Honourable Minister has asked us to buy motors and sink tube wells and incur all the necessary expenses without giving us an assurance as to when we will get electric energy. What purpose will be served by our spending money on tube-wells and electric motors when we cannot get electricity at our doors? Even when the first stage was taken in hand we were told that electricity would be knocking at our doors, but it has not been yet made available even after the Council had recommended it to the Government. Now we are asked to pay  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the cost of transmission lines. May I ask the Government if they will also allow the same rate of interest to zamindars on the capital invested in motors and tube wells acting on the advice of the Honourable Minister till such time as electricity is actually made available to them?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** : I rise to offer a word of personal explanation. I wanted to get up earlier but I did not like to interrupt Pandit Nanak Chand. A wrong impression has been created in the minds of the members that until the second stage comes in no electricity would be supplied to the agriculturists. I want to make it as clear as possible that it is a wrong impression. No agriculturist would be deprived of the use of electricity even at the present stage. The only question is whether it can be given to the agriculturists at cheaper rates, until the second stage comes. Sardar Jogendra Singh pointed out

very clearly that it would be possible when the second and third stages are accomplished. The sole question is of cheaper rates. It is the cheaper rates that the zamindar wants, it is almost at a nominal price that he wants it which is not possible in the existing circumstances. It may be possible when the second stage and the third stages are reached. It does not however mean that no agriculturist can have electricity for agricultural purposes wherever it is available and physically possible to convey.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Did not the Honourable Minister in the course of his speech say that at present we are producing so many kilowatts and therefore there was not enough electricity available for agricultural purposes ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** What I meant and said was that all the electricity is being sold out like hot cakes and is being purchased by people who are prepared to pay at the rates given in the tariff which rates do not suit the zamindars. Otherwise there is no objection to give to any zamindar any amount of electricity that he wants.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

*The motion was lost.*

*Committee of enquiry relating to electric supply.*

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

I beg to move—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

We have heard speeches from both the Honourable Ministers and it makes this cut all the more important for the simple reason that we want to show that the time has come when first of all we should go through the question of rates, because honourable members are very keen that electricity should be given to agriculturists. My honourable friend says that electricity is being sold like hot cakes, and we are to discover whether any hot cake will be given to agriculturists or not and whether all the hot cakes are to remain in the cities. Electricity is not a luxury these days, it has become an absolute necessity. A poor mochi needs electricity more than a big magistrate. In America and Europe we find that every workman gets fans so that he may work more to earn more. It is a productive luxury, if it is a luxury at all. I do not look at electricity from that narrow point of view. We should go to such a stage that electricity costs less not only to agriculturists but also to the industrialists and even to the ordinary worker in the town. It can only be done by examining the whole question. My honourable friend says when the second or third stage arrives we should be able to give electricity cheaper. We want to examine whether the time has not come for the second stage and third stage to be taken in hand. Who is to be the judge ? Is it to be judged by the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, or is it to be judged by the Finance Department about whom he says he is absolutely helpless, because he is under their thumb and cannot do anything unless they grant money. Unless the whole question is examined, I cannot see the time when the third stage will come into being. Every member of this House says that supply of cheaper electricity is a necessity, but in order to do that we must see by what methods we can supply cheap

<sup>1</sup>To urge that a committee be appointed of officials and non-officials with a view (1) to advise about the fixing of electric rates, (2) to find ways to utilise the current available or the current which can be developed, and (3) to examine means to make the scheme a paying concern.

[Sh. Muhammad Sadiq.]

electricity, which is only possible by examining the whole scheme. We have to see how much it costs, to produce. Everybody will welcome expenditure needed to arrive at the second or third stage. If, however, we allow the slow process that is being followed, then the wishes of the House will never be fulfilled and the zamindars will never get cheap electricity. Our whole effort therefore should be to get to the second or third stage, because we find that the first scheme is not paying so far as agriculturists are concerned. We cannot shut out two crores of population from the benefits of this useful scheme. I would ask my friend, what would be done by a Minister in England, Germany or America, if he finds that the scheme on which he has already spent crores of rupees can by spending another crore be made useful and brought within the reach of agriculturists? I am sure the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government cannot alone fight in the Executive Council and the Government. Let a body of experts and non-officials sit down and go into the whole scheme and then give the Government an unbiased opinion whether the second and third stages can bring the rates so low as to bring them within the reach of agriculturists. Again, we find that some of the hydro-electric youngmen who have come from Europe after a study of three or more years there are working in the department on Rs. 80 per mensem without any chance of reaching even Rs. 200 in the whole of their lives when similarly qualified men are employed in the Railway and the Public Works Department on much higher salaries. Let these men be engaged on propaganda work and be paid some commission for every customer that they get. That would give them some incentive to work for the department. Now they are apathetic. These people should be made to go from village to village to induce people to use more electricity. These are some of the matters which the committee should explore. Then comes the question of making the scheme a paying concern. You will find that many industrialists would like to buy electricity. We find that simply for the matter of one pie or one-and-a-half pies, the industrialists would not take it. Are you going to allow this electricity to run to waste for a matter of a mere pie? I would therefore request the Government to accept the scheme of Sardar Ujjal Singh to write off some capital and run the department commercially. Similar action was taken in South America when they wrote off 50 crores and started running their scheme at a profit. It is better to write some of its capital if you think the scheme is over-capitalized. It is much better that the Government should tell the people of this province that they made a mistake in their calculations and their management was not good, therefore they should write off 4 crores and that the present value of the scheme is 3 crores. The Government should take a loan of this amount and make a success of the scheme by starting with a clean slate. It is just like a man who has oranges to sell of which 75 out of 100 are rotten and who says to people that his shop is full of good oranges. A good manager will throw away the rotten ones and will save the rest. But Government seems to think differently. It thinks that it has invested 7 crores so their scheme is worth as much whereas the scheme is only worth two or three crores. My object in moving this motion is not in any way personal. My honourable friend when he used to be on these benches, was pressing for similar inquiry committees, I therefore hope that he will agree to this committee even though he may make it a different job.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I have grown older. **Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Older and uglier.

My object in urging this motion is this. I do not want the personnel of the committee to be decided on my suggestion or according to the wishes of the House. If the Honourable Minister thinks that there would be persons recommended by the House whom he would not like to go into this committee, I assure him I do not want that he should appoint any member of this House to it. The Honourable Minister may appoint his own men, let him appoint officials but let them be unbiassed people. There are people outside who always keep on taunting us with the remark that we keep on supporting this white elephant and this creates the troubled feeling in us that we have not done all that we should have done in regard to this scheme. Every body makes mistakes in this world ; every industrialist makes mistakes. I do not think Government do not make mistakes. All the same when a sensible man sees that he has made a mistake he seeks at once to right it. Because I have asked for a committee, Government need not be afraid of it. There is nothing in it but my only idea is that in the light of the criticisms which we have heard the scheme may be re-examined. On their own admission, unless the second or the third stage is reached electricity cannot be supplied cheaper to zamindars. This is not a welcome news and after these words have been said in the House, honourable members are still more anxious to request Government that they should try to reach the second or the third stage of the scheme and that the whole cost of the scheme should be paid to Government. If only that would mean that the rates would be lowered, give us the assurance and we will enable Government to reach that stage. This is my sole object in moving this cut. I do not want to attack in any way Government or any officer of Government for what they have done because I want the past to be past. But for the future I want a guarantee that the scheme will work to our benefit. Happily in six months or in one year this matter will pass into the hands of the local Assembly and it will be for that legislature to carry on the work. I want, however, the present Government to do the spadework in the meantime and not to shelve the thing entirely, to hold an enquiry at this stage into this burning question. We would like to know the possibilities of reaching the second and the third stages of the scheme, if those stages are reached what will be the ultimate price to the consumer and whether at that stage the scheme would be satisfactory. We cannot go into these matters without the aid of a committee appointed for the purpose. With these words I move the cut.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural) : To my mind there seem to be some reasons in the mind of the Government as to why it has not been possible for Government to supply electricity for purposes of agriculture. We know that Government has spent Rs. 7½ crores on this project and Government wants to show the people some return on it. That is the reason why electricity is being sold dearer. This reminds me of the proverb of carrying coals to Newcastle. The Honourable Minister said in his speech that Government was not giving

[K. B. Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan.]

energy for purposes of agriculture, that it would not take out lines for 30 miles and so on. Has not Government taken it for hundreds of miles to Lyallpur and other places simply for the sake of supplying electricity to the town people? There was electricity already in those towns, there were private companies there but simply in order to show a return on the money spent on this project, Government has practically killed the private companies and forced people to buy energy from this hydro-electric project. Then there is the question as to why the principal departments of Government cannot join their heads and devise some means of supply at cheaper rates to the zamindar? Here in this province you cannot get a tube-well at less than Rs. 6,000 while in the United Provinces they are sinking tube wells at a cost of Rs. 1,600. Why is this difference? I am not relying on rumour when I say this. I happened to be at Aligarh and I was told by a big taluqdar that Government have been sinking tube-wells at a cost of Rs. 1,600 each in the province. I have come across cases here in which Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 8,000 have been spent on tube-wells but they have proved a failure, the reason being the cost is too much for a poor zamindar to put up a proper kind of well. If we are to wait for the second or the third stage of the hydro-electric scheme I think we will have to wait till doomsday. What after all is one crore compared with the seven-and-a-half crores already spent on the scheme? If Government has made one mistake it can commit another by raising a loan of one crore and try the experiment of supplying electricity at a cheaper rate. It was news to many of us to hear from the Honourable Minister that Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, when he was Minister, initiated the scheme for the benefit of the industries of the province. We heard the other day when we were having the general discussion on the budget and we hear it every day, and the Honourable Finance Member also said it, that the chief industry of this province is agriculture, while to-day we hear it from the Honourable Minister that agriculture is to be excluded and that the scheme was meant for industries to be found in towns and cities. With these words I strongly support the motion.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated, non-official): The point that is now being urged is that the rates at which electric current is supplied should be made cheaper. Hitherto we have been told that if a man is at a distance from a sub-station then he cannot get the current the cost of bringing the current to him being too heavy. Even the cable might be passing through his land, still he cannot get the current because he is too far away from the sub-station. I had learnt from one Government official in the United Provinces that there the system was different. Direct tapping from the cables, I am told, is permitted by means of transformers. The sub-station is also a transformer on a very big scale but a transformer apparently can also be fixed in many cases to meet the requirements of a gentleman like Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh through whose land cables pass. If a person happens to be far away from a sub-station he cannot get current in the Punjab while if his lands were in the United Provinces and even if they were at a distance from the sub-station he would be permitted under certain conditions to have a transformer fixed for which Government would bear the initial expenditure and he would have to pay a certain sum as hire for the use of the transformers. I beg to bring this matter to the notice of Govern-



ment and if my information is correct that in the United Provinces transformers are allowed and zamindars can get electricity when they are near the cable although they may be far away from the sub-station, the possibility may also be examined here.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government) : I do not want to make a lengthy speech but I want to assure the House that it is not due to any lack of sympathy on the part of the Government or its officers including myself that nothing very substantial has been done so far for the agriculturists. That impression is a wrong one and should be entirely removed. We have every sympathy ; we know that most of the money of the province comes from the pockets of zamindars ; we know that they require help ; we know that if electricity could be taken to their farms it would help them. We know all that and we very much wish, sincerely and honestly wish to help them. But there are physical difficulties in our way, economic difficulties in our way, lack of funds in our way which have not enabled us to do as much as we would wish to do. So I must make it clear that there is absolutely no lack of sympathy on the part of officers of Government. It became necessary for me to say this because of some remarks made by the honourable member from Sargodha. We have tried to do what little we could and those who know at all about the progress of hydro-electricity in the Punjab would know that it has been taken into small places like Phillaur and Goraya where it can be more readily used for agricultural purposes than elsewhere. Already near Tarn Taran there are tube-wells working with electricity and wherever it is possible to take it it has been taken and will be taken. So that there should be no mistake on this point at all. So far as the present question is concerned, I have not much to say. All that is necessary to say is that three points have been raised in this motion. One is to advise about the fixing of electricity rates. With respect to this I may submit that tariffs have already been published and are available to anyone who wants to have a copy. I admit and I entirely agree with Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh that the rates are still too high to be of much practical use even to industry as such as distinguished from the chief industry of the province, agriculture. With these rates certainly industry cannot flourish very much and no one would be more glad to supply electricity at cheaper rates to industrialists as well as agriculturists than myself, if it were possible. In the present circumstances, however, as I have already pointed out, the department has to be run commercially. It is not possible to reduce the rates very much. I may point out, however, for the benefit of the honourable member who has moved this motion that it is under contemplation to revise the rates as far as possible in the interests of consumers, particularly industrial consumers who consume large quantities of current and I give this assurance to the honourable member from Amritsar that large consumers of electricity would be consulted on this point. When this matter is taken up by the Chief Engineer and Government, comparative rates will be considered, the scales at which it is paying to the factory owners and other large consumers of whatever description will be taken into consideration and it will be seen how far it is possible to give help to them. With respect to the second point, viz., to find ways to utilise the current available or the current which could be developed I have been assured by the Chief Engineer that there is no difficulty at all to find consumers of the

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

current which is available. In fact the demand in the province is increasing so rapidly that soon there will be a great lack of electric power, not lack of customers or consumers. So, it is not on this point that Government requires assistance. The demand is already there. The problem is how to meet that demand which is rising every day. With respect to the current which can be developed I pointed out in passing in my previous speech that the Chief Engineer is busy in suggesting schemes for the development of the second stage. There are three possible ways in which the supply of electricity can be augmented. One is by putting up a large

6 P. M.

diurnal storage tank wherever a suitable site can be had. The second possibility is by thermal operation. That may be more costly but that is one of the alternatives, particularly now that oil and coal have become cheaper than they were at the time the scheme was undertaken. There has been a fall in the price of oil and it may be necessary to keep that in view while considering the rates. This second alternative of thermal operation for the generation of electricity has also to be considered. Then the third alternative is the one which was rejected by this Council but which was urged by myself and by some other members of the Council as a more economic scheme, that is the Subera scheme as it was described by its originators, that is harnessing the falls of the Madhopur canal. There is a great potential power running at present to waste which can be harnessed with great advantage to the province. So all these three alternatives are being considered and the earliest possible steps will be taken to augment the supply of electricity in this province. So, therefore, to have a committee to advise how that electricity should be employed, is rather a premature step. It will certainly take two or three years to utilise the current available or the current which can be developed and before the new scheme assumes a local habitation and a name and Government decides which alternative scheme it should adopt.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Will Government adopt the scheme of its own accord or will it consult independent bodies ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Expert opinion will be taken to make the scheme as sound, as profitable and as economic as possible. On that point I have not the slightest hesitation to give an assurance to this House. (*An honourable member :* The first Minister never had it.) I am not speaking for the first Minister. I can only speak for myself. I have no hesitation in giving this assurance that the greatest possible attention will be paid so that a scheme is devised which will give the largest amount of electricity at the smallest cost and that electricity will be used to the greatest good of the greatest number including the agriculturists. That is the policy which I am sure Government will keep in view which at least I shall follow if anything materialises during my time.

In view of this I would submit it is unnecessary to go to the formality of having a committee. Government is really very much afraid of these committees. They have a tendency to become very lengthy and I do not think that the honourable member means to have a sort of blue book committee so that the whole thing should begin over again and we should go into old things at any great length, but if his object is that Government should not

act on its own authority alone or on the advice of its own officers alone, I can give him an assurance that every possible step will be taken to have the best possible advice both of experts here and of experts abroad who may be accessible. I think this assurance will be sufficient. I have been a great critic of this project, as was pointed out by Pandit Nanak Chand, and certainly I understand and appreciate the value of criticism and of taking expert advice and taking all precautions—precautions which according to the honourable mover were not taken by our predecessors. We should learn by the experience of the past and I am sure we are determined to profit by our past experience and I can assure him that humanly speaking no mistake would be made and everything that is possible to guard the best interest of the province will be done.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Of course it is very difficult to bind the Minister, but since he has given the assurance that he will take all measures possible for the next scheme to be fully examined as early as possible, I request for permission of the House to withdraw the motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,50,700 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, 1936, in respect of Hydro-Electric Scheme—Capital Expenditure (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M. on Wednesday, 6th March, 1935.*

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## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

75TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, 6th March 1935.

The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.

### OATH OF OFFICE.

Mr. H. P. Thomas (Chief Engineer, Electricity) was sworn in.

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### ALIENATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN HISSAR DISTRICT.

**\*4171. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to an alienation of agricultural land in Hissar district in favour of a non-agriculturist in respect of 440 bighas referred to by Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram in the Council debate on the 5th March, 1934, reported at pages 496-497, Volume 24, of the Council proceedings, which sanction was then *sub-judice* before the Financial Commissioner, as mentioned by Mr. (now Sir) Miles Irving during the course of that debate, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the ultimate decision in the case and furnish sufficient particulars for a copy of the judgment in the case being applied for?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The case is still *sub-judice* in the court of the Financial Commissioner, Revenue.

#### LAWYERS AT LAHORE.

**\*4172. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the total number of—

- (a) pleaders,
- (b) Vakil-advocates, and
- (c) Barrister-advocates,

practising in the courts at Lahore at present?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Government are in possession of no information showing the number of Advocates and Pleaders who are actually practising, but as a guide I may say that the number of pleaders who have so far renewed their licences for 1935 is 194, and possibly a few more will do so during the course of the year. As regards Advocates, 178 non-Barrister-Advocates are members of either the High Court Bar Association or the two Associations of Advocates practising in the district courts; of these, however, a fairly large number no longer practise and there is also a number—practically negligible—of Advocates in practice who do not belong to any Association. The same considerations apply to Barrister-Advocates, of whom 100 are members of one or more of these Associations.

## LAW COLLEGE.

**\*4173. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*3592<sup>1</sup>, dated the 24th October, 1934, regarding the University Law College, Lahore, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay on the table the answer to the question if it is ready, stating also the period for which the figures are given?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to the reply to the question No. \*3592<sup>1</sup>.

## LAW EXAMINERS.

**\*4174. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*3593<sup>2</sup>, dated the 24th October, 1934, regarding Law examinership in the Punjab University, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay on the table a statement giving the requisite information and also the period for which the information is given?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to the reply to Council question No. \*3593<sup>2</sup> communicated to him through the Secretary, Punjab Legislative Council.

## HIGH COURT JUDGES' READERS.

**\*4175. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to the reply to part (b) of question No. \*3598<sup>3</sup>, dated the 24th October, 1934, will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state why the number of readers employed in the High Court does not correspond with the number of Honourable Judges?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The 8 readers mentioned in the reply to part (b) of question No. \*3598<sup>3</sup> are those borne on the permanent strength of the High Court. In addition to these there are 5 temporary readers sanctioned for the additional Judges. Of the total of 13, one is attached to the Deputy Registrar, leaving 12 for 15 Judges. Three Judges have no readers, but have Judgment-writers who, as a measure of economy, also perform the work of readers.

## COURT CLERKS AND READERS.

**\*4176. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the provincial strength of each community (stating separately for each community the number of those who are members of notified agricultural tribes and those who are not) in the following appointments in the civil courts of the province—

(a) clerks of court,

(b) readers of the court?

<sup>1</sup>Pages 7—9, ante.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, Appendix B.

<sup>3</sup>Volume XXV, page 431.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

	Total number of appointments.	Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	INDIANS.							
			Muslims.		Hindus.		Sikhs.		Others.	
			Members of the notified agricultural tribes.	Others.	Members of the notified agricultural tribes.	Others.	Members of the notified agricultural tribes.	Others.	Members of the notified agricultural tribes.	Others.
Clerks of Court.	51	..	12	10	..	26	..	3	..	..
Readers...	175	..	33	29	11	94	..	8	..	..

CRIMINAL CASES.

**\*4177. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the total number of criminal cases instituted in the province, whether by Crown or by private persons, during each of the years from 1920 to 1934 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the total number of criminal cases instituted in the Punjab during each of the years from 1920 to 1934.*

1920	..	..	187,739	1928	..	..	206,879
1921	..	..	192,184	1929	..	..	196,020
1922	..	..	191,383	1930	..	..	183,685
1923	..	..	178,562	1931	..	..	187,309
1924	..	..	184,782	1932	..	..	220,293
1925	..	..	198,976	1933	..	..	220,911
1926	..	..	195,894	1934	..	..	Not available.
1927	..	..	201,868				

CIVIL CASES.

**\*4178. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the total number of civil cases instituted in the province in each of the years from 1920 to 1934 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the total number of cases instituted in the province in each of the years from 1920 to 1934.*

1920	..	..	198,951	1928	..	..	245,251
1921	..	..	177,184	1929	..	..	217,538
1922	..	..	187,084	1930	..	..	227,039
1923	..	..	156,180	1931	..	..	238,557
1924	..	..	163,946	1932	..	..	242,684
1925	..	..	347,116	1933	..	..	227,688
1926	..	..	180,249	1934	..	..	Not available.
1927	..	..	206,815				

#### ALIENATIONS OF LAND AT CHAKWAL.

**\*4179. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*3618<sup>1</sup>, dated the 24th October, 1934, regarding alienations of land at Chakwal, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to give the information asked for, for the years 1920 to 1930 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The reply to Council question 3618<sup>1</sup> is as follows :—

- (a) No.
- (b) Mutations were effected by the revenue officers under the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, who accorded sanction under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Alienation of Land Act and clause (ii) (b) of paragraph 37 of the Land Administration Manual for building sites.
- (c) Presumably yes.
- (d) A list is placed on the table—



List of Mutations of conveyances relating to village Chakwal, tahsil Chakwal, district Jhelum, that were alienated by agriculturists in favour of non-agriculturists within the limits of Town Committee, Chakwal, between the period 1920 to 1930, except mutation No. 3408 which is outside the Committee's limits.

Serial No.	Number of Mutation.	Date of entry.	Names of vendors and caste.	Names of vendees and caste.	Area transferred.	REMARKS.
1	2263	12th February, 1920	Baz Khan and Maula Khan, Mair Minhas.	Pertab Singh and Kartar Singh, caste Khatri.	1 0	Within the municipal limits.
2	2268	5th March, 1920	Ditto	Babhan Singh, caste Khatri	0 6	Ditto.
3	2279	21st April, 1920	Karam, caste Mair Minhas	Jahar Dass, caste Khatri	0 10	Ditto.
4	2314	1st December, 1920	Mohammad, caste Mair Minhas	Musammatt Musahib Khatun, Allah Ditta and Fateh Muhammad, caste Teli.	0 8	Ditto.
5	2338	3rd May, 1921	Baz Khan and Mowaz Khan, Mair Minhas.	Gokal Chand, Khatri	0 8	Ditto.
6	2339	3rd May, 1921	Ditto	Mul Raj, Khatri	0 8	Ditto.
7	2517	20th January, 1923	Khuda Baksh, Kasar	Jameh Masjid and Iq Gah	1 5	Ditto.
8	2537	21st March, 1923	Mowaz, caste Mair Minhas	Hari Singh and Jahar Dass, Khatri	0 9	Ditto.
9	2557	6th June, 1923	Khan Bahadur Aurangzeb Khan, Mair Minhas.	Fazal Din, water-carrier	0 4	Ditto.
10	2589	14th August, 1923	Mowaz Khan and Haidar Khan, Mair Minhas.	Beil Ram, Khatri	0 3	Ditto.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

Serial No.	Number of Mutation.	Date of entry.	Names of vendors and caste.	Names of vendees and caste.	Area transferred.	Remarks.
					Kls. Mls.	Within the municipal limits.
11	2597	2nd September, 1923	Muhammed Khan and Ahmed Khan, Mair Minhas.	Hayat Muhammed, Kumhar ..	0 3	
12	2623	17th December, 1923	Gulistan, caste Awan	Fazal Ilahi and Nur Ilahi, Kumhar	0 14	Ditto.
13	2656	13th February, 1924	Allah Dad, Mair	Gopi Chand, Khetri, Gadhok ..	1 8	Ditto.
14	2679	23rd April, 1924 ..	Pira, Khan and Karam, caste Awan	Hayat Muhammed, Kumhar ..	0 8	Ditto.
15	2889	2nd October, 1925 ..	Gulistan, caste Awan ..	Fazal Ilahi and Nur Ilahi, Kumhar	0 6	Ditto.
16	2769	4th September, 1924	Fatta, Gulla, Murtaza, Jana and Nawab, caste Gujar.	Karam Kumhar ..	0 12	Ditto.
17	2774	20th September, 1924	Mehr Khan, caste Mair Minhas	Muhammed Din, caste Khoja ..	4 0	Ditto.
18	2776	4th November, 1924	Haider Khan, Mair Minhas	Duni Chand, Khetri ..	0 5	Ditto.
19	2805	13th February, 1925	Khuda Baksh, caste Gujar	Feroz, Jogi ..	0 3	Ditto.
20	2836	25th April, 1925 ..	Nawab, caste Mair	Behadur, Mochi ..	0 12	Ditto.
21	2940	2nd January, 1926	Bhola, caste Awan	Hayat Muhammed, Kumhar. ..	0 12	Ditto.
22	2945	5th January, 1926 ..	Haider Khan and Mowaz Khan, Mair Minhas.	Town Committee, Chakwal ..	1 0	Ditto.
23	3009	15th February, 1926	Nawab, Gujar	Fateh, Kumhar ..	0 12	Ditto.
24	3046	21st September, 1926	Ghulam Hussain, Mair Minhas	Shames Din, washerman ..	0 7	Ditto.

25	3126	22nd December, 1926	Allah Dad Khan, Terar	Jivan Khan, Kashmiri	0	5	Ditto.
26	2990	12th January, 1922	Abbas Khan, Mair Minhas	Ameroon Mission, Siakot	42	2	Ditto.
27	3240	13th May, 1926	Bhola, caste Awan	Musammatt Sat Bharai, and Allah Jawai, caste Mochi.	0	6	Ditto.
28	3266	11th August, 1926	Sardar, caste Jat Jhamat	Muhammad Baksh, Lohar	0	4	Ditto.
29	3292	6th November, 1926	Fazal Hussain, Jat	Teja Singh, Khatri	0	10	Ditto.
30	3337	21st January, 1928	Fatch Khan, Mair Minhas	Ahmed Din, Niaz Ali, and Khuda Baksh, water-carriers.	1	0	Ditto.
31	3338	Ditto	Abbas Khan and Muhammad Akbar Khan, Mair Minhas.	Fatch Muhammad and Dost Muhammad, caste washerman.	0	19	Ditto.
32	3368	19th March, 1928	Fatch Khan, Mair Minhas	Feroz, caste Mochi	0	12	Ditto.
33	3396	26th June, 1928	Ghulam Ghous and Qurban Ali, caste Khokhar, Rajput.	Megh Raj and Beli Ram, Khatri	27	9	Ditto.
34	3408	26th July, 1928	Karam, caste Mair	Lakhmi Chand, Khatri	15	2	Outside the municipal limits.
35	3476	8th November, 1926	Ghulam Rabbani, Mair	Qamar Din, Tarkhan	1	0	Within the municipal limits.
36	3612	10th May, 1929	Ghulam Haider and Muhammad Hayat, Mair Minhas.	Musammatt Sat Bharai, caste Mochi.	0	17	Ditto.
37	3613	Ditto	Ditto	Muhammad Din and Hayat Muhammad, Mochi.	0	11	Ditto.
38	3614	Ditto	Ditto	Musammatt Karam Bibi, caste Mochi.	0	10	Ditto.
39	3615	Ditto	Ditto	Ibrahim, caste Mochi	0	6	Ditto.
40	3616	Ditto	Ditto	Musammatt Karam Khatun and Fasal Din, caste Mochi.	0	11	Ditto.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

Serial No.	Number of Mutation.	Date of entry.	Names of vendors and caste.	Names of vendees and caste.	Area transferred.	REMARKS.
					Kls. Mls.	Within the municipal limits.
41	3617	10th May, 1929 ..	Ghulam Haider and Muhammad Hayat, Mair Minhas.	Mustaqim, caste Mochi ..	0 12	
42	3640	23rd August, 1929 ..	Gulistan, caste Awan ..	Ahmed Din and Nadar, Moolis ..	0 12	Ditto.
43	3652	2nd October, 1929 ..	Fatima, caste Awan ..	Karam Din and Fatch Din, Mochis ..	0 4	Ditto.
44	3659	14th November, 1929 ..	Abbas Khan, Mair Minhas ..	Allah Ditta, barber ..	0 4	Ditto.
45	3715	14th April, 1930 ..	Bahadur, caste Kahut ..	Musammam Rahmatan, caste Mochi ..	0 3	Ditto.
46	3719	Ditto ..	Mehdi Khan, caste Awan ..	Shaikh Abdul Aziz, Gadhiok Karpungo.	0 14	Ditto.
47	3721	Ditto ..	Gulistan, caste Awan ..	Ditto .. ditto	0 3	Ditto.
48	3737	24th August, 1930 ..	Fateh Khan, caste Mair Minhas ..	Sharaf Hayat and Muhammad Fazil, caste Kumbhar.	1 0	Ditto.
49	3822	16th September, 1930 ..	Fazal Hussain, caste Jat ..	Haider and Musammam Mukhan, caste Kashmiri ..	0 9	Ditto.
50	2265	14th February, 1920 ..	Ghulam Hussain, Mair Minhas ..	Khuda Bekhah, washerman ..	0 11	Ditto.

ENCROACHMENT IN SRIGOBINDPORE.

\*4180. **Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Qadir Bakhsh, son of Sawan, goldsmith of Srigobindpore, district Gurdaspur, made an encroachment on the public street by building a kacha thara 37' x 7' before his house in mohalla Gohmaran ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the then Small Town Committee after making a thorough enquiry passed a special order on 1st January, 1930, under section 35 of Small Towns Act, No. 2 of 1922, and served a notice to Qadir Bakhsh to remove the thara ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the orders of the Small Town Committee were not carried out and the Small Town Committee had to file a criminal suit against Qadir Bakhsh under section 38, Small Towns Act, No. 2 of 1922, on 9th April, 1930 ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Qadir Bakhsh was found guilty by the Court and fined Rs. 10 which he paid in the court ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that in August, 1930, the old Committee was replaced by the new Committee in which Lala Daya Ram was elected president ;
- (f) if so, whether it is a fact that Lala Daya Ram, president, and Lala Durga Dass, member, who formed a majority in the Committee returned the fine of Rs. 10 to Qadir Bakhsh, and the thara still exists ;
- (g) if so, under what section of the Small Towns Act, 2 of 1922, the Small Town Committee has done so ;
- (h) whether Government has any intention to take steps against this irregularity of the members concerned under section 7 of Small Towns Act, 2 of 1922 ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The matter involved being too petty it is not considered in the public interest to go into it.

ENCROACHMENT IN SRIGOBINDPORE.

\*4181. **Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Shah Muhammad, Sayyed, retired head constable, police, resident of Srigobindpore, built a house at Srigobindpore when there was a notified area in the said town ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in the plan of the house he showed a public street going along the eastern boundary of it ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that afterwards he made a kacha thara 28' x 7' along the eastern boundary of the same house and thus made an encroachment on the public street ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that one Barkat Ali filed an objection to the Small Town Committee against Shah Muhammad ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Small Town Committee after enquiring into the matter passed a special order to remove the thara ;

[L. Bhagat Ram.]

- (f) whether it is a fact that Shah Muhammad neither made any appeal to the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, against the special order of the Small Town Committee nor carried out the order of the Small Town Committee;
- (g) whether it is a fact that afterwards new election of the Small Town Committee took place and a new Committee came in, in August, 1930;
- (h) whether it is a fact that the new Committee did not care a bit for the findings of the old one nor filed any criminal suit against Shah Muhammad under section 98, Small Towns Act, No. 2 of 1922, for not carrying out the orders of the old Committee;
- (i) whether it is a fact that in 1933 towards the close of the period of the Committee Shah Muhammad was given permission to change the kacha *thara* into a pacca one, and moreover he was allowed to enclose the *thara* by a pacca wall about 6 feet high in order that the portion of the public street encroached upon by him may be unlawfully made part and parcel of the very house bit by bit;
- (j) whether Government has any intention to remove such guardians of the public property from the Committee for ever?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The subject matter of the question relates to a petty detail of town administration, and it will not be in the public interest to pursue it any further.

#### LATRINE OF BARKHOO IN LUDHIANA MUNICIPALITY.

**\*4182. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly —

- (a) lay on the table the correspondence that passed between the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, and the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, regarding the latrine of one Barkhoo, mohalla Iqbal Ganj;
- (b) state whether it is a fact that the case was decided against the Committee in a court of law, and the land on which the latrine of Barkhoo stands, does not belong to the Committee;
- (c) state, if reply to part (b) is in the affirmative, why the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, is pressing the Committee again and again to take action in this case?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) The correspondence is very lengthy and copies of them cannot be made without a very great deal of labour and expense.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Deputy Commissioner advised the Committee to take action for the removal of the latrine as its existence was not considered desirable from a sanitary point of view. The Committee, however, decided by resolution not to comply and the Deputy Commissioner did not address the Committee further.

**BARHOO CASE OF DHANPAT RAI WALAITI RAM, LUDHIANA MUNICIPALITY.**

**\*4183. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** (i) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state on what basis the Barhao case of one Dhanpat Rai, Walaiti Ram of Phalla Adan, Ludhiana, was dropped by the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, although the Executive Officer, Ludhiana Municipality, brought this case to his notice officially and semi-officially many times?

(ii) Will he kindly lay the facts of the whole case relating to the Barhao of Dhanpat Rai, Walaiti Ram on table?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The matter involved being too petty, it is not in the public interest to go into it.

**IRRIGATION OF VILLAGE MADARSA.**

**\*4184. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether the land of village Madarsa, tahsil Wazirabad, is irrigated by R. D. No. 28000, Vanike Minor;
- (b) whether out of 1,000 acres, only 323 acres are included in the *chak bandi*;
- (c) if so, the number of acres actually irrigated during the last 4 years;
- (d) whether 677 acres have been excluded from this *chak-bandi*;
- (e) if so, the reason for this exclusion;
- (f) whether the zamindars have been giving various applications to the canal authorities for the inclusion of this area for the last 2 years;
- (g) whether the new *chak-bandi* scheme has been prepared, and the papers are pending in the Executive Engineer's office;
- (h) if so, the reasons for this delay in arriving at a final decision;
- (i) whether the Government proposes to remove the grievances of the zamindars in this respect;
- (j) whether the Government is prepared to take any action in the matter before *kharif* 1935?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Out of 1,029 acres, 323 acres are included in the *chak-bandi*.

(c) In 1930-31	179 acres.
In 1931-32	180 acres.
In 1932-33	201 acres.
In 1933-34	204 acres.

(d) 706 acres have been excluded.

(e) Command is very poor, and the area is already irrigated by wells.

(f) Yes.

(g) No.

(h), (i) and (j) Do not arise.

## ESTABLISHMENT SECTIONS, IRRIGATION SECRETARIAT.

**\*4185. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state, community-wise, the number of superintendents, assistants and clerks in all the three Establishment Sections of the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The required information is given below—

	Christians.	Muslims.	Hindus.	Sikhs.
Superintendent .. ..	3	..	..	..
Assistant .. ..	5	..	4	..
Clerks .. ..	1	2	4	..
Total .. ..	9	2	8	..

## ESTABLISHMENT SECTIONS, IRRIGATION SECRETARIAT.

**\*4186. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- whether it is a fact that there is not a single Muslim superintendent or a single Muslim assistant, and that there are only 2 Muslim clerks in all the three Establishment Sections of the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat ;
- if reply to above be in the affirmative, what Government propose to do in the matter ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes, but in Revenue, Central Records and Routine Sections Muslims preponderate.

(b) Nothing, as it is not possible to maintain any particular proportion community-wise in each section of the Secretariat.

## CLERKS IN IRRIGATION SECRETARIAT.

**\*4187. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- whether it is a fact that almost all the senior grade Muslim clerks in the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat are put on routine jobs such as record-keeping, despatching and typing, &c., while all the non-Muslim senior grade clerks except two are employed either as assistants or cashier or list clerks, &c. ;
- whether it is a fact that in promoting to the grades of assistants such men are given preference as have worked as assistants and list clerks, &c. ;
- if replies to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to take suitable steps as would ensure the Muslim clerks getting equal opportunities for qualifying themselves for higher appointments ?



**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

CASH BRANCH, IRRIGATION SECRETARIAT.

**\*4188. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat important posts of cashier, assistant cashier and stationery clerk have been held for long by non-Muslims ;

(b) if reply to (a) above be in the affirmative, the reasons why no Muslim clerk has ever been detailed to the Cash Department ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The post of Cashier which is the only important one has been held by a non-Muslim for the last 10 years. Previous to this it was held by a Muslim for 28½ years.

(b) Does not arise. New appointments to the Irrigation Branch Secretariat are made on communal basis, but postings to each branch of the office are by selection, according to the suitability of a person for a particular post.

MENIALS IN IRRIGATION SECRETARIAT.

**\*4189. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table a statement, community-wise, of permanent as well as temporary jamadars, assistant jamadars, peons, tindals and khalasis, &c., employed in the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The required statement is laid on the table.

*Menials in Irrigation Secretariat.*

Name of establishment.	Number.	Muslims.	Hindus.	Sikhs.
Jamadars	3		3	..
Assistant Jamadars	3	2	1	..
Peons	26	12	13	1
Bhishties	4	3	1	..
Mali	1	1		..
Tindal	1		1	..
Khalasis	10	4	6	
Garden Khalasis	4	2	2	

## REGISTRAR, IRRIGATION SECRETARIAT.

**\*4190. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Registrar of the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat is about to retire from service ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the only permanent Muslim Superintendent out of the 8 Superintendents in the Punjab Irrigation Secretariat is on long leave preparatory to retirement in November, 1935 ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that 4 Muslim assistants are also retiring in the course of the next year ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that 3 more Muslim assistants will retire in 1937 ;
- (e) if replies to (a), (b), (c) and (d) be in the affirmative, whether Government intend to appoint a Muslim as Registrar on the retirement of the present incumbent ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Two will retire in 1937.

(e) The post of Registrar is a selection post, and appointment thereto is made purely by selection.

## MUSLIMS IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, LAHORE.

**\*4191. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the last 15 years the posts of Superintendent, Head Vernacular Clerk and Head Treasury Clerk in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, have been held by non-Muslims ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that out of the 4 special grade posts, i.e., Superintendent, Head Vernacular Clerk, Head Treasury Clerk and Assistant Superintendent, 13 posts of clerks in the grade of Rs. 75—5—125 and 20 posts of clerks in the grade of Rs. 40—2—90 in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, there are only one Muslim Assistant Superintendent, 2 Muslim clerks in the grade of Rs. 75—5—125 and 7 Muslim clerks in the grade of Rs. 40—2—90 ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that almost all the responsible posts in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, are held by non-Muslims ;
- (d) if replies to (a), (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government intend to take for safeguarding the interests of the Muslims ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The post of head vernacular clerk was until June 1923 held by a Muslim. As regards the other posts the reply is in the affirmative.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative except that the incumbent of one of the posts in the Rs. 40—90 scale is on deputation to a temporary post in the motor taxation branch at Rs. 75 per mensem (less 15 per cent. cut) since July 1932.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

#### EXPENDITURE ON ORIGINAL WORKS.

**\*4192. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

(a) the total amount of expenditure on original works in 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27, 1927-28, and 1928-29, respectively ;

(b) the total amount of expenditure on the emoluments (of all kinds) of (i) officers and (ii) other establishment in the years referred to in (a) ;

(c) the particulars referred to in (a) and (b) respectively for 1930-31, 1931-32, 1932-33 and 1933-34, respectively ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I regret that the answer to the question is not ready.

#### MUGHLA AND ADDITIONAL POLICE IN ROHTAK.

**\*4193. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) the year in which Mughla is believed to have committed his first-murder in the Rohtak district ;

(b) the date on which Mughla was hanged ;

(c) the strength of the additional police force employed in the Rohtak district in 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) 1932.

(b) the 25th of August 1934.

(c) A statement is laid on the table—

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

*Statement.*

	Period.	STRENGTH.				
		Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Assistant Sub-Inspectors.	Head Constables.	Foot Constables.
(a) Additional police imposed under section 13 of the Police Act.	1931 .. ..	..	1	..	3	34
	1932 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
	1933 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
	1934 .. ..	1	3	3	6	100
(b) Extra Police from other districts specified below employed in Rohtak from 1930—34 :						
Provincial Additional Police, Lahore.	3rd December, 1930 to 18th March, 1931.	..	2	..	4	50
	19th March, 1931, to 21st March, 1931.	..	1	..	2	25
	3rd January, 1932, to 19th February, 1933.	..	1	..	2	25
Campbellpur Ist Armed Reserve.	26th October, 1933 to 12th June, 1934.	..	1	..	2	25
Mounted Police from Amritsar.	22nd January, 1934, to 3rd June, 1934.	..	..	..	..	5
Mounted Police from Lahore.	23rd January, 1934, to 3rd June, 1934.	..	..	..	1	5
Gurgaon Ist Reserve ..	23rd January, 1934, to 10th June, 1934.	..	1	..	2	25
Karnal Ist Reserve ..	6th June, 1934, to 31st August, 1934.	..	..	..	2	25
Jhelum Ist Reserve ..	6th June, 1934, to 31st August, 1934.	..	..	1	2	25

## REMISSIONS AND SUSPENSIONS.

**\*4194. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state in respect of the districts of Rohtak, Gurgaon, Hissar, Karnal and Ambala—

- (a) the shrinkage in the area under present *rabi* crop as compared with the previous year ;
- (b) the damage to the last *kharif* crop ;
- (c) the amount of remissions and suspensions of Government dues allowed during the current financial year (i) in the province as a whole and (ii) in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Karnal and Ambala, respectively?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) As the *girdawari* for *rabi* 1935 is not yet complete this information is not available ;

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the table.

## Statement.

(b) Hissar	..	789,460 acres failed out of a total sown area of 1,586,728 acres ;
Rohtak	..	164,148 acres failed out of a total sown area of 764,490 acres.
Gurgaon	..	306,835 acres failed out of a total cultivated area of 627,200 acres.
Karnal	..	Area failed was 39 per cent. of the area matured.
Ambala	..	108,664 acres failed and 331,566 acres matured.

(c) Suspensions and remissions of land revenue were as follows :—

		Amount. suspended.	Amount. remitted.
		Rs.	Rs.
(i) Province as a whole	..	9,10,000	36,72,000
(ii) Hissar	..	2,75,000	2,44,000
Rohtak	..	47,000	1,02,000
Gurgaon	..	4,15,000	1,62,000
Karnal	..	17,000	15,000
Ambala	..	56,000	98,000

## RECRUITMENT TO POLICE SERVICE.

**\*4195. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the number of sub-inspectors and assistant sub-inspectors of police recruited by direct appointment during the last ten years ;
- (b) the number of Hindus among the officers referred to above and the number of statutory agriculturists among those Hindus ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table—  
*Statement.*

(a) Sub-Inspectors	..	..	..	166
Assistant Sub-Inspectors with effect from 1st April, 1928, the date on which this rank was created	..	..	..	189
			<i>Hindu</i>	
		<i>Hindus.</i>	<i>statutory agriculturists.</i>	
(b) Sub-Inspectors	..	..	60	18
Assistant Sub-Inspectors	..	..	51	22

—————  
BHAKRA DAM SCHEME.

**\*4196. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- the progress which has been made by the Bhakra Dam Scheme during the last two years ;
- whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the scheme of tube-well irrigation in operation in the United Provinces ;
- whether Government has appointed or proposes to appoint a special officer to study the problem of tube-well irrigation in the south-east Punjab ;
- whether Government is prepared to undertake tube-well irrigation in Karnal in order to release the Jumna waters for the irrigation of the dry parts of Hissar and Rohtak ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Since the discussion with the Indian States in November 1932 it has been the policy of Government to restrict expenditure pending decisions on certain points. Consequently the only active work done during the period has been the completion of a section of the surveys. For further information the honourable member is referred to the answer to question No. \*3040<sup>1</sup> and 1070<sup>2</sup>.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) A special officer was appointed in October last for six months for studying the problem. An area of 20 square miles in the vicinity of Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Khalsa, etc., has been provisionally selected and the sub-soil water in this area is being tested as to its suitability for irrigation purposes.

In view of the complicated nature of the problem the investigation of possibility of tube-well irrigation in the south-east districts and other parts of the province must await the results in the selected area of 20 square miles mentioned above.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXIV, page 731.

<sup>2</sup>Page 118 *ante*.

## RECRUITMENT OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

**\*4197. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) the number of Extra Assistant Commissioners recruited by direct appointment since 1920 ;
- (b) the number of candidates selected from the Ambala, Lahore and Rawalpindi divisions, respectively, since 1920 ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle (Chief Secretary) :** (a) Seventy-four.

(b) Ambala division 7.

Lahore division 20.

Rawalpindi division 15.

## RECRUITMENT OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

**\*4198. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** (i) Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to place on the table of the Council a list showing for 1933-34 and 1934-35, respectively, the number and names of candidates sent up for the posts of Extra Assistant Commissioner and tahsildar from each of the five divisions who did not belong to the districts of those divisions ?

(ii) Will he be pleased to state the reasons for the names of the candidates referred to in (i) having been sent up to the detriment of the original inhabitants of the divisions themselves ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle (Chief Secretary) :** Government consider it against the public interest to reveal the recommendations of local officers in such matters.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

## TEXT BOOK COMMITTEE.

**1037. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) how many books purporting to be written, compiled or revised by educational authorities, whether official or non-official, are on the approved list of the Punjab Text Book Committee ;
- (b) whether in view of the fact that the official position and prestige of those authorities exercises a great influence on the use of such books in schools, those books are to remain on the approved list in future ;
- (c) whether the Punjab Text Book Enquiry Committee took this matter into consideration ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Feroz Khan Noon :** (a) The majority of the books on the list.

(b) A scheme is being devised to overcome this difficulty.

(c) Yes.

## TEXT BOOK COMMITTEE CONTRACT.

**1088. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether the Text Book Committee contract will be split into several portions with reference to the languages of the books, the departments of schools for which the books are prescribed or their subject matter and the contract for each portion given to a separate and distinct publisher ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A copy of the report and decision of Government will be laid on the table of the House as soon as they are ready.

## TEXT BOOK COMMITTEE.

**1089. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of publishers whose books are on the approved list of the Punjab Text Book Committee ;
- (b) the proportion of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs among them ;
- (c) whether such proportion is in accordance with the just claims of the Muslim community ;
- (d) if not, how the Honourable Minister for Education proposes to adjust the rights of the Mussalmans ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Three hundred and fifty.

(b) Hindus 168 ; Muslims 68 ; Sikhs 19.

(c) While approving books for use in schools, the community to which the publisher belongs is not taken into consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

## TEXT BOOK ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**1090. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether or not the Punjab Text Book Enquiry Committee called for the proofs of the allegations of bribery made by certain publishers against the employees of the Punjab Education Department and managers of private schools ;
- (b) if they were not called upon to prove their allegations, why not ;
- (c) whether or not the Education Department is prepared to consider the question of eliminating the publications from the approved list of these publishers who admit having given bribes to such employees or managers ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No.

(b) Because no specific allegation was made.

(c) No publisher has admitted this practice.



## TEXT BOOK ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**1091. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether or not the Text Book Enquiry Committee has arrived at the conclusion, that a number of books, which are not on the approved list, are used by schools;
- (b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what methods have been recommended for the discontinuance of this practice;
- (c) whether any publishing firm has submitted a proposal to the Enquiry Committee to the effect that the Text Book Committee should adopt the method of affixing its seal to each and all approved books and that by charging a fee of 8 per cent. on the price of such books for setting its seal, the Committee will be in a position to derive an income of one lakh of rupees per annum, a method which will enable the Text Book Committee not only to meet its expenses but also to control all the publications in use in schools?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

## TEXT BOOK ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**1092. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether the Text Book Enquiry Committee has recommended the selection of only five sets of books on Urdu subjects from April, 1937, the contract for the printing and sale of all of which should be given to the highest bidder;
- (b) whether the acceptance of this recommendation will entail the closing down of all publishing firms but one?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Yes. But besides Urdu there are other subjects also.

(b) No.

## TEXT BOOKS.

**1093. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether any publishing firm has submitted to the Government and the Education Department estimates of cost of books, which besides appreciably bringing down the price of books, leave a small margin of profit to publishers;
- (b) if so, why the suggestion is not acted upon?

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

(b) Provision is being made for an examination of this question at a very early date.

## RETRENCHMENT IN INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT.

**1094. Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any employees of the Industries Department have been retrenched as a measure of economy ;
- (b) if so, (i) the number of such employees by communities ;
- (ii) the salary each of such employee was getting ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to Council question No. \*1902<sup>1</sup> asked by Mr. Muhammad Din Malak, on the 17th November, 1932. A further statement is placed on the table.

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<sup>1</sup>Volume XXII, page 437.

Statement showing the number of persons retrenched community-wise in the Industries Department and the salary drawn by each of them.

MUSLIM.		HINDU.		SIKH.	
Name and designation.	Pay.	Name and designation.	Pay.	Name and designation.	Pay.
1. Abdul Majid, Book-Binder, Mayo School of Arts, Lahore.	Rs. 105	1. Lala Mehr Chand, Clerk ..	Rs. 40	1. Bhai Paduman Singh, Draftsman.	Rs. 88
2. M. Muhammad Abdullah, Drawing Master, Mayo School of Arts, Lahore.	190	2. Lala Dharam Dutt, Trunk Master.	70	2. Bhai Gurbechan Singh, Mechanic.	100
3. M. Muhammad Hussain, Assistant, office of the Director of Industries, Punjab.	160	3. Lala Ram Chand, Vernacular Teacher.	44	3. Bawa Braham Dass Singh, Vernacular Teacher.	50
4. M. Aziz-ud-Din, Lacquer Turner ..	70				
5. M. Inayat Muhammad, Smith ..	62				
6. M. Abdul Ghani, Copper-smith ..	70				
7. M. Muhammad Yunus, Copper-smith ..	62				
8. M. Ghulam Sadiq, Copper-smith ..	62				
9. M. Sher Muhammad, Sizing Assistant ..	40				

N.B.—Messrs. Abdul Ghani, Muhammad Yunus, Aziz-ud-Din, Ghulam Sadiq, Dharam Dutt, Sher Muhammad and Abdul Majid were retrenched as a result of abolition of the crafts they were teaching.  
 2. M. Inayat Muhammad's services were dispensed with in consequence of certain cases proved against him. In the other cases retrenchments were due to abolition of posts.

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

## CIVIL WORKS (CAPITAL).

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,46,200 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Capital).

**Mr. President** : Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,46,200 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Capital).

*P. W. D. Rates.*

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : I beg to move—

That the total grant be reduced Re. 1.

The object which I have in view in moving this motion is to urge the lowering of rates in the Public Works Department. This subject has been ventilated in this House from year to year, perhaps, for the last five or six years, but the response which has been made by the Public Works Department has not been satisfactory, nor has any action that has been taken in the province been uniform for various districts. It is a well-known fact that the rates which are allowed by the Public Works Department are much higher than the rates which are really necessary for the satisfactory execution of works. It is common knowledge that tube wells which private gentlemen of responsible position have sunk in their own houses have been constructed for, I think, 50 or 40 and in some cases even for 30 per cent. of the estimates that are generally put forward by the Public Works Department officers. One particular instance of this disparity between the expenditure which is incurred by private gentlemen and by the Public Works Department is supplied by the construction of tube wells in public institutions. This question has been discussed on various occasions at the meetings of the Finance Committee and also on other occasions.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** : I do not want to interrupt the honourable member, but may I point out to him that the demand now before the House refers to capital expenditure on buildings and it has nothing to do with tube wells? I have no objection to his discussing the matter on this demand, but I think he would be anticipating the discussion on demand No. 25.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** : I was just quoting this instance as an illustration. If the subject as a whole can be discussed under this head it will serve no useful purpose to wait until the other demand is reached. The question which requires discussion is the same. I was just quoting the instance of a tube well. Honourable Ministers, Honourable Judges, have all tube wells attached to their houses, and the information that I have gathered in respect of expenditure on these wells leads me to

*To urge lowering of rates.*

think there is a very marked disparity between the amounts which are spent by private people and the amounts spent by the Public Works Department. There is no reason why there should be such a large disparity between the expenditure incurred in the two cases. Then, again, a common instance we come across is that tenders are called for and contractors send in their tenders quoting rates which are sometimes 35 per cent. less than the cost estimated by the officers of the Public Works Department. Those tenders are accepted and work is entrusted to the contractors who offer tenders of this kind. Now only two possible conclusions can be drawn from this state of things. One is that these estimates are prepared by the officers concerned on a very high scale, very lavish scale, an unjustifiable scale, and the other is that when works have actually been executed by contractors inferior material is used and yet the work is passed as 'fit' by the officers concerned. Neither of these two conclusions is complimentary to the officers concerned. If the former conclusion is right then the only inference that can be drawn by an outsider is that deliberately officers leave a much greater margin for the profit of contractors. This carries its own conclusion with it. I need not be very explicit on this point. If inferior material is used and if works are executed at 35 per cent. less than the estimated cost and yet after the work has been executed it is declared as coming up to the mark the inference is that the officer is in collusion with the contractor and passes the work as 'fit' though it is not actually so. I cannot see any third alternative. This being the case I think it is time that the local Government looked into this matter very closely. It is no use saying from year to year, 'I am going to examine this question,' and allowing things to remain exactly as they were. It has been stated once or twice that rates have been revised in some places. I do not deny that they have been revised in some places. But the revision has not been universal and even the revised rates in most places are higher than the rates that need have been paid for the works. As the department spends huge sums year after year it would be a very good thing in the interest of economy, in the interest of reducing provincial expenditure, that these rates should be carefully scrutinised. A resolution has been tabled by some members on the subject. When it comes up for discussion then we can discuss the subject at greater length. For purposes of the present motion I shall confine my remarks to those that I have already made.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : The honourable mover of this cut has always taken great interest in the subject of economy, and his efforts in that direction have borne fruit. The recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, have secured substantial savings. Coming to the particular question of rates may I describe the action which we have already taken? The honourable member said that we promised to examine the rates every year, and the results of that examination remain unknown and unsatisfactory. This is not correct. In 1933 Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi moved a motion which was eventually withdrawn on my promising to investigate the matter. In accordance with this undertaking meetings were held in practically every executive division in the province, and these meetings were

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

attended by representatives of the district boards. The result was satisfactory as the engineers of the Buildings and Roads branch, of the district boards and in some cases of the Irrigation Branch co-operated with one another, and where rates were conflicting they were brought into line with one another. It is impossible to give the results in the lump sum percentage figures of reduction on every single item which were dealt with. The schedules of rates of the three buildings and roads circles in the province have been substantially revised in accordance with those reductions, and the following figures may be of interest relating as they do to three of the most important items in construction. In the first circle the rate for excavation has been reduced from Rs. 4-8-0 to Rs. 4, burnt brick in mud from Rs. 25 to Rs. 23, and burnt brick in lime from Rs. 36 to Rs. 32. In the second circle the respective reductions are from Rs. 8 to Rs. 6, from Rs. 24 to Rs. 21, and from Rs. 34 to Rs. 30, and in the third circle, from Rs. 5-8-0 to Rs. 5, Rs. 26 to Rs. 22 and Rs. 36 to Rs. 32. The Chaudhri Sahib himself mentioned that very often tenders were lower than the rates fixed in the schedules. It would interest him to know that even after this last reduction in the schedules the tenders received are almost invariably well below the estimates. Thus to quote a few examples, the Bar Association room of the High Court which was estimated to cost Rs. 76,000 was completed at an expenditure of Rs. 63,000. The additions and alterations to Nurses' homes, Willingdon Hospital, administratively approved for Rs. 8,300, actually cost Rs. 6,300. The Bhiwani water-works, originally estimated at Rs. 5,90,000, actually cost Rs. 5,04,000. The Ludhiana drainage extension, originally estimated at Rs. 3,45,000, actually cost Rs. 3,05,00. Police Station at Sukheki originally estimated at Rs. 28,900, cost Rs. 22,500. A police station in the Gujranwala district, originally estimated at Rs. 31,300, is nearing completion at a cost of Rs. 20,100. As honourable members will see, the reductions in rates were made in consultation with the district boards, irrigation engineers and all those who are concerned in actual construction. It is impossible to lay down a uniform rate for the whole of the province. The rates in Lahore are likely to be higher than those in Rohtak. It is not possible to fix a uniform rate which would govern both Lahore and Rohtak. It is therefore necessary to have rates for each circle fixed, and even within a circle the rates will differ according to the locality where work is being undertaken. I am not prepared to accept the verdict of the honourable member that the work is very often done in collusion with the contractors. (*Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram* : Can you suggest a third alternative?) The third alternative may be that the work is properly supervised and carried out under very strict supervision, and that is the reason why the buildings erected by the Public Works Department are well built. The buildings carried out under private management rarely come up to our standards. Some friends have told me that on the whole, when the total expenditure is taken into account the cost under private management is not less than what the Public Works Department would have spent. I admit there is room for economy and the rates must depend on the actual cost of labour. Since the prices of produce have fallen, the cost of labour has also come down. It is, therefore, necessary that the rates should be revised from time to time and kept in relation with the prevailing rates for labour. The determining factor in rates is the price of labour at which work can be satisfactorily carried out. The honourable

member referred to the difference in the cost of tube wells. I had that question examined by a committee, and I will place the report of the committee before the House, comparing the costs of tube wells in various departments. As a resolution has been tabled on this subject it is not necessary for me to go into the subject at length now. But I can assure Chaudhri Sahib that so far as the department is concerned it is the duty of an engineer not only to prepare plans, but to see that the estimated cost is within the market rate and work is properly carried out. In the Punjab in any case, criticism must give place to commendation; we must admit the debt we owe to engineers in the matter of harnessing the rivers and leading their water from field to field, spanning the rivers with fine bridges and good roads that have been constructed, the drainages and other schemes which add to the amenities of the province. All these we owe to the engineers who have conceived and carried out these projects.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I rise to support the cut motion now before the House. I must say even after hearing the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that the objections raised by the honourable mover have not been replied to. No doubt the Public Works Department has constructed bridges and buildings for the convenience of the public, and for that it deserves our thanks, but I cannot help saying that very high rates are allowed to the contractors for these works, and it is our duty to see that these rates are cut down to a reasonable level.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh**: I would like the honourable member to tell me something about his district in this connection.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi**: I shall presently come to that point, but before I do so I would like to put one question to the Ministers and to the Government members, and that is whether any of them is prepared to deny that the rates that are allowed to the contractors for the construction of private buildings are always very much lower than those that the Public Works Department allows to the contractors for public works. I do not think any of them can dare deny this that the rates for the private buildings are always lower, and, if that is so, I see no reason why the Government should be allowed to continue to squander public money like this. In the presence of so many able and experienced officers who are not mere laymen we could have reasonably expected these rates to be even less than those which private individuals have to pay for the construction of their buildings having little technical knowledge about these things, but the case is quite the other way. There is a general and genuine feeling among the public that the Government rates are very high and, therefore, we want that they should be considerably reduced.

In the last budget session of the Council I drew the attention of the Government to this very fact, and I am glad to say that my request has not altogether fallen on deaf ears. I admit that these rates have been revised at least so far as my district is concerned and they have been lowered. But I may be permitted to say that there is still room for further lowering them down particularly when we find that in the tenders that we are receiving for these works the quotations are very much low or at least lower than the

[K. B. Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi.]

previous quotations. I do not say that these rates should be uniform for all districts and for all localities. Regard has to be paid to the different conditions of the different places, and therefore there must be some difference in rates for the different places. But here I must also say that the difference should not be very great. If the Honourable Minister were to take interest and were to pay special attention to this matter I do not see any reason why the expenditure on the public works cannot be brought down to the level we desire. I hope that he will pay due regard to the wishes of the House in this matter and will try to bring down these rates for public works.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammadan, Urban): I can appreciate the speech of the Honourable Minister who has just spoken. Naturally every member of the Government wants to defend his own department. It may be that sometimes a Minister has to speak with his tongue in his cheek, well knowing in his heart of heart that the position is well nigh indefensible. I ask the Honourable Minister who has just spoken whether he would entrust his own building to the Public Works Department, would any other member of the Government, would Mr. Boyd himself, who is not likely to construct a house in this country, like to entrust his house in the hands of the Public Works Department officials? My friend the Honourable Revenue Member who is scratching his head now even would not like his house to be constructed by these people. Nobody in fact in the Government benches would have their houses constructed at the rates at which they are building their departmental buildings. The simple reason is that the Public Works Department rates are too high. Government officials being officials are not personally interested in the *pros* and *cons* of the things and they take what comes to them from below and they say ditto to it. We in whose hands fortunately or unfortunately for the people of this province the power of granting money lies, should not allow this great lot of money to be distributed to people who do not deserve. Every Government member has told me individually and privately that the rates of the Government are really high, but when we come here people sing different tunes altogether. They say that there are different rates in Jhelum, Moga, Hissar, etc. But rates cannot be so different as they really are. What we want is rock bottom rates. To give an example, in the Municipality of Amritsar we have reduced rates so as to fix them 15 per cent. less than Government rates, and we ask for tenders which we always get about 40 per cent. below the rates. This shows how high the rates of Government are. They are exactly double the rates that we pay in the municipality. Amritsar Municipality may not be nicely managed. But even if you give them cement or gold to be used the contractors will use the same mud everywhere, whether it is Public Works Department building or a municipal building. There is no reason why when a person accepts to use cement that he should be allowed to use anything else than cement. A security should be demanded from every contractor, and if he does not work satisfactorily using the prescribed material, he should be fined, his name should be removed from the list of approved contractors. In short, we all know that the rates of Government are too high. In fact everyone knows that there is a sort of loot going on in the Public Works Department. No other word can be used to express the situation. I do not say this in a spirit of irresponsibility. I



am prepared to stand by every word I say that the rates of the Government are too high. Higher officers agree to them simply because they do want to help contractors. I do not say that they are dishonest, but simply as a *baksheesh*. I do not attribute any motives of dishonesty or corruption, but the fact remains that these rates are kept very high. Ask any ordinary contractor to build an ordinary bungalow and see what rates he charges, and then it will be seen that the rates of Government are too high. I request the Government and the Chief Engineer to see to the reduction of these rates. They generally say that there is no money for the department. I assure them that if they reduce these rates they will be able to build more civil works in the Punjab with the same amount that they are using now-a-days. Lakhs of rupees have been wasted on buildings whereas nation-building has been stopped. We allow this loot to go on simply because we have not the courage to say these things to Government. No doubt some of our friends will be angry with me for criticising the Government, but is it not our business to criticise the Government? Our duty lies in being critics offering criticism honestly and without any exaggeration and without attributing motives. We take the oath when we come to the Council that we will perform our duty honestly and to the best of our ability. The time has come when these rates should be revised. We talk of the poverty of the agriculturists and the poverty of the urban people. With all the money they earn and all the taxes that they pay spent in wrong channels, there is no wonder that there is poverty. These rates in the Punjab are causing a great scandal. Management of the municipalities may be bad, but the management of the Public Works Department is also not good. I do not blame any officer, but what I say is that there is a great laxity. Take the Hydro-Electric Department. They have invested 7½ crores on it. Now I think at least 4 crores have been wasted through laxity of control. If there is corruption punish the people at fault, if there is laxity remove it. In any case rates must be reduced by 40 per cent. Mr. Ogilvie will then not have to scratch his head for many months to find a few thousands. He will be able to come to this House with 50 lakhs as balance in his favour. I asked him one thousand for games, and he had to scratch his head for he could not find the money. I assure him that if the Public Works Department rates are reduced, he will have enough money for everything and even for industries.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Ask money for industries and you will get it.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Thank you very much. So, after all the gods are bending their knees. I am very glad and I am very proud that after ten years of hard labour, I have been able to extract these hopeful words from my friend that we should ask for more money for industries. That is something good indeed. I am glad that all hope is not lost, and if Sir Jogendra Singh says that he will do his best then I will ask my friend to withdraw this cut. If, on the other hand, it is the object of Government to play with us, say, at a game of ping-pong, saying this happened and that happened, that does not carry us very far. I assure honourable members on Government benches, jokes apart, that we are very earnest very serious in this matter. We want the expenditure to come down. Sometime ago we gave the Honourable Minister for Education a grant of Rs. 4 lakhs for

[Sh. Muhammad Sadiq.]

the tank near Murree, a water-tank for the supply of water. What happened is a nice story. After the tank was built, a lot of Hindus went there, a lot of Mussalmans went there. The Hindus said that there was an image of Krishna inside the tank; the Mussalmans said that the place was sanctified by a Pir. There is a big spring there, and people used to go and wash there with all reverence as if in the presence of God. The tank has become a centre of attraction. (*Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon*: It is all bazaar gossip). I accept the bazaar gossip which comes from the Honourable Minister. (*Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon*: I have visited the spot.) I am only stating a bazaar gossip, but it can easily be applied to the building programme of Government. In the meantime the leakage of water became greater, and the volume of water in the tank less and less till the Honourable Minister was obliged to ask the Sanitary Board for more money, for it was found that instead of using a certain quantity of cement in the construction, they used only half that quantity of cement so that the building crumbled gradually. (*Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon*: The honourable member is going off the rails. The tank of Dungagali is a steel tank, one of the biggest steel tanks in the whole of Asia.) I am speaking of Dungagali, not Ghora Gali; or rather the tank near Mount Murree, I do not know what name you call it by. I wonder, if the Honourable Minister has such a very short memory how he carries on his business. A sum of two lakhs of rupees was granted by the Sanitary Board. It was constructed by the Military Department only three years back. If the Honourable Minister's memory fails I am not responsible for that. The Honourable Minister can see his papers and verify facts. Instead of using cent. per cent. cement in the construction they used 50 per cent. The result was that water could not stand there, and all the water flowed out from the sides. Consequently they had to spend thousands and thousands of rupees. There was erosion on the walls, and they had to press cement through the pores. The engineer, even after this was found out, would not be prosecuted for Government said that that officer had in the meantime retired. I was a member of the Sanitary Board and I remember word for word of the explanation of Government. Government said that as the officer had retired there was no purpose served by prosecuting him. (*Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon*: It is a fairy tale.) I am lucky there is no devil in this fairy tale. The devil is nine thousand miles away from here. If the Honourable Minister looks up his files he will see that this is not a tale. Be that as it may, my object is there is a real demand for lowering the rates. I will come to tenders later when my motion in regard to it comes up. I do insist now that unless Government is ready to lower the rates by 30 to 40 per cent. I shall request my honourable friend to press the cut motion.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural): Everybody in this world wants to get rich very soon, and we know that in our province there are two classes who get rich very soon. One is the Public Works Department contractor and the other is the engineer. We know that all the richest people in Delhi and in the Punjab—I have no knowledge of other provinces—are the contractors and engineers. What is the conclusion that we can draw from this? Between these two professions is divided a

great portion of the money which we invest in public works. That is the only conclusion which we are forced to draw. There are Government servants, there are lawyers, there are agriculturists, there are all kinds of professions; but none gets rich so soon as the Public Works Department contractors and engineers. The colossal richness and wealth of Lala Sunder Dass of Dinga is well-known to all. He was a contractor of the Military Department where bigger loots are allowed. I know a friend who was also a contractor in Quetta (Baluchistan). He worked only for two years and earned lakhs. To earn these lakhs he must have given lakhs to engineers as well. That entire sum must have gone out of the Government pocket.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please confine his remarks to the Punjab?

**Sardar Sampuran Singh :** I am only giving instances. The excuse may be put forward that Government works cannot be so very carefully looked after as private works, but that does not mean that there is no scope for improvement. I do not know much about the rates of the Public Works Department, but I know that there is much room for economy. Last year I built two houses and for masonry work I paid Rs. 2-6-0 per 100 cubic feet, pucca bricks but with mud plaster, bricks not included of course. But nowhere either in the Irrigation or in the Roads and Buildings Branch of the Public Works Department will there be rates less than double that. This speaks for itself. From the instances I have given, I am definitely of the opinion that there is a great scope for improvement in that direction. It should be the aim of the Honourable Minister not to be contented with what has been done so far; he should rather feel that there is still great scope, and with greater energy he should be able to save a lot of Government funds.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): Luckily I have been able to make enquiries, and I can enlighten my honourable friend opposite about certain facts which he was unable to recollect fully. The Superintending Engineer, Public Health, informs me that in Murree we have built no cement tank at all. (*Mr. Manohar Lal :* There is a tank; I have been there). I thought Mr. Manohar Lal was a very patient gentleman. If he allows me to proceed he will know the position. In Murree on the Kashmir Hill there are tanks in existence which have been there for many years in the past. The additional water-supply comes from Dungagali which is 16 miles away from Murree, and there we have put up a steel tank where water is stored, and in the months of April and May when there is shortage of water, that water is poured into the old tanks at Murree and it is distributed from those tanks throughout Murree by means of the old pipe system. But what the honourable member may be thinking of is a tank called Panch Pandu tank. That tank is inside Murree, and there are no springs there. It was built by the Military Department. It was handed over by the military authorities to the municipality in the year 1931. When we took it over from the military authorities certain ordinary repairs had to be carried out costing us to the extent of Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000. Even now that tank costs Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000 a year for its annual repairs. The honourable member felt that we had

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spent Rs. 2 lakhs, and that the whole wall went down and we brought engines to press the walls together. Perhaps he will now realize that all facts have not remained fresh in his memory. I can assure the honourable member that the department of Public Health have wasted no money.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** I never brought a charge on the Public Health Department. I said it was the Military Department which constructed it.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I am not here to defend the Military Department. As long as the Public Health Department is cleared of blame I am very grateful to the honourable member.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** (East and West Central Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*) : I will not make lengthy remarks. I will content myself with giving one example which came to my knowledge during the course of a visit to a jail. On seeing a construction work in the jail I happened to make a few enquiries about it. In answer the superintendent of the jail told me that estimates for the construction of that work were called for from the Public Works Department but those estimates were very liberal and consequently the jail authorities decided to get it constructed themselves for in that way the cost of construction was expected to be far less than the cost estimated by the Public Works Department. I was told by the same superintendent that he spent on that work a sum which was only one-third of the estimated cost of the Public Works Department. If a department under the control of the Honourable Finance Member prefers to undertake construction work independently of the Public Works Department and thinks that the estimates of the Public Works Department are too high and generous, then try to imagine from it how low the public opinion must be regarding the working of this department. If a department of the Government can get a work constructed by spending one-third of the amount estimated by the Public Works Department then in all probability the cost will be still lower if it were to be undertaken by a private person. There is no doubt about all that the Honourable Minister has stated in regard to the achievements of the Public Works Department. No doubt the Public Works Department is responsible for constructing canals, buildings and many other works like dams, etc. They have also constructed works in order to change the courses of the rivers. These are the mighty achievements of the department and no one denies credit to the department for these. But it is a fact that this department has been spending money and is still spending it most extravagantly. There is no reason why a check should not be imposed upon its extravagance. I have cited only one example and I think it is more than sufficient to convince the Honourable Minister. I request the Honourable Minister to consider this matter and to reduce the rates of the Public Works Department.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : I do not think there is any use mincing matters. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture has himself admitted that the prices have fallen, that labour is cheaper than what it used to be, and therefore there is absolutely no justification for the rates continuing at what they were fixed years ago. There are not only the instances which have been cited by my honourable

friend regarding the Jail Department, but if I am right, I think there are other departments of Government, for instance the Police, which when it has got to carry on some work it does it itself without the direction or supervision of the Public Works Department, the reason being that if the work were to be done by the Public Works Department it would cost much more and out of all proportion to the expenditure according to the estimates of such departments. So far as the Honourable Minister's statement

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regarding the efficiency of the department is concerned we are one with him, and I do not think any particular officer or any particular branch is involved. All that we are asking Government is that a strong case has been made out for the lowering of rates and that is exactly what this cut motion amounts to, and therefore with these few words I support the cut motion.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): There is no doubt about it that if the rates of the Public Works Department are lowered a good deal of money can be saved. But there is one difficulty about it and it is that if you impose some restriction on the freedom of the department in this respect they would have their way by some other method. I am reminded of a short story in this connection. A person who used to deal in *ghee* always dishonestly, weighed it to his advantage whenever he purchased it from the women of the villages. He used his own weights which were false. The women somehow or other came to know about it and one of them when he came to purchase *ghee* from her, gave him her own weights. But again he dishonestly got more than was proper for him to take and then sarcastically told her "no doubt you have supplied me with your own weights, but how are you going to get me weigh honestly, for the scales are in my hands." Similarly we cannot impose any check on the dishonest activities of this department unless we devote serious attention to its proper administration. Engineers and doctors amass wealth most dishonestly. If a doctor says that the arm of a person has been broken all will take it for granted that the arm has been broken and on his certificate even the High Court will send the man who is accused for that grievous hurt to prison for three or four years. No one would care to find out the facts for himself. Even if the arm is not really broken, the opinion of the doctor will carry weight and even the High Court will not doubt the truth of the doctor's statement. Similarly, if an engineer says that a certain room is in a dangerous condition and that it may fall at any moment all will believe him even if the room is quite safe and in good condition. The engineers in this way get the sanction of the Government to carry on repairs of works which are in good condition. In the same way sometimes they condemn engines as old and unworkable. The costs of the engines go up to lakhs but the engineers in order to get their commissions from the manufacturers must condemn them and make the Government spend money on new engines. In such circumstances the reduction in rates will not help. The Government should control this department very vigilantly, and its administration should be improved. The engines which are used by private persons never become unworkable after rendering service for a very small period like the engines of the Public Works Department. The houses in which we live are quite in good condition although they were built by our grandfathers and in some cases by

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our great grandfathers. Although the money comes from the pockets of zamindars and others, and the Government does not care a bit as to how it is spent, still it is their duty to see that it is wisely and usefully spent. They should spend it as if they have to spend it out of their own pockets. They should spend it very economically as if they spend their own money.

**Mr. D. Macfarlane** (Chief Engineer, Buildings and Roads): After the serious indictments which have been levelled at the head of the Public Works Department by several speakers I welcome very much the modest tone used by Sardar Arjan Singh. He said that this was obviously a case where there was room for improvement and on that we are all agreed. There is no doubt that prices are dropping and as prices drop it necessitates the constant re-examination of our rates. I think I can give the House the assurance that Government will do so as they have done so in the past. They will continue to re-examine them. It is very disappointing indeed that the result of that debate which took place two years ago has not met with the appreciation which I had hoped. As the Honourable Minister for Agriculture pointed out the case was raised in the House two years ago and a definite assurance was given to the House that we would go into the matter thoroughly and have a series of meetings throughout the whole of the province in which we would invite the co-operation of district board engineers and the Irrigation Department and that was done, and we are doing that again from time to time as conditions alter. It is difficult to see what else can be done. It is all very well to talk scathingly and shall I say, hazily, and to use the words "loot" and "corruption" and words of that sort. I can say honestly that if any member in this House will draw my personal attention to any case of loot or corruption with sufficiently detailed facts to enable me to take proceedings there is no one who will be more happy than myself.

It is also easy to talk about the fact that contractors and engineers are notoriously wealthy. I think that remark might be made about any particular profession in which a man has reached a high altitude. In fact one might make the same remark about a "soap king" or an "oil king" or any other form of commercial magnate. I have no doubt that there are lots of people not only in other parts of India, but also in the Punjab itself who have made fabulous profits.

The discussions that we have heard about tanks, etc., were interesting but somewhat beside the point. The fact remains that I do want to assure the House that we are alive to the position. We took very great care last year to hold the meeting to which I have referred and to invite the co-operation of everybody concerned, and we propose to continue to do so in the future.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): The Chief Engineer has admitted practically all the objections that have been raised by honourable members who have spoken on this cut. But he has said that it is all very easy to say that corruption is rampant in a particular Government department. But if he had studied the reports of several enquiry committees that have been appointed from

time to time by this Council he would have known it that not only non-official members had complained of corruption but their official colleagues had also joined them in protesting against corruption in all departments of Government. If the Government had drawn the Chief Engineer's attention to the report of the committee that sat to inquire into the corruption in the Police Department he would have known that the committee had written pages after pages deploring the sad practice of corruption in all departments under the control of the Government. The committee while admitting that there was corruption in all departments especially mentioned the department under the control of my honourable friend the Chief Engineer as an unfortunate hotbed of the evil. Now, can the opinion of this committee appointed by the Government itself be ignored with any show of reason? The real cause of all this is that no section of the Government officers fully feels its responsibility. I do not deny that the Chief Engineer is against corruption but what has he done to eradicate the evil? Similarly, it was the duty of the Honourable Finance Member to take effective steps to check the evil of corruption in the Police Department which is under his control. He ought to have thought over the finding of the Enquiry Committee and written to the heads of various departments in which corruption was stated to be rampant.

**Mr. President :** There is no doubt that the discussion has gone far beyond the amendment now before the House. But that is no reason why it should go farther. What is under discussion is the lowering of rates and not corruption.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** That is quite so. But corruption is the natural result of having high rates. Unless we refer to these things we cannot draw attention to the prevalence of high rates. I want to submit only so much : after all what does the Government mean by the word "economy"? What I mean by it is that an all-round curtailment in expenditure should be made. Saving should be made wherever it may be possible. One thing deserves special attention in this connection. Corruption in the Police Department is known all over the world although every other department is as corrupt as the Police Department. The reason is that the policewalas accept illegal gratifications and let go the accused. The other party raises a hue and cry. So there is a chance of their bad deeds coming to light. Other departments do not suffer from this disadvantage.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Is that the finding of the committee or the opinion of individual members?

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** This was the evidence given before the committee and the committee was of the opinion that the evidence put before them was quite reliable. Just as I pointed out in the beginning of my speech the learned Chief Engineer has admitted all the objections raised by the honourable members as correct. He, however, has promised that he will take action if his attention is invited to specific cases of corruption. But does he want proof of the existence of corruption? Is the report of the committee appointed by the Government not sufficient to convince him? The fact of the matter is that if there is a will to stop corruption a thousand and one ways of putting a stop to it may be found,

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if there were no proofs forthcoming. I hope the Chief Engineer will do the needful in this respect.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Non-official, nominated) : This discussion is in connection with the lowering of rates. A great deal has been said during this discussion which need not have been said. The first thing is to have as large a number of contractors on our list as possible. My impression is that generally a good number of contractors, who wish to come in, are not able to come in. The second thing is that when any work is given out on contract tender forms should be sold as a check for keeping out bogus contractors. I also suggest that these tender forms should not be priced too low. Again when a contractor comes forward with his offer and deposits earnest money, his tender should not be rejected simply because he is a new man even though his rates may be lower, nor the tender of another accepted even though his rates may be higher for the simple reason that he is a more experienced person. It is possible that the new contractor may not be able to fulfil the terms of the contract in which case he will forfeit his earnest money. This forfeiting of earnest money will act as a sufficient deterrent against people tendering contracts light-heartedly. They will thus be induced to be more careful in making their quotations. I think this tender system is safe, both from the point of view of the Government as also of the people. I do not think that insisting on the lower rates is so good as to insist that every work should be given by tender.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): Honourable members have spoken sufficiently on the subject and there are only one or two points for me to touch upon. One thing that I wish to urge on the Government is that it should be patient whenever anything is said against it, by honourable members in this House, and should not be touchy, because we are as much the custodians of the interests of the public as the Government itself. We, the elected representatives of the people are here, because Government members are not generally in so close a touch with the people as we are and that is why we have often to place before the Government the popular point of view on every question that comes up for consideration in this Council.

It is an open secret that the rates of the Public Works Department are very high and if that were not so, there is no reason why contractors should offer rates below the standard rates. It may be said that the Public Works Department accepts the tenders of only experienced contractors who are reliable. But there is the guarantee of earnest money in the case of those contractors who may not be considered reliable. If any contractor does inferior work there is the fear in him that his earnest money will be forfeited. I think that is a sufficient check against unreliable or dishonest contractors. There is no denying the fact that the rates are too high, for in the course of my own official career I have seen several Government departments executing their minor works, not major works, without the help of the Public Works Department. What is the reason for this ? The reason is to be found in the fact that they can get these works executed at much cheaper rates. If the extra money that is provided in these higher rates goes to the Government we will not mind that. But as a matter of fact it.



goes into the pockets of contractors and there is, therefore, no reason why greater care should not be exercised in the matter of these rates. It has been pointed out by the Honourable Minister and the Chief Engineer that they have several sub-committees to go through these rates. I think it will be in the interests of public money if along with these technical officers who constitute the committees they co-opt some private individuals also so that these committees may have the advantage of the advice of these private people.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to offer one or two suggestions in connection with this question before the House. It is a notorious fact that whenever any contract for any building is given it is generally given to the same one or two contractors. It would seem that these one or two contractors have got a monopoly of all these contracts. If it were not the case that the rates of the Public Works Department were very high, why is it that the same contractors get all the contracts ? It is a fact that the subordinates of the department charge a certain percentage of the whole amount that the contractor gets out of the contract. Very often the bills of contractors are not paid when a particular officer is not present. What does this show ? It only goes to prove that the contractor has to pay to the particular officer before he gets payment for his bills.

**Mr. D. Macfarlane** : I rise to a point of order. The honourable member makes an accusation which is of a general nature. Do you not think that it is wrong for him to do so if he is unable to give actual chapter and verse ? If he can quote chapter and verse I shall be only too glad to make investigations.

**Mr. President** : Can the honourable member quote specific instances in support of his remarks ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** : If the department will give me a list of contractors to whom it has given out contracts, I can show that during the period of last ten years the same person has been given contracts over and over again. It is a notorious fact.

**Mr. President** : Mr. Macfarlane wants something else.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** : I am not going to make a speech on the lines he suggests. It is my right to speak in my own way and I cannot be dictated to in this matter. I protest against this sort of dictation from an honourable member of this House.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** : I rise to a point of order. Would you allow specific instances to be mentioned on the floor of the House and discussed by honourable members ?

**Mr. D. Macfarlane** : I am sorry I have been misunderstood. I did not want the honourable member to give names on the floor of the House. I only asked the honourable member whether he can give chapter and verse and if he could I should be glad.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** : I am not suggesting that an enquiry should be started on the question of corruption. I am only developing this point to show that the higher rates are charged for certain particular purpose. One instance was given by Maulvi Mazhar Ali and another by

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Sardar Sampuran Singh in which they said that certain work was got done by private arrangement at much lower cost than that estimated by the Public Works Department.

**Mr. President :** That is repetition.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** I am only developing my argument from these instances. Last year also we urged the lowering of rates. But not a single effort seems to have been made by the department to follow the advice of the Council. This year also the Council offers the same advice and I hope at least this time the department will show some respect for the wishes of the Council. I do not suggest that an enquiry should be started about the corruption prevailing in the department in the matter of these contracts. That is not my purpose at all. If I had brought in the question of corruption it was only to show that the rates are so high that they allow of corruption being practised. When a work can be done by a private agency at a lower cost, there is no justification for the Public Works Department to maintain higher rates.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Can the honourable member quote any rates to compare the rates of any private agency with that of the Buildings and Roads Branch ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Does the Honourable Minister contend that the rates of the Public Works Department are not higher than those of private agencies ? Can he quote an instance in which these rates are lower than the rates charged for the same work executed privately ? I may inform the Honourable Minister that the same work which is executed by the Public Works Department at a certain cost can be executed by a private individual at one-third that cost. What more proof does he want to show that the rates of the Public Works Department are higher ? I think the department should make an earnest effort to lower their rates. With these words I support the motion before the House.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** I may make it quite clear that the object of this motion was not to condemn either the Chief Engineer or his department ; nor was it my intention to throw mud on any particular individual. I proceeded on the assumption that there are general complaints among the public with regard to the working of the Public Works Department and particularly with regard to these rates. I had no other aspect of the activities of the Public Works Department in view when I tabled this motion. This motion is confined in words and in intention to the question of rates only. I do not think the Honourable Minister for Agriculture or the Chief Engineer can deny that there are complaints in this respect ; and I do not think unless the Honourable Minister really spoke with his tongue in his cheek, that he can deny that there is a good deal of justification for these complaints.

Having made this point clear, I would also like to say a few words with regard to the interruptions of which official members should be least guilty. Now there was an interruption attempted by the Chief Engineer that Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan was making certain accusations and that he ought to quote chapter and verse in support of these accusations. That interruption was hardly called for. The honourable member for Ambala was making

a speech on the floor of this House and could not be expected to quote chapter and verse with regard to the existence of corruption.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I think the Chief Engineer rose to a point of order and it is a matter for the Chair to deal with and not for any private member.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** The Chair has refused to give any ruling on that point and, therefore, I have a right to suggest that the interruption was uncalled for, unnecessary and unjustified.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Once more on a point of order, I would like to draw the attention of the Chair to the rule on the subject of points of order. The Chair knows perfectly well, but I am not sure, that all private members do, paragraph 69 (2) of the Manual which says that any member may at any time submit a point of order for the decision of the President, but in doing so shall confine himself to stating the point. He should not argue.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** I do not see any point of order here. So I would proceed with my speech.

**Mr. President :** What I understood the Chief Engineer to say was that a general attack against a department of Government was not fair unless the gentleman attacking the department was prepared to give specific instances of corruption.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** What I was submitting was that when a member is making a speech and making reference to corruption—though I do not personally think it is fair that one should be either general or universal in his condemnation—he begins by being general and if he is challenged to quote instances it becomes very difficult for him. There is no sense in asking a member to quote chapter and verse.

**Mr. President :** It is the right of any member to ask for information. It is open to the other member to give the information or not.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Then I have finished with the Chief Engineer. With regard to the interruption which was attempted by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, I would make a few observations. He asked, "Is the honourable member prepared to quote particular rates with regard to particular circles and then say that those rates are too high?" My answer is that an honourable member is not expected to carry in his pocket a memorandum containing rates for various circles or to have them at his finger's ends. Is the Honourable Minister prepared to quote from memory any rates with regard to any circle? I challenge him to do it? I am sure that he will fail miserably. Therefore he should not indulge in the practice of twitting and taunting non-official members. Government members particularly ought to be more patient even than non-official members.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani :** Otherwise this will become a mourning House. If a question is put to the speaker, it is open to him to meet it or to ignore it. Why should you gag members?

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** That is not a point of order. The honourable member will please refrain from these interruptions. I do not propose to adopt his code for myself.

The Honourable Minister was pleased to say that meetings had been held to which members of district boards as representatives of the public had been invited. It is very difficult to say in how many places meetings were held and what kind of representatives of the public had been invited. I am aware only of my own district where it was the district engineer who was invited and no non-official representative of the district board was present at the meeting held. That may have been only a solitary case in which a member from a district board did not attend. At other places members of district boards may have attended for all I know. But that was not the question. The reply made by the Honourable Minister fails to satisfy anyone. It did not disclose any facts upon which one could say that his explanation was sound. He made a reference to certain specific rates where he said there was a substantial lowering. But he did not give any years to which they related. He said from Rs. 36 rates were lowered to Rs. 32, from Rs. 23 to Rs. 21, from Rs. 8 to Rs. 6, from Rs. 4-8-0 to Rs. 4. In the first place except in one case where the rates were lowered from Rs. 8 to Rs. 6, the lowering of rates in other instances cannot be said to be substantial or in accordance with the conditions actually prevailing in the province. Again he did not give any details to show what years he was comparing, whether this rate of Rs. 36 was prevailing in 1925 or in 1932, whether this lowering by Rs. 4 took place in 1932 or in 1930. Unless the years of the higher rates and the years of lower rates are mentioned, nobody would be able to understand what exactly the Honourable Minister intended to convey and whether this lowering can be regarded as sufficient under the circumstances. Again, he read from a written memorandum that rates were certainly in conflict with each other in various places, but that they were brought into line with one another. What does this bringing into line with one another mean? Does it involve going up or coming down? That is quite vague. There may have been a process of levelling up instead of levelling down. Then, again, he made a reference to the rates in the Agricultural Department in the matter of tubewells as compared with other departments. I do not expect that the works executed under the supervision or at the instance of the Agricultural Department are less efficiently executed or are inferior to the works executed in other departments, and if the rates are definitely cheaper in the Agricultural Department, why should they not be brought down to the same level in other departments? Again, while he expects private members to quote chapter and verse in respect of rates, he failed to give us figures of rates prevailing, say, in the circle in which Ambala is situate, or in the circle in which Multan is situate, whether the rates charged by the Irrigation Department for various items of work compare favourably or unfavourably with the rates that are charged by the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch; whether the rates sanctioned by the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, compare favourably or unfavourably with the rates that have been sanctioned by district boards; whether those rates compare favourably or unfavourably with the rates in an adjoining district with similar conditions in respect of labour and material. He did not give any

specific figures in any specific direction and, therefore, private members cannot form a judgment as to whether his explanation is sound or unsound or something between the two. One instance was quoted by one of the members in which officers were supposed to have admitted that works which were executed departmentally cost much less than works which were executed through the Public Works Department. I am also aware of, at least, one department, the Police, in which minor works are undertaken departmentally, and in one case a very high officer occupying a very responsible position said that the expenditure which was actually incurred on a particular minor work was perhaps even less than 40 per cent. of the estimate that had been prepared by the Public Works Department. I will not mention the name of that officer and yet the information is true. That instance was quoted by the said officer in the presence of half a dozen responsible men. With all these facts before you, can you really say that these rates are fair and do not admit of any lowering? Then, again, the Honourable Minister for Education stood up to defend the Public Health portion of the Public Works Department. He himself knows that he had a tube-well constructed in his own *kothi*. He knows what is the expenditure on his own well and also what it has cost to construct a tube-well in the Mayo School of Arts. The latter cost Rs. 14,000 or Rs. 15,000 and he himself spent only Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000. He knows all this and yet he has the heart to stand up to defend the department. (*Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon*: I was giving facts only.) The rates which prevail in respect of sanitary works are more or less the same as those which prevail in other branches. Any way there was no necessity for the Honourable Minister for Education to stand up and put forward a defence for a department with regard to which there were so many complaints.

Now, with regard to the assurances given by the Chief Engineer, I am aware that he gave an assurance that he would do everything in his power to lower these rates and attend to complaints of corruption, if any information was supplied to him. With regard to information of corruption, I wish to make one thing very clear. Government officers should not expect private members to be inspectors of police. They cannot possibly collect evidence. They cannot place before the Chief Engineer information on the basis of which it can be said that the man would be convicted, if he is brought in a court of law. They can only give you reliable information as to the factum of corruption against any particular officer being true. If they are sufficiently responsible, and I believe every member of this House is sufficiently responsible, he will make sure, beforehand, that the information is reliable and true. Beyond that he may or may not be able to go, and beyond that Government officers should not expect him to be more specific or detailed in his information.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** : But there should be a little information to start an inquiry.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** : I think the word of an honourable member of this House ought to be sufficient to convince the Government officer concerned that the information is responsible and can be the basis of an inquiry. Beyond that I would not go.

[R. B. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

Now, I wish to make just one statement. After all, the Public Works Department has been spending tons of money every year. Vague and general assurances do not satisfy the members of this House. I am sorry that there is no standing committee relating to the Public Works Department. Even where they exist, very little use is made of them by Government officers. However, if there had been a standing committee of the House on the Public Works Department, I would have asked the Honourable Minister to call a special meeting of that committee, but no such committee exists. Therefore, the next best suggestion that I can make is to appoint a small committee, hold meetings of that committee, call for evidence, examine the chief engineers, a few selected superintending engineers and executive engineers, and call for figures from both branches of the Public Works Department. It will then be for that committee to come to a conclusion whether rates are or are not sufficiently high, whether a further lowering of rates is or is not possible. I believe there is a very great possibility of these rates being susceptible of being lowered further. If rates are lowered, you may very easily save 5 or even 10 lakhs in a year in one department alone and that will give you plenty of funds to finance further activities in some beneficent departments. Therefore, the Minister for Agriculture should not hesitate about an assurance with regard to the appointment of this committee. Why should he wait for a resolution to come up for discussion. That may not succeed at the ballot and even if it did succeed, it may be too low down on the list to reach discussion. This is a matter in which he should be at one with us. I do not understand why he should not announce here and now that he will appoint a committee.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): Honourable members have indulged in the complaints of the Public Works Department rather in a light way. After nearly ten years of experience, I can say that in the Punjab I have not seen any engineers or contractors getting fabulously rich.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** : Go to Delhi.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** : Delhi is not in the Punjab.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** : Then go to Lahore.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** : Do you consider district board contractors as contractors in the Punjab ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** : In my contact with the engineers I have known officers for whom I have the highest respect and for whom, I am sure, every member of this House will have the highest respect. We in this House are not only the custodians of public money, but also custodians of the honour of services. It is not fair, that in a House like this, charges should be levelled against a department in an irresponsible manner. The honourable mover of the cut spoke with sobriety, and confined himself to the point under discussion, that is to effect economy in the working of the Public Works Department and with that object I have the fullest possible sympathy. He also said that I did not quote rates. But I wanted

to spare the House. The schedule of rates covers about 50 pages and if the honourable member would care to ask the rates for any district, I shall be very glad to give them to him. He also asked that though I spoke of tube-wells being sunk economically by the Department of Agriculture, why it is that the same rates were not followed in other departments also? I told him that a committee was appointed for this purpose so that rates for tube-wells may be placed on a uniform level. The committee has now submitted its report, showing the rates in various departments. I hope to be able to place this report in the hands of honourable members in no remote time.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** That report relates only to Government departments.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Comparison of tube-well costs depends on specifications; if specifications differ costs must differ. It is not very easy to compare one building with another. In the one cement may be used and the other may be using only mud-plaster. I do not wish to dwell on this any longer. The honourable mover specially asked if I would be prepared to appoint a committee to go into the question of rates. The Chief Engineer has assured me that he is always prepared to continue the process of reducing the rates in relation to the falling market rates. If it pleases the House to have a committee of officials and non-officials to go into the whole question, I shall be very glad to appoint this committee (*hear hear*) and in view of the assurance given by me I am sure the honourable member will not wish to press the cut.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** I am not fond of pressing cuts to division when they relate to the Transferred Departments and I, therefore, wish to withdraw the motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,46,200 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Capital).

*The motion was carried.*

#### HYDRO-ELECTRIC ESTABLISHMENT.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,60,700 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, 1936, in respect of Charges on Public Works Department, Hydro-Electric Establishment.

**Mr. President :** Motion is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,60,700 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, 1936, in respect of Charges on Public Works Department, Hydro-Electric Establishment.

*Muslims in the Hydro-Electric Department.*

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,65,300, Total

A—Joint Establishment for production main and local distribution systems—  
Voted.

It is my very unpleasant duty to move this cut because in a way it involves the communal question but the motive which has actuated me to move this cut is in my opinion a noble one. Now-a-days there is a great deal of unemployment and members of all communities are knocking at the doors of officers as well as of appointment boards, and when they return disappointed they add to the number of those people who eventually become agitators and in a way become dangerous not only to Government but also to society and their sense of discontent is further or rather immensely accentuated when members of a particular community get posts at the expense of other communities. The question is one of loaves and fishes and it is absolutely necessary in these days of economic depression that members of all communities should be treated alike if they conform to the canons or principles of efficiency and proper qualifications. If, however, members of any one community are deficient in their requisite qualifications then the Minister in charge or any officer of Government is naturally helpless. But if qualified candidates are forthcoming then there seems to be absolutely no justification for ignoring the claims of any community. I have got some information in my possession to show that since the present Secretary to the Chief Engineer, Electricity, was appointed there have been 35 appointments in non-gazetted ranks out of whom 18 were Hindus, 6 Sikhs and 9 Muslims and two others. Similarly some appointments of line superintendents were made in 1934 during the time of the present Secretary. When he joined this department there were 13 Hindus, 2 Sikhs and 6 Muslims and one other. During his tenure of office 9 more Hindus were added 5 Sikhs and 3 Muslims and one other. Thus it will be seen that there were 22 Hindus 7 Sikhs and 11 Muslims and one other. This shows clearly that there has been some underhand dealings in the matter. If qualified members of all the communities were forthcoming, there seems to be absolutely no reason why their claims should not have been impartially considered. But if on the other hand really there were no qualified members forthcoming then I have no objection whatsoever to the appointments made.

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by the Deputy President.)*

But if the result is otherwise then it requires some explanation because according to the census figures we are informed that the population of Muslims is 56 per cent. and other communities taken together 44 per cent. General explanation that is generally given is that we do not make these appointments communitywise, but I have already given a rider to this principle that if qualified men are available there is no justification for ignoring the claims of any community and I therefore move

4 P.M. this cut of one rupee in the grant with all the emphasis that I can command as a protest against the policy of the department.

<sup>2</sup>To protest against inadequate representation of Muslims in the services of the Hydro-Electric Department.



**Mr. Deputy President:** Demand under consideration, moved motion—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,65,300, Total A—  
Joint Establishment for production main and local distribution system—Voted.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): It was in 1925 that I asked a number of questions in which the Government was required to give information regarding communal representation in the various services and if I am not mistaken, it was in the same year that it was proposed to the Government to publish a consolidated statement every year giving the proportion of each community in these services. It is now more than ten years since this consolidated statement is being published and made available to the members. But even now after all these years 80 per cent. of the questions, as Raja Sahib rightly remarked only the other day, relate to communal representation in the services. These questions are not asked by one community alone, but as the list of questions will show, they are being put by Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians alike. In all these years, as far as I know, only one officer has been reprimanded for not making recruitments according to the proportions fixed for each community. This shows that the Government is not sincere or at any rate does not appear to be sincere in removing this general and long-standing complaint. Perhaps it is its desire to keep the people and their representatives engaged in fighting over this question so that they may not be able to direct their attention to other matters which vitally affect the welfare of the people of this province. The Government knows full well that nearly half of the time of the Council is spent over this question of communal representation in the services and consequently the members have very little time to devote to other problems as much attention as they ought to devote. Thus the Government is saved the trouble of facing much of the criticism which otherwise would have been offered to it if the members had been free to offer that criticism. I may be wrong but it is my conviction that it is this desire of the Government which stands in the way of its taking any serious step to remove this complaint. Otherwise I see no reason why in all these years this problem could not have been solved. Even after 1927 when in a session of the Council held in July, a formula was laid down and enunciated by Sir Geoffrey de Montmorency fixing the proportion of various communities in services, very little has been done to silence the members and the public on this point. In this connection I may be permitted to say that it is a matter on which all communities are agreed. At any rate you will find very little difference amongst the various communities of the province so far as the question of communal representation in services is concerned. I am aware that there is a keen difference of opinion so far as the Communal Award is concerned, but, as I have stated, all the communities are almost agreed on this question of communal representation in services. It was, therefore, all the more necessary for the Government to have taken every possible step to set at rest the agitation on this question of loaves and fishes. But after all its assurances and after laying a definite formula in this respect we find that matters have not materially changed. The period of ten or even eight years is pretty long. It is and it has been considered sufficient to bring about changes in the constitution. But it is a pity that in this long period the Government has not found it possible to maintain the proportions of different communities in the services, proportions which have been

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fixed by itself. Whenever a question is asked by any member of the Council as to the proportion of a community in a department of the Government, the Member or Minister in charge tries to explain the reasons why there is paucity or preponderance of a community in that department and there the matter ends. The criticism or the charge is never considered to have been levelled against the Government as a whole. The Government as a whole never cares to set things right ; and that is why little change has been brought about in the proportions fixed for different communities in the services. I cannot help repeating that the Government is enjoying the *tamasha* which the members of all communities put up by asking questions relating to this matter. I hope I shall be excused for my frankness, but it is what I feel. And if this is not the case and the Government does not want that such a charge should be brought against it, it should take early steps to mend matters so far as this problem is concerned. I may hazard a suggestion here as a solution of this problem and that is that in future the Government should append a note to the consolidated statement, just as it does in the case of annual reports on the administration of the various departments, in which it should be clearly stated what steps have been taken to give due share to each community in the services and whether Government is satisfied or not with the actions of its officers so far as they are responsible for making recruitments to these services. If this is done, I am sure that in future the proportions will not be upset and much of the time that is wasted by the members in ventilating this grievance will be saved. This step will also help to remove this bickering that we often witness in this Chamber.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : The question that has been raised is in some respects a very important one but in other respects I think it is an insignificant question and the problem is one which should not take up the time and the energy that it is claiming both from the officers of Government and from this House. After all there is a limited number of Government posts and the percentage is a very small figure. We should not attach too much importance to this question. But the difficulty arises in these days of unemployment which obliges every individual community to seek the loaves and fishes of office. If I remember aright the formula that there should not be a preponderance of any one single community in any department of Government was enunciated sometime ago but it will be observed that though efforts have been generally made to stick to this formula there are complaints from various communities that their representation is not adequate in such and such a department. A very serious effort, if I remember aright, was made on behalf of the members of the Cabinet and our ex-Member for Revenue, Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan took a very keen interest and an attempt was made to fix the percentage for different communities. That percentage was something like 50 for Muhammadans, 20 for Sikhs and 30 for the others. I do not consider these figures sacrosanct. What I mean to suggest is that some such formula can be devised and can be acted upon because if that is done much of the energy that is frittered away both in the House and outside it could be saved and diverted to more profitable directions and much good might result if we look at the question from the right perspective. I forget the exact figure, but that has been quoted from time to time, that much cost is incurred in answering the questions put by honourable members. I do not mean to suggest that the

right of putting the grievances of one community or another before the House should be taken away. But what, with all seriousness, I fear is that the advantage that we derive out of the questions is certainly out of all proportion to the cost that the tax payer has to incur in this connection. I think 90 per cent. of the questions that are put on the floor of this House relate to the percentage of a certain community in a certain department. I do not accuse any particular honourable member but the honourable member from my district who has just now resumed his seat is a nationalist. I believe he is a sincere nationalist but I have to say with regret that most of his questions are not free from that tinge of communalism which we all here on the floor of the House deplore. Then again, it must be the experience of Government officers that 90 per cent. of their time is taken up by deputations that are led to wait upon them. The deputationists and the officers would of course have been much better advised if they had discussed certain economic problems on the ways of industrial development of the province and such matters when we could expect some good to come out of the discussions. But nothing comes out of these fruitless and infructuous deputations. My submission therefore is that in this matter though I have much sympathy with the mover of the motion and I have also a similar grievance in regard to this particular department so far as my own community is concerned, I believe that no useful purpose would be served by bringing such questions on the floor of this House. I am therefore constrained to oppose this motion.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammadan, Urban) : I am very glad that the honourable member who has just spoken opposes this motion but I remember many a time he has himself moved such cut motions for similar purposes. It is very easy to say, ignore it, do not discuss it on the floor of this House. I do not see any staircase to go to the top of this House to discuss this matter. The only place to discuss the matter, this unfortunate question is the floor of the House and nowhere else. It is here that we will solve our communal problems, we will decide which way to go. Are we to depend upon any bazaar gatherings or mob meetings to discuss this question? This is the place where we should serenely and in a friendly spirit discuss the matter. After all the problem is unfortunately there. (*Sardar Arjan Singh* : The mob is not concerned with it, it is we the educated people who have created this problem). It is people like me who should consider it. Musalmans come to me and say that their most important rights have been taken away. I say, go away. What is the result? Their rights are injured, but my friend stops me and says, do not discuss the matter here. Where should he have his grievances redressed? Time has come when we should give a lead to Government and tell Government that they should accept the principle, so that there should be no questions in future. Give Musalmans 40 per cent. of posts or give them 30 per cent. it does not matter but decide this question once for all, so that there is no trouble in future. This is an apple of discord. *Sardar Arjan Singh* may say, that the Sikhs who form 12 per cent. of the population should be given 15 per cent. of posts. I do not mind that. I most respectfully say that the time has come when some proportion should be fixed and the Government should be forced to take action in the matter and come to a decision for all times. The decision should not be a dead letter, because much of the

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mischief in the province, not only in the province but in the whole country, is due to these jobs. Whatever you may say, the fact remains that the Hindus and Musalmans and the Sikhs are quarrelling over these jobs. Let Musalmans censure the Hindu Minister and the Hindus the Muhammadan Minister. But as soon as we move a cut, the honourable member says, give it up, *kafi discussion ho gaya hai*. I say we should come forward openly and say that the Musalmans should take their right share and the Hindus should take their share and the rights of the majority community should be preserved. If there is 10 per cent. due to Muhammadans give them 15 per cent., but please settle once for all this quarrelling and squibbling. They tell me—I am not speaking in a personal manner—that Musalmans are given 55 per cent., why should we not lower their representation? One Minister suspects another Minister. Hindus are being recruited in the Hindu Minister's department, and the other Minister says, why should I not take Sikhs in my department? Here is the Minister for Local Self-Government. He was a nationalist and I believe he is in his heart of hearts still a nationalist. I refuse to believe that a nationalist can be so much deadened in his heart as not to rise to the occasion. Such a thing is impossible.

Look at the example given—Stenographers, meter-readers and draftsmen. One is drawing Rs. 200 and the other Rs. 10. What does it show? There may be ten Hindus drawing Rs. 200 but 5 chaprasis drawing Rs. 10. What does it show? It is a camouflage. I want our Government to follow the example of the Government of India who have reserved seats for Hindus, Muhammadans and others, and then this question cannot arise. If a Hindu comes, you say, you cannot help him. If a Muhammadan comes you say, you want Hindus to take their due share. What is efficiency? Do Ministers who come here have to pass a special examination? Are you, Mr. President, elected for possessing certain qualifications? What about the Revenue Member? He has jumped three benches and is doing his work as well as any member. And yet, he was sitting three benches behind only 15 days ago. All this question of efficiency is bosh. I do not want inefficient persons. I do not wish you to take unfit men, but when you come to a mere percentage of marks obtained, then the man who gets 45 per cent. marks is taken in the Indian Civil Service and the man who gets 44 per cent becomes an assistant daroghah of jails. It is not merely examinations that have to be taken into consideration. There is something more—it is intellect, physique and hundreds of other things come in. I say, do not take any inefficient men. My friends laugh. Look at the Secretary of State. Only the other day in answer to a question in the House of Commons he said that out of 50 recruitments for the Indian Civil Service nearly 35 were Indians. It has been the rule that recruitment should be according to merit. But now he says that they are going to change the rule. Sir Samuel Hoare said that he was going to change the rule in future. Efficiency will not be the sole consideration. He will simply fix a percentage because more Englishmen are not coming forward. Here is the Secretary of State, the head of the largest State in the world, and responsible for 38 million people of India, he says "I will not consider the question of efficiency alone because there are more Indians coming. In future there will be two clear-cut lines—black and white. The blacks will have their share and the whites will have

theirs." If this method of recruitment is good in England, I do not see why it is bad for India. What is this idea of efficiency. That a chaprasi must be an M.A. and a clerk must be a double M. A? Take the minimum qualifications required for a job, and take the most efficient man for the work and I am sure efficient Musalmans will be forthcoming, because the Musalman is not a whit less brainy than the Hindu, as has been proved again and again. The question is the mentality of the officer. It may be that the Minister does not know that there are suitable Muhammadans available. A Musalman comes to a Musalman and the Hindu approaches the Hindu Minister. Musalmans cannot approach the Hindu Minister so freely. It may be that in the Hydro-Electric Department at least sufficient number of Musalmans are not forthcoming. But what is the object of the cut motion? It is simply to draw attention to the paucity of Muhammadans in the department. Give a share to the majority community perhaps a little less than their percentage demands, but there should be no favouritism. Probably the Minister will tell us that there are not many able Musalmans fit for the department. Perhaps he does not know that full justice has not been done to the Musalmans in the Hydro-Electric Department. I do not want any favours, what I want is that universal rights should be granted to every community. We should make every effort to remove this trouble from the whole province.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): The cut of which I have given notice relates to this very subject and now that another cut has been moved with the same purpose my cut will not, most probably, come up for discussion. I shall, therefore, make my submissions on the motion which is now before the House. The question of representation of various communities in services is not a new one. It has so often come up before the Council, sometimes in the form of questions and sometimes in the form of resolutions. The Government, on their part, have laid down definite lines on which all the communities, the Muslims, the Hindus and the Sikhs are assured of their due share in services. But as ill-luck would have it, the officers of various departments pay no regard to the proportion fixed by the Government for different communities. It is therefore with great regret that we have to ventilate our grievances time and again in this House. Whenever we ask questions relating to communal representation, evasive answers are given by Government. Sometimes it is said that suitable candidates are not available from amongst Musalmans. Sometimes it is stated that Muslims possessing necessary qualifications do not apply for the posts. Here we are confronted with a strange difficulty. We cannot understand what the Government's idea of "necessary qualifications" is. If the Government had fixed a definite standard of ability our difficulty would have been solved long ago. But nothing of the sort is done. The Government ought to have fixed a definite standard of ability so that a person could judge if a particular candidate was suitable for appointment to a particular post. Under the present circumstances, we cannot help concluding that the Government really do not want to help us and simply raise these flimsy objections to silence all protests.

We notice with great regret that since the time the Hydro-Electric Department passed into the hands of the Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang, it has become the breeding ground of nepotism. The right of one

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community is being ignored in order to benefit the community to which the Honourable Minister belongs. At public meetings, at tea parties and in this Council the Minister is heard declaring with pride that he stands to protect the rights of his community. I want to point out to him through you, Mr. President, that he does not hold that high office in the name of his community. He is holding this responsible office in the interest of all communities and he should treat all communities fairly and with proper regard to the canons of equity. Does he not know that in the Hydro-Electric Department the rights of Muslims are being trampled under foot? Since the appointment of Lala Ram Rattan in July 1933, 35 appointments have been made in non-gazetted ranks up to the 21st March, 1935. The share of different communities in these posts has been, Muslims 9, Hindus 18, Sikhs 6, others 2. Now it is evident that no regard has been paid to the proportion fixed by the Government for representation in services of various communities. From amongst the line-superintendents who have been appointed up to 2nd March, 1935, only two are non-Hindus, and the Muslim element in this cadre is phenomenally meagre. In this connection I want to mention the instance of one capable Musalman who has been cleverly shut out of a local managership. The man is Muza'far Khan and he is a very capable man in his line. But in order to keep him out a man has been recruited from outside to fill in the post of local manager.

(Punjabi) Now it is sound principle that is recognised in every department that promotions to higher ranks should be made from lower ranks. Sub-inspectors in the Police Department are promoted to fill the post of inspectors and sometimes those of deputy superintendents. But everything is contrary to rules in the Hydro-Electric Department. Here men are imported from outside to fill higher posts and the rights of capable men of lower ranks are trampled under foot. As far as the posts of superintendents and head clerks are concerned there is only one head clerk in the branch line who is a Mussalman. All the rest are non-Muslims. Is this fairness? Is it equity? Everybody in our country wishes that we should get swaraj. But the reason why we do not get it is that we do not carry on with a sense of responsibility the work which we are called upon to do. We are fond of nepotism. We fail to do justice where it is due. God too does not wish that people who have no sense of justice should come to power. So we do not get swaraj. I have not stood up to demand that Musalmans should be given undue preponderance in services over other communities. What I claim for my community is its due share, the share which the Government itself has recognised as its due. I should like to see the number of Musalmans decreased if they are found in undue preponderance anywhere. Similarly, I do not wish that the Hindus and the Sikhs should get more or less than their due share. Definite rules should be followed in the matter of the distribution of services amongst various communities and the officers should be strictly ordered to fully abide by them. But what is being done at present is that whereas a particular community has a sympathiser amongst the heads of the departments it does get more than its share and other communities are thrown into the back ground. Thus only the rule of convenience and self-interest prevails at the present time in all the departments, and the principles set forth by the Government are ignored.

This reminds me of the case of two sections of maulvis in our ilaqa. Now all know that maulvis are famous for quoting the scripture whenever there is a controversy afoot. Now it so happened that a dispute arose over the division of a property between two parties of maulvis. One party stood to gain if the dispute were decided according to *shariat* and the other party stood to gain if the case were decided in accordance with the customary law. So the former party pressed that the case should be decided according to the law of *shariat* but the latter urged that *riwaj* should be allowed to prevail. Similarly the officers of the Government do follow the officially laid down principles only if they suit their purpose. So long as these people are not in Government service they speak like mahatmas. They declare from public platforms that they would die for the sake of justice. People take them at their words and court imprisonment at their behests. But when these people come to power they prove to be thoroughly unprincipled.

**Mr. Deputy President :** The honourable member will please see that he is not personal.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** I am only speaking in general terms. I have mentioned no names. I simply want to urge that Government servants should understand their responsibility. If they are holding some responsible office they should try to do justice to all. They should not favour one section of the people at the cost of another. If the Government wants to fill vacancies as the result of some competitive examination they should prescribe the necessary qualifications for the entrants and examine them in accordance with some definite principles. In this case I undertake to supply as many suitable candidates from amongst Musalmans as the Government may desire. I am confident that many mistries knowing electric work can be supplied from amongst Musalmans and I am sure they will be able to do their work even more efficiently than the present employees of the Electrical Department are doing. I would once again ask the Government to think over the matter seriously. It should not allow its officers to sully the fair name of Government by doing whatever they think fit. They should be made to follow the rules chalked out by the Government. If this is not done people will lose confidence in the Government. They will attribute all sorts of base motives to the Government. Some will say that the Government does not adopt a strong policy in this respect as it wants to see various sections of the people quarrelling amongst themselves. It is high time that the Government should adopt a wise policy. The people should be assured that the Government wants to keep peace and order in the country. The result of it will be that the Government will be spared the great trouble which it has to encounter when communal disturbances break out as a logical consequence of policy of drift. Under the present circumstances much of the valuable time of this honourable House is wasted, as my honourable friend Chaudhri Afzal Haq has pointed out, in asking questions about the representation of various communities in services. I hope the Government will take immediate steps to fix definite shares for the communities in services if they are not already fixed, and will direct its officers to follow them strictly at the time of making new appointments. With these words I strongly support the cut motion which is now before the House.

**Mr. H. P. Thomas** (Chief Engineer, Electricity): I am very glad to have this opportunity of laying before honourable members the great trouble which we take to see that every community has justice when we choose our staff. The number of Muslims in the gazetted rank is 18 per cent., in the non-gazetted technical, 40·8 per cent. and in the non-gazetted clerical 45 per cent. Now, to begin with the last category, I do not think that by any stretch of imagination a representation of 45 per cent. can be called utterly inadequate or grossly unjust. I may also point out that if we take up the higher grade appointments in this class, that is, superintendents, head assistants, assistants, head clerks and so on, the percentage comes to 58·8. In the second category, that is non-gazetted technical, which includes overseers, draftsmen, line superintendents, cable jointers, meter testers, sub-station operators, sub-station machine attendants and mistries, we have got 40·8 per cent. representation of Muslims. Now, our great difficulty here is that Mussalmans do not, as a rule, follow this form of occupation. In the line superintendents particularly we find it extraordinarily difficult to get Mussalmans who can do this work not only decently, but without danger to themselves and without danger to the lives of others. (*Hear, hear*). A line superintendent must be a person who can climb up the Towers without falling off. Therefore to take a person as a line superintendent because he is a Muslim without his ability to climb the Towers being established would result in reducing the Muslim population. (*Laughter*). The next thing I should say is that when a man applies for the post of line superintendent we send him out and test him, and if we find that he is able to climb, he is given a further chance and we keep a list of men who pass our test and who are found physically fit and able to do the work. At the present moment we have not got a single Muslim on that list awaiting appointment. (*Hear, hear*). Because they do not exist. When this became obvious I wrote to a contractor's engineer and asked him if he could by any possibility send me the name of two Muslims who were suitable for the posts of line superintendent. He wrote—

I regret I cannot give the name of any Muslim line superintendent capable of running construction gangs. From the apprentices now with me only two are Muslims, and they have only been with me for a fortnight and they do not know anything about the work. During the years I worked with a large construction concern my experience was that skilled line workers only up to 2 per cent. of our men were ever Muslims. This applies to Bombay, United Provinces and the Punjab, and I can only give my experience with these commercial firms who do not care whether a man is a Muslim or non-Muslim as long as he is a good worker. The trouble appears to be that Muslims as a class do not follow this kind of employment.

Now, with a handicap such as this we are to be congratulated on having managed in these cases to retain 40·8 per cent. of Muslim representation in our branch. With regard to the gazetted rank we are in the same position. Muslims do not to the same extent as the other communities adopt electrical engineering as a profession. But we do our best to get all we can. I may tell the House that during the last year four gazetted officers of class II were promoted to class I, and three of these four are Muslims. We have had another Muslim who did not do well in a branch, and normally his services would have been dispensed with; but because he was a Muslim, and we did not want to lower the percentage of Muslims,



so we tried him in another department to give him a chance. In another case we could not get a Muslim qualified according to our rules, and we asked His Excellency to waive the rules so that we could employ an unqualified Muslim. This, I think, will give honourable members an idea of the trouble we take to see that everything is fair and just, and I would like in winding up to say that my Secretary does not make appointments at all. I make all these appointments, and there is no appointment either in the technical side or in the clerical side which is made without my personal approval. (*Hear, hear.*)

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh** (Jullundur, Sikh, Rural) : I congratulate Mr. Thomas for his lucid and well-calculated maiden speech. He has shown by figures quoted by him that there is no need for apprehension on the part of the mover of the cut that the percentage representation of his community is less in the Hydro-Electric Department. Moreover, he has said that the appointments are made by him personally, and that he takes good care that the percentage of every community is properly kept. In view of these I would suggest to the honourable mover to withdraw his cut motion.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I confess it is rather awkward to speak on a subject where communal questions are involved. Particularly where the conditions of service are such that the candidates should possess certain qualifications before they can be appointed to those posts, I concede that it is not possible to adhere strictly to figures according to the population of various communities. But since the Government has accepted the principle of communal representation in services, not once or twice but several times, I think it is up to the department to try to make up that figure as much as it lies in its power. The Chief Engineer has just now made a speech giving figures which only go to prove that the percentage of Muslims in each branch of the Electricity Department is much below, what is due to them. It will appear from the statement of communal representation in the various branches of the Punjab Government service, of which copies have been supplied to us, that the percentage of Muslims in the provincial service in the Hydro-Electric Department is 18 and in the subordinate service, that is, the overseers, draftsmen, line superintendents, cable jointers, meter testing inspectors, Muslims form only 39·3 per cent. Thus it will be observed that in all these branches the proportion of Muslims is much less than is their due. The Chief Engineer has conveniently quoted the maxim which is generally quoted by the Government officers to justify their action. He has told us that the number of qualified Muslims is less than what it ought to be the case, and he has added as a rider to it that Muslims as a class do not like to follow the service in electrical engineering. I have had no occasion to see the various applications of candidates for these posts, but I can mention one fact which would at once show that this contention of the Chief Engineer is utterly hollow. In the clerical establishment the number of Muslims is much less than their population warrants, very much less, about half of what it ought to be. So, the natural conclusion is that in that branch more Muslims could have been taken; but just recently a prominent Muslim has been reduced in that very line. What does the reduction of a Muslim mean when the number of Muslims is already low? Especially why should

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

a Muslim be reduced when he has not committed any mistake or fault? The character roll and the service book of this Muslim to whom I am referring showed that he was a good man. That he was a very good man is also apparent from the fact that after he was reduced he made an appeal—of course the appeal fell on deaf ears and no one cared for it, and when all these had ended, he was again offered a job by his officer, though a job which carried much less salary than his original job. Of course, it is rather awkward to mention names. But in this case I should mention the name. It was one Qazi Anwar-ud-Din. He was working as an office superintendent in the Hydro-Electric Department. His case is an eye-opener and would show that all this bogey of efficiency is merely an excuse. You can quote a number of instances. Why was this man brought under reduction when the Muslims are already less in that line? They form 39·8 per cent. whereas they should form 56. When the percentage is already less by 17 per cent., why was this man brought under reduction? I hear that the Chief Engineer had somebody else to provide for; I will not name him, and so he brought this Muslim under reduction. The Chief Engineer is here, and I hope he will substantiate me, when I say that the Personal Assistant was not well disposed towards this Muslim, and that is why it appears to me that he was brought under reduction. So, what is the good of Muslims seeking appointment in this line, when they know that their rights cannot be safeguarded? When one such case is there how will other Muslims come and offer themselves? They know that the same fate will await them. I know communal questions always create bitterness. But when one finds instances of apparent injustice, it is very difficult not to refer to them and to overlook them. I now take another aspect of the question. The figures which my honourable friend from Sheikhpura who moved this motion has quoted are for 1932—34. Those figures indicate that 75 men were taken in the Hydro-Electric Department on various posts. Out of these 75 posts, the number of Muslims is only 18. It is said that Muslims do not as a class follow this profession of electricity which would seem to be a heaven born service reserved for Hindus. Is it believed that a Muslim does not take to this line out of religious compunction or anything like that? If they can work in any other sphere of life, why not in this line? They have given good account of themselves in all departments. Why is this particular department shown as one to which Muslims do not come as a class? This is a mere pretext, mere bogey to justify certain actions taken. Now the Hindus have been taken to the extent of 40 out of 75, whereas they could hope to get only 19 posts at the most, because they are only 27 per cent. of the whole population of the Punjab. They have been taken to the extent of 40 as overseers, draftsmen, line superintendents, etc. It would appear that only Hindus can do this work and not the Muslims! Is it correct to say that a Muslim who works as a private draftsman preparing plans of houses, etc., in private business, would not like to take up Government service? Government service has certain attractions and everybody will run to it if he can get it. Where is this compunction? It was said that when the Englishmen originally came to India, Maulvis spread the doctrine that it was a sin to serve under a Christian Government. But did the Muslim heed this? Did he not come into the service of the Government? That being so, why should he not come into

the Electric Department? If I had the time I would show that very competent Muslims were kept out of this line. One feels delicate to touch this question of communal representation. I generally do not speak on communal matters. I have always stood up for national cause. But when I see that injustice is done, be it for Hindus or for Sikhs or Muslims, you will see that I am always up against it. When I see injustice being done to a minority community, I fight for it. My Sikh friends are saying that this question should not be discussed on the floor of the House. When the question of the appointment of Sikh public prosecutors came up for discussion on this very floor, I being a Muslim gave my support, and my wholehearted support. But why did they discuss it here then? I pointed out the twisting of figures by honourable members on the opposite benches. I pointed out that they were making a mistake. But, why do honourable members on the Sikh benches now say that this question should not be discussed here? When they themselves demanded a certain percentage for themselves, why should they deny it to others? Let the Hindus point out any case of serious injustice done to them. I will be the first to support them as I did on the occasion of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bills of 1980 and 1982. (*Mr. Mukand Lal Furi*: With a speech and not with a vote.) I made it clear last year that when discussing a certain question a man should speak whatever is in his heart. Perhaps it is the characteristic of the gentleman to do that which he ascribes to me. I now come to the remedy. I say the number must be made up. If it is a mistake by somebody in the department, I do not say it is a mistake by the Honourable Minister, it should be rectified. We have insisted upon it so many times during this year. This question has cropped up here at least three times to my knowledge. But the injustice remains where it was, and has not been rectified. I know that when the Honourable Minister replies to this motion, he will twist the figures and make an answer just as he did the other day. For instance, my honourable friend, the Minister for Local Self-Government twisted the remarks I made the other day when I said that the hydro-electric installation which had been carried up to Lyallpur should surely be continued beyond and go near Sargodha and irrigate the Thal area lying there of Khushab, Leiah and Bhakkar. When I said that, he replied, here is one man, Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan, who wants to jump from Lyallpur to the Thal area, and so on. I say, is it proper for the Minister to twist this very serious matter? The Minister must be very responsible. Each word that he utters must have some authority. When a serious matter is brought forward, if the Minister replies to it in a funny way and has the self-satisfaction of having given a good reply, what is the good? That can be done by everybody. They say tit for tat. (*The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh*: The honourable member lays down a wholesome principle which I hope he will follow). If you establish a principle once for yourself, follow it and then expect others to follow it. If you just make fun of these serious arguments of others and reply according to your sweet will, others will take advantage of your remarks. It is the habit all the world over. I hope the Honourable Minister will not try to merely justify these figures which he has maintained in the department, but will promise that he will do justice to the Muslims. Otherwise the question will crop up again and again. With these words I support the motion moved.

**Mr. H. P. Thomas :** May I make a personal explanation in regard to the case quoted by the honourable member of a man who was reduced? It was not a case of injustice. My department is thinly manned. That man was not doing his work properly and was reported adversely upon by two executive engineers. I then took him into my own office and tried him for six months. When I had tried him in my own office and found he was not able to do the work, I have ordered his dismissal from the branch. He then came to me and explained that he was very hard up, and asked me if I could give him another chance. I offered him another chance in a lower grade to see if he could do that work and he refused to accept it.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani** (West Punjab Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) :

5 P.M.

It is really unpleasant that matters of this nature should come up for discussion on the floor of this House, and I think Sardar Arjan Singh was right to a certain extent in thinking that it does not savour well. All the same, so long as communal representation is recognized in services fortunately or unfortunately such matters must crop up. Every day we see that questions are being put with respect to the various departments and members are solicitous of information with respect to percentages of various communities in the cadre of different departments. So we have to face the facts as they are, and we cannot get out of them. But anyhow if it is to come up at all, it should be in the form of questions, otherwise it creates a lot of bitterness and ill-feeling which I think everyone here should avoid (*hear, hear*). In the next place, I would submit that the honourable mover kept himself strictly within tune. His complaint was that there was deficiency of Muslims in certain departments of the hydro-electric scheme. His next point, which was a very sensible one, was that if qualified persons were forthcoming they should not be refused. With respect to the first point, the statement shows that in higher cadre Muslims are only some 18 per cent. It is really very deficient, and the learned Chief Engineer has also admitted this. With respect to the other branches of services, stenographers, clerks and cashiers, Muslims are 43·4 per cent.

**Mr. Deputy President :** May I remind the honourable member that this has been repeated so often?

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani :** I was just putting it in some other way. I would just remind the Chief Engineer and the Honourable Minister in charge of the department through you that probably the object of the mover of this cut was not to alienate the sympathy of the department so far as the Muslim employees are concerned, it was rather to canvass support for them, and I find from the speech of the Chief Engineer that he has been sympathetic to the Muslims. A complaint was made against a subordinate official in the office of the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer says that he makes appointments personally and goes into each and every individual case. I think that should satisfy. But I would submit that rightly or wrongly an idea has gone abroad that the Secretary has been meddling in these affairs. I would request him, although I think it is useless on my part to say so, that he would kindly take greater care in the future, and see that the gentleman in question has nothing to do with these appointments. I would rather request the Honourable Minister and the Chief Engineer in charge of this department that the Muslims being a backward community

especially in this branch of hydro-electric training they will exercise a fostering care, and as far as possible give Muslims a chance so that they might secure the percentage that is theirs under the law of the land.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): After the very lucid and convincing speech of the Chief Engineer it is not at all necessary for me to make a speech. He has made the whole position clear, and in fact I have absolutely no quarrel with the proposition that the mover of this amendment has put before the House. If qualified men are available then those should be appointed, and so on, and if they are not available, he himself, was candid enough to say, he had no fault to find with anybody. I fully appreciate what Shaikh Abdul Ghani has said that a fostering care should be exercised to promote the interests of the Muslims who are backward so far as this department is concerned. I am only sorry that he was not here to listen to the speech of the Chief Engineer, otherwise he would have found what care the Chief Engineer and the department as a whole have been taking in furthering the interests of Muslims, even straining so many points in their favour. He quoted instances to show that if certain persons had not been Muslims they would have been out of the department and because they were Muslims and Muslims were rather under represented in certain sections of the departments, special concessions were shown to them in order to retain them, and he also pointed out that out of the 4 promotions made from the second to the first grade three went to Muslims and only one to a non-Muslim. These things show what care is being taken not only to watch the interests of the Muslim community but to promote the interests of Muslim candidates, and I think it should convince every fair minded member of this House that far from any injustice being done to the Muslims, the department is really going out of its way to help them because they find that owing to the comparative dearth of well-qualified Muslims their representation is not as it should be in certain sections of the department. I would also draw the pointed attention of the House to one very important statement that the Chief Engineer made, and that was that the responsibility for making all appointments in the department rested with him, of course subject to the approval of Government in certain cases, of gazetted staff.

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair.)*

The Secretary, who has been attacked so often very unjustly both in this House and sometimes outside this House, has no hand whatsoever in making these appointments. He cannot meddle, and as a matter of fact, it will be a slur on the Chief Engineer to say that he lends himself to be side-tracked by his own subordinates, and after the clear statement made by him there should really be no ground for taking the Secretary to task either here or outside this House when full responsibility is taken by the Chief Engineer himself. I venture to hope that after the explanation given by the Chief Engineer and the assurance that we are fully alive to the rights of all communities, the honourable mover would withdraw his motion.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan**: After the assurance given by the Honourable Minister and also the Chief Engineer that they will take care in future of the interests of Muslims as far as possible, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,60,700 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, 1936, in respect of charges on Public Works Department, Hydro-Electric Establishment.

*The motion was carried.*

#### HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME (WORKING EXPENSES).

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government) : I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,39,800 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, 1936, in respect of Hydro-Electric Schemes, Working Expenses (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,39,800 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, 1936, in respect of Hydro-Electric Schemes, Working Expenses (Transferred).

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Sir, I oppose the total demand now under consideration and while doing so I would like to say a few words. Unfortunately I could not take part in the debate that took place yesterday on the question of supplying hydro-electric power for agricultural purposes. I wish the Honourable Minister had said something as to how far the expectations of the zamindars in this connection are likely to be realised. He would have done better to have thrown some light on one or two points.

**Mr. President :** I cannot allow the honourable member to re-open the question that has already been discussed. Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,39,800 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, 1936, in respect of Hydro-Electric Schemes, Working Expenses (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (BUILDINGS AND ROADS) ESTABLISHMENT.

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,45,800 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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, 1936, in respect of Charges on Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads, Establishment (Reserved) and (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,45,800 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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, 1936, in respect of charges on Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads, Establishment (Reserved) and (Transferred).

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) I beg to move—

<sup>2</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

In moving this cut I have not much to say. I only wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to the fact that the number of zamindars in these services is very small, and to show that it is really so I shall content myself with quoting the figures as given in the Consolidated Statement. These figures will clearly show that the zamindars have not been given due representation in this branch of the Government service. Amongst the engineers the percentage of zamindars is only 17 and amongst the upper subordinates they form 23 per cent. Among draftsmen they are 17 per cent. and among tracers they are only 13 per cent., and in the total number of all these servants of the Government they are represented only by 24 per cent. Thus it will be seen that the proportion of the zamindars in these services is not as much as it ought to be. May I hope that the Minister will see that the zamindars are fully represented, and that their grievance in this respect is redressed as soon as possible? May I also hope that the Chief Engineer too will help to secure full representation for the zamindars in these services?

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I need hardly assure the honourable member that the interests of zamindars have my fullest possible support and sympathy, but unfortunately what has happened is that engineering requires a knowledge of mathematics and zamindars somehow are backward in this subject. I am speaking from experience. For many years the number of Muhammadans and zamindars who have sought admission to Roorkee is very, very limited. Many members in this House say that there are great many zamindars who are prepared to learn engineering. A few have qualified from England, but so far as Roorkee College is concerned, they do not seek admission to that College. I want to invite the attention of the members of this House to the need of trying to induce the zamindars and Muslims to seek admission to both the MacLagan Engineering and Roorkee Colleges. Last year I could not get enough number of Muslims for the MacLagan College.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani** (West Punjab Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) : The Honourable Minister for Agriculture, who is himself a zamindar, advances an argument on the floor of this House that in these days, that is, in the year 1935, no qualified zamindars are coming forth. That I think is a slur upon the zamindar community which consist not only of Musalmans but of Sikhs and Hindus. If it had been said with respect to Musalmans alone I would not have borne him out on the point. But to say that Sikhs, Hindus and Musalmans of this province are not well up in Mathematics and do not take to engineering, I think is going against facts and is totally wrong. Can he cite an instance where he invited applications and no agriculturists were

<sup>1</sup>To urge employment of agriculturists.

[Sh. Abdul Ghani.]

forthcoming? Is he in a position to say that he has been in search of zamindars and that he could not find any? Such facts could have silenced us, not a general remark of the nature which I think is against facts, and which I think is not warranted by experience. I might remind him with respect to the potentialities of zamindars. It is not long ago that an ordinary zamindar from across the Frontier, I should say from the Attock district, was caught hold of by Government. He was put on a very responsible post. Within a few months he rose to be the Governor of the Province, and the other day while he was leaving the province we know very well what the Chief Secretary had to say about him, "A touch here and a touch there would make everything smooth even in involved matters where people could not find a way out." I think the Honourable Minister is not justified in putting off a very important question by saying that qualified zamindars are not available.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I spoke frankly with no other desire but to help the zamindars. I wanted to point out that the zamindars, particularly Sikh zamindars, are very poorly represented in the engineering service. There is only one Sikh Superintending Engineer and one or two Sikh Sub-Divisional officers.

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Minister is making a second speech.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I only wanted to say that the claims of zamindars will be very fully considered when new vacancies are filled.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** (East and West Central Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*) : I have only a few words to say with regard to the matter under discussion. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture has been pleased to say that as a very small number of students belonging to the agricultural tribes are seeking admission to the Roorkee, Rasul and MacLagan Engineering Colleges, the members will not be justified in complaining that in the recruitments that are to be made in future the agriculturists have not been given their due share. In a way he has anticipated an objection and has tried to satisfy the members. But I may inform him that this explanation, which he has given, will not satisfy many members who know, and know full well, that recruitment is never made according to one and the same principle. At one time one principle is adopted and at another time another principle is acted upon to enable the officers making the recruitment to exercise their power of patronage in a way they choose. When they find that a large number of agriculturist or Muslim candidates who have passed out of these three colleges are available, they reject them on the ground that men with very high qualifications, with English qualifications, are available in any number. And at another time when agriculturist or Muslim candidates with English or foreign qualifications are available, the criterion is changed and men of other denominations with Roorkee, Rasul or MacLagan Engineering College qualifications are taken in. This is being done in almost every department every day because it suits the convenience of the officers who make these appointments. The Ministers only put their signatures to the proposals that they receive from below. They very seldom interfere



with the discretion of the officers working under them, and it is why the complaint that there is paucity or preponderance of this or that community in a department continues. The officers working under them are doing as it pleases them to do, and they devise means to favour one community or do harm to another community according to their idiosyncracies.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh** (Multan division and Sheikhpura, Sikh, Rural): I do not want to make a speech, but I want just to make a protest against the remark made by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that qualified zamindars are not available. I might remind him, and Sardar Sampuran Singh who was my class fellow will bear me out, that in my class there were three or four very able Sikh gentlemen. One of them was Bakhshi Singh, and I think the honourable the Chief Engineer will bear me out that he beat the record at Roorkee securing very high marks.

As regards the other remarks that there is a paucity of zamindars who could be employed in this department, the Minister should have known much better than myself that there are more than a dozen zamindars who have been complaining that they have been brought under reduction. They have duly qualified, and most of these gentlemen qualified from the Roorkee College, and I would make a personal appeal to the Minister that he should not indulge in such statements as he has made which have absolutely no foundation whatever.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural): I really do not mean to make a speech, but I do not want the House to go away with the impression that there are not enough qualified engineers, from among the agricultural tribes to be taken into the services. At least from among my personal acquaintances I can count about twelve Sikh Jats with high qualifications in engineering who are going about without any service. Perhaps the Honourable Minister has for the moment forgotten how many of them must have pestered him with their visits to give them jobs. It is a different thing that there may not be any vacancy at a certain time. Then there may be certain rules according to which some of these men may not have been able to get in, but I challenge the correctness of the accusation that the Sikhs are lacking in engineering skill or that there are not enough of them who can be taken into the service. If there are any other reasons why these men are not being engaged by Government, we shall be only too glad to hear from the Honourable Minister.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh**: I do not want to oppose this cut because I am as anxious as this House to give preference to the zamindars in the services.

**Mr. President**: The question is—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President**: The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,45,700 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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, 1936, in respect of charges on Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Establishment (Reserved) and (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

## CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED).

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,01,700 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,01,700, 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

*Economy in the Public Works Department.*

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur, West, Muhammadan, Rural) : I move—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 8,00,000.

My object is to urge economy.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Has not the point been met by the discussion that has already taken place regarding a committee to go into the question of economy? Is there any necessity to move this motion?

**Mr. President :** It is for the honourable member to move it or not. If he does not wish to move it, he need not.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** I should like to move it. I have moved this cut in order to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the rates are very high and if some steps are taken to get them reduced a good deal of money can be saved. My friend from Amritsar has already described a method by adopting which much economy can be effected. That is the best suggestion and by following it we can save a large amount. In addition some saving can also be effected by cutting down the expenses of the staff and stopping those works which have newly been undertaken. In these times of financial stringency if we do not effect savings by reducing expenditure, we will not be able to balance our budget.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 8,00,000.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East, Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : The object of this motion is plain enough. We seek to secure economy and the extent to which economy is sought is Rs. 8 lakhs. That is a little less than 10 per cent. of the total amount that has been asked under this head. One of the means by which reduction can be effected has already been discussed. I refer to the suggestion relating to rates. A very slight lowering of the rates will help a good deal in bringing about economy. Besides lowering rates there are other ways in which economy can be effected in the Public Works Department. I will just make a reference to two or three of these ways. So far as important works in the way of buildings are concerned, I think the specifications upon which the Public Works Department officers insist are unduly high. These specifications ought to be lowered. If the specifications are lowered I am sure there would be

<sup>1</sup>To urge economy.

appreciable economy effected. Next to specifications I may also draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to the number of public works as a factor for securing economy. So far as buildings are concerned, their number is in many cases unnecessarily large. (*Mr. Mukand Lal Puri*: Will the honourable member kindly explain what he means by specifications?) That can be very easily understood by any engineer. (*Mr. Mukand Lal Puri*: Do you mean to say that the specifications are incorrect or that they are exaggerated?) If the honourable member is taking any part at all in the debate he would have seen what I mean. I am addressing my remarks to those whose business it is to secure economy. The section of the House wherefrom the honourable member speaks has not been helpful at all. (*Mr. Mukand Lal Puri*: We have been following the debate. But we have not understood what the honourable member means by specifications). It is very likely that the honourable member does not care to understand.

I was making a reference to the unnecessarily large number of public buildings of various descriptions. If anybody were to pay a visit to, say, a district such as Rohtak he will find that a chaukidar is located here, another is located there and a third at a third place, a gatekeeper is located here, another there and a third again at a third place. Why? There is a well here and at a distance of, say, a furlong there is another well. There is no need of multiplying these small rooms or *kothas*. One chaukidar can easily look after a number of buildings. The practice generally is to have a small *kotha* attached to almost every public building. There is no reason why all these *kothas* should exist. After the reduction that can be made in the number of buildings has been made you can make a very large reduction in the number of the staff that you engage. It can be done very easily. There is a whole army. (*Honourable Minister for Agriculture*: Staff is not covered under this demand.) Very well, I have suggested three definite means by resorting to which appreciable economies can be made in various directions. They are, reduction in the number of buildings, lowering of specifications, lowering of rates and if staff is included, reduction in the number. If effect is given to these it will yield a fairly substantial sum in the way of reduction of expenditure.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural): I rise to support the motion under consideration. The economies urged by the honourable member from Rohtak are very reasonable ones. Even from a cursory glance—for it is not in our power to go deeply into the figures within a short time—it would be seen that the expenditure for 1933-34 under this demand was nearly Rs. 74 lakhs while this year the estimate is for Rs. 78 lakhs. If they save here and there—for instance it is easy to save under General Administration—a good amount can be saved on the whole. I imagine that the expenditure under this Demand will be incurred largely on rest houses and works of that kind. We can very well afford to be without rest-houses or bungalows in this period of financial stringency, or even quarters for officers of Government. When we ask for any concession to zamindars the invariable answer is that there is no money. When we point out the sources from which saving could be made one excuse after another is put forward. When a man does not want to do a thing it is very easy for him to hurl excuses, as many of them as may be required. If there is a will there is a way. If the Government choose to apply the

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

pruning knife it is very easy for them to save Rs. 8 lakhs. We urge only for a reduction of one-tenth of the estimate and if I can take an analogy from a man's private life, surely a man whose expenses run to Rs. 1,000 should be able to save Rs. 100 by reducing here and there. Suppose a war breaks out. I ask, will Government spend so much money on these buildings? I daresay they will not. For during the last War their expenditure was checked and many schemes were kept in abeyance and the whole money that could be saved was saved for the War. The present financial stringency is a period of war with the forces of Nature, and when we are contending against these forces, it is a very salutary principle that we should try to put by some sum and a saving of one-tenth of the estimated expenditure is certainly not large. Perhaps the excuse will be urged that the Honourable Minister is not an expert and has no inner knowledge of the working of the Public Works Department. But that excuse cannot prevail now for the Honourable Minister has been in his place for eight years and must by now know where to apply the pruning knife. Being a painstaking man he must have had a sufficient knowledge of the department. From all considerations, without knowing the figures, without looking at the pending files, without looking at the plans that may have been submitted to the department for the next year, we can by just applying our commonsense say that this amount can easily be saved. If the Honourable Minister will give a lead in this one instance by saving Rs. 8 lakhs other Members of Government will also follow suit and during the year we should be able to save a good deal of money. It is proper that the Honourable Minister should give some encouraging reply and say that if he cannot save the entire sum he will at least save a sum approaching it.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura Muhammadan, Rural): If I remember aright there was a proposal some two or three years back before the Irrigation Department to abandon certain rest houses. I do not know whether a similar proposal has been under the consideration of the Public Works Department. If that has not been considered by this department I think it is time that it should be done. The reason is that in the old days touring had to be done on horseback or in tamtams or tongas. But now means of locomotion have been very much improved. Instead of horses generally officers now-a-days use motor cars. In the old days rest-houses used to be between a distance of ten miles. Now it is the same distance that is kept and this distance can be covered within half an hour by motor car. The number of rest-houses should, therefore, be reduced. If that is reduced the cost of repairs will also come down and there can be a considerable saving on the whole. I do not know what other specific suggestions there may be, but this is one specific suggestion which might be considered by Government.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): Perhaps I may be allowed to explain what has been done about this important matter of rest-houses. When I was Financial Commissioner, Development, my attention was drawn to the fact that there are still rest-houses every ten or twelve miles along the Grand Trunk Road and that a motor would pass about fifty of them in a day or at least thirty of them without much trouble. Thereupon I invited the Chief Engineers and the Inspector-General of Police

to discuss the question of the reduction of rest-houses. Committees were formed in each district of the province, committees presided over by the deputy commissioner and attended by the district heads of the various departments. Probably the last speaker himself presided over one of these committees. These committees had to submit the results of their deliberations to the commissioners who would then pass them on to Government. Actually the reports reached Government some months ago. Since then the question of co-ordinating the opinions of various heads of departments of Government has delayed matters. To be perfectly candid I am a little disappointed at the delay that has taken place, because one deputy commissioner told me that in his district he hoped to reduce twenty rest-houses and another deputy commissioner told me that in his district he hoped to reduce ten rest-houses. All this is the result of the introduction of touring by motors instead of on horseback. I anticipate that when we have got the final consensus of opinions of the various heads of departments there will be a reduction of anything up to fifty rest-houses in the province, in fact a very serious reduction indeed which will save us a good deal of money. I have already enquired once in the last two or three months about the progress of this file. As a result of this debate I will again make enquiries and urge upon the heads of departments concerned that they should let us have the results of their deliberations as soon as possible so that we may effect this reduction. It is possible we may be able to auction the rest-houses which are found unnecessary in which case there will be not only reduction in expenditure but actual income to Government. (*Hear, hear.*)

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General): I should like to say a few words in regard to what the leader of the Unionist Party said in this debate. He used the word 'specifications' and he was asked to explain this word. I have since ascertained the meaning of that word and I understand it to mean quality of materials used at various stages of the building process. If the quality of building materials is lowered in the interest of cheapness our public works which are already well-known for their instability will become less stable. Honourable members have only to see the old buildings erected in the great Moghul times. We have got the Shalamar, the big mausoleum of Jehangir, the chaburji, all these have stood the test of time because of the quality of materials used. The honourable member has only to imagine what the consequence would have been if poor materials had been used for these structures. If cheaper materials are used I am sure we will have to spend more money on maintenance and repairs and this may not add to our economy. I therefore think that this is not a proper head under which economy should be practised and cheapness insisted upon. As regards the lowering of rates, the claim put forward by the other side was subsequently abandoned yesterday.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhetu Ram** : No.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jagendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): If I explain the whole position I think the honourable member is very likely to withdraw his motion. A great deal of emphasis was laid on two things, lowering of specifications and lowering of rates. So far as lowering of rates is concerned, I have already agreed to appoint a committee

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

of officials and non-officials to consider that point. So I can leave that matter out of account for the present. As regards lowering of specifications, I think that the question does not arise. For, if honourable members will look at page 415 of the budget they will find that the bulk of the grant is to be used for repairs and for new communications to be financed from the Road Grant received from the Government of India. Therefore I am sure honourable members will agree that there is hardly any room for a lump sum reduction. The Finance Department goes into the matter very carefully before it passes these items in the budget and if there is any possibility of a lump sum reduction it is made by the Finance Department even at the time the budget is prepared. It is not, therefore, possible to make a lump sum reduction of 8 lakhs of rupees. On the other hand I think the object which the honourable mover has in view will be secured by the revision of rates which the committee which is going to be appointed will consider in no remote time. In view of what I have said I hope the honourable member will withdraw his motion.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi (Urdu):** In view of the assurance of the Honourable Minister that he will appoint a committee to go into the question of lowering the rates I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

#### *Expenditure on communications.*

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu):** I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

I have moved this cut to invite the attention of the Government to the fact that proper distribution is not made of the money earmarked for construction of roads. It is not borne in mind that a particular place stands in greater need of a road than any other. Attention is paid only to the recommendation of the subordinate staff. Wherever they recommend that a road should be built, work is immediately started. I should like to acquaint the House with some instances. There is no road in the Jhang district connecting the interior of the district with the headquarter. But the Government does not pay any attention to it. There is no road worth the name in Bari Doab Colony although Government has spent on and earned a good deal of money from that colony. On the other hand there are many good roads in Nili Bar Colony. Then there is no metalled road between Shahpur and Rawalpindi. I want to urge that this is not a fair distribution of money reserved for constructing roads. It is high time that the Government should remove this grievance with regard to means of communications. Work should be done after due consultation with the members of the Communication Board and the members of the Finance Committee. If the members agree that a particular work should necessarily be taken in hand it should be started, otherwise not. I hope the House will agree to my suggestion and the Government will accept it.

<sup>1</sup>To urge fair distribution of expenditure on communications.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan** (Mianwali, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : I have great pleasure in welcoming the suggestion that this sum should be made available to the Communication Board. But I should like to point out that its benefit should accrue to all districts of the province, and no invidious distinction should be made in the case of some districts as against the others. It is the duty of the Government and of the Honourable Minister to find out which district greatly stands in need of their help. For instance, my district which too has the privilege of being under the control of the benign Government and within the province of the Punjab, greatly stands in need of Government's help. Khushab is at a distance of only 58 miles from the district headquarters and the Mianwali-Khushab road is in an appalling condition and has continued to be in the same condition, God knows since when. And it is not an unimportant road either. From military as well as commercial points of view it is of very great importance. But no attention is paid to its wretched condition. Whenever officers intend to go to Khushab they start from Mianwali with great hesitation. If there is a solitary piece of cloud visible somewhere in the sky its very sight prevents them from making their start. At once they order that their motors should be sent back to the garage lest they should get stuck up in the mud and never reach their destination. It is necessary, therefore, that this small piece of road should be metalled very soon. Moreover, as this piece of road is on the way to Lahore, the headquarters of the provincial Government, it is all the more necessary to metal it as soon as possible. The Government may find money from any source for this purpose, but this work should be taken in hand at all costs. Whatever may happen with others the Mianwali-Khushab road should be immediately attended to. I approached the Honourable Minister for Agriculture with this request but he said that the work could not be taken in hand as there was very little traffic on the road. But the question is of the unsuitability of the road. If the road had been in proper condition there would certainly have been much traffic on it. In the present condition, it is impassable if there is the slightest rain. How can there be much traffic on it? The Government is uselessly spending money on it annually for repairs. If its surface is metalled once for all there will be no need of incurring big annual expenditure for its repairs. The zamindars will greatly benefit if this road is metalled. At present their crops have to wait at the railway station and in case of rain they suffer great loss. If this road is metalled the corn will be taken away from Khushab to Mianwali and Sargodha in motor lorries without much difficulty. Business will become brisk in this way. The zamindar will gain and the Government will gain in the long run. It is really a pity that whenever the question of doing something for my poor district comes up some excuse or other is found. If we ask that some road should be constructed for our benefit the Government says that Mianwali district is an out of the way place; it is not easy to construct a road there. If the question of giving remissions in land revenue is raised, the excuse put forward by the Government is that the land revenue system there is fluctuating, therefore, nothing can be done. No reduction can be made in a fluctuating land revenue. If digging of a canal is urged it is said that the surface of the earth is sandy

[K. B. Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan.]

and it will not be a paying proposition. If we press for sinking tube wells in our district the objection is put forward that water in the district is very very deep and tube well would be a failure. God alone knows how we can make the Government do anything for us, and what the Government is really prepared to do for my district. Is it in our power to change the situation of our district? We can only request the Government to do something for us in the existing conditions of the district.

In spite of many natural handicaps of the type mentioned just now by me our district has one great virtue and that is its unflinching loyalty to the British Crown. All the officers of the Government know it. Our Honourable Finance Member for whom our district has the greatest respect and attachment knows all this and would certainly bear me out. I hope the Government will at least keep in view the loyalty of my district and construct the Mianwali-Khushab road at its earliest convenience. I assure the Government that this will benefit both the zamindar and the State.

With these words, I strongly support the motion now before the House.

*At this stage the Council adjourned till 2-30 P.M. on Friday, 8th March, 1935.*



## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 8th March, 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2-30 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### LORRY FARES.

**\*4199. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of those districts in which the lorry fares are prescribed by the District Magistrates ;
- (b) whether any lorry driver has ever been charged with the offence of charging more than the fare fixed on Rawalpindi-Kohala road ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) A statement showing the names of the districts in which lorry fares have been prescribed is laid on the table.

(b) No.

#### *Statement.*

Gurgaon, Rohtak, Karnal, Hoshiarpur, Ferozepore, Sialkot, Gurdaspur, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Jhalum, Rawalpindi, Dera Ghazi Khan and Lyallpur.

#### DISTRICT BOARDS WITH NON-OFFICIAL PRESIDENT.

**\*4200. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of district boards where the President is a non-official ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Three, viz., Gujranwala, Gujrat and Multan.

#### COMMUNISTS.

**\*4201. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of communists who are restricted under section 3 (1) (d) of the Punjab Criminal Law (Amendment) Act ;
- (b) why the communists are so restricted unless they happen to be terrorists ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Ten.

(b) Because if unrestricted they were likely to act in a manner prejudicial to the public peace or safety.

#### RECORD INSPECTION FEE.

**\*4202. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to my question No.\* 3169,<sup>1</sup> dated 19th March, 1934, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state what has been the result of the Government consideration with regard to the record inspection fee ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Government have decided to make no change for the present.

#### COMPLAINT BY WIDOW RAHIM BIBI.

**\*4203. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to a letter by a widow Rahim Bibi, that appeared in the daily *Ahsan*, Lahore, dated the 6th December, 1934, on page 2 ;
- (b) whether the Government have made an enquiry into the complaint ;
- (c) whether the Government is prepared to accede to her request ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, Government has already acceded to her request by sanctioning a further exchange of her land.

#### USE OF MOSQUE AS OFFICE.

**\*4204. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to my question No.\* 3157,<sup>2</sup> dated the 19th March, 1934, will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government inquired into the fact that in Muhammadan Law a mosque cannot be purchased or sold and that the possession of a mosque is illegal, and that the use of a mosque as office of a non-Muslim is a violation of religious rights ;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is now prepared to make over the mosque to the Muslims ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) The question did not arise, because when the building was purchased by Government it was a private residence ;

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply to Council question No.\* 3157.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXV, page 964.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, pages 977-78.

JETHUWAL MINOR.

**\*4205. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the zamindars of villages Tung, Pain, etc., Amritsar district, have grievances against the short supply of canal water on ten outlets on Jethuwal Minor ;
- (b) whether Government proposes to issue orders to remove the difficulties thus caused to zamindars, immediately ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Jethuwal Minor is controlled by two different divisions of the Canal Department and the zamindars find it inconvenient ;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to so arrange matters as to save zamindars from the bad result of this dual control ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes, but on investigation by Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Circle, it has been repeatedly found that no justifiable grievance exists.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. The running and control of the Jethuwal Minor is exclusively under the charge of the Executive Engineer, Majitha division.

The Minor takes off above a rapid and the regulation at this rapid is in the hands of the Executive Engineer, Raewind division. The arrangement is of old standing and the Government does not consider that the cultivators on Jethuwal Minor have suffered from it.

(d) Does not arise.

MUNICIPALITY, BAGHBANPURA.

**\*4206. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the residents of Baghbanpura submitted a resolution of the public meeting requesting for the imposition of the octroi tax instead of house tax ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the municipality of Baghbanpura is not a self-supporting municipality ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the pay of some of the municipal servants has not been paid ;
- (d) whether the Municipal Committee even passed a resolution asking for the sanction of the Government to impose octroi tax ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) No. The committee, however, passed a resolution proposing the imposition of terminal-tax in place of house tax. The proposal is under the consideration of Government.

## GIRLS' SCHOOL IN BAGHBANPURA.

**\*4207. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Baghbanpura has a population of more than 15 thousand ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is no Government girls' school in the town ;
- (c) whether the Government has before them proposals to open a girls' school in Baghbanpura ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No. The population according to the last census is less than fourteen thousand.

(b) Yes.

(c) There is at present no proposal to open a girls' school at Baghbanpura. However the claims of Baghbanpura for a girls' school will be duly considered.

## LIQUOR CONTRACTS.

**\*4208. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul 'Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of liquor contracts given during the last five years ;
- (b) the amount of liquor (in gallons) sold in the province during the last five years ;
- (c) the amount of revenue obtained by the Government during the last five years in the form of excise duty ?

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

*Statement showing the number of licences for retail sales of country spirit, the amount of country spirit consumed and the amount of still-head duty recovered in the Punjab for the last five years.*

Serial No.	YEAR.			Number of licences for retail sale of country spirit.	Amount of country spirit consumed.	Amount of still-head duty recovered.
					Gallons.	Rs.
1	1929-30	..	..	672	346,259	40,38,955
2	1930-31	..	..	667	293,074	34,04,530
3	1931-32	..	..	661	241,329	28,80,066
4	1932-33	..	..	682	281,842	25,90,830
5	1933-34	..	..	674	313,116	23,24,168

## KIDNAPPING CASES.

**\*4209. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the number of kidnapping cases that have occurred in each of the tahsils of Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts during the last three years;
- (b) the number of cases in each tahsil of the Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts in which—
  - (i) the victims were minor girls;
  - (ii) the victims were widows;
  - (iii) the number in each case community-wise?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

DISTRICT.	TAHSIL.	Total No. of kidnapping cases during the last 3 years.	Number of cases in which victims were minor girls.	Number of cases in which victims were widows.	Number of Hindu victims.	Number of Muslim victims.	Number of Sikh victims.
JULLUNDUR.	Jullundur ..	36	36	..	8	26	2
	Nakodar ..	15	15	..	1	9	5
	Phillaur ..	19	18	1	6	6	7
	Nawan Shahr ..	6	6	..	2	1	3
HOSHIAHPUR.	Hoshiarpur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Una ..	1	1	..	1	..	..
	Dasuya ..	7	7	..	4	3	..
	Garh Shankar ..	1	1	..	..	1	..

**CHARGES AGAINST LALA RULIA RAM, HEADMASTER OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, SHAHPUR.**

**\*4210. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether any charges have been brought against Lala Rulia Ram, Headmaster of a Middle School in Shahpur, in his official capacity;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, what is the nature of these charges;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against the said Head Master on the score of these charges; if not, why not?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret the answer to this question is not ready.

## MURDERS.

**\*4211. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) the number of murders committed, tahsil-wise, in each district of the Province during the last ten years ;
- (b) the number of cases actually challaned during this period ;
- (c) the number of cases which remained untraced ;
- (d) the number of cases in which the challans were dismissed by the courts ;
- (e) the number of cases in which the culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## DACOITIES AND THEFTS.

**\*4212. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) the number of dacoities and thefts committed tahsil-wise in each district of the province during the last ten years ;
- (b) the number of cases actually challaned during this period ;
- (c) the number of cases which remained untraced ;
- (d) the number of cases in which the challans were dismissed by the courts ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The statistics required for the answer to this question are not readily available. The Government regret that they cannot supply an answer as the labour involved in collecting the information would be out of proportion to its value.

## EXCISE CASES.

**\*4213. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of criminal cases instituted tahsil-wise in each district of the province during the last five years against illicit distillers of wine ;
- (b) the number of cases dismissed during the same period by different courts of law ;
- (c) the number of cases in which illicit distillers were sent to jail ;
- (d) the total amount of money paid to informers during this period ;
- (e) the total cost which the Government had to bear in connection with the institution of these cases ;
- (f) the total amount of fine realised by the Government from illicit distillers during this period ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

**HIGH-HANDEDNESS OF LALA BRIJ LAL KOHLI, GOVERNMENT  
HIGH SCHOOL, KHUSHAB.**

**\*4214. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of telegrams, protesting against the high-handedness of Lala Brij Lal Kohli of the Khushab Government High School, were sent to the Inspector of Schools in charge ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether any action was taken against Lala Brij Lal Kohli ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Probably yes. Certain complaints were received against the Headmaster and the Divisional Inspector enquired into them. From the Divisional Inspector's letter it appears that there was no substance in the particular complaints into which he enquired.

**INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.**

**\*4215. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any communal proportion is fixed in the case of teachers of industrial schools in the province ;
- (b) whether any communal proportion is fixed for students for admission to these institutions ;
- (c) if the answer to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what is that proportion ; if there is none, whether Government intends to fix it ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Policy of Government was stated by the Honourable Finance Member in a debate in the Punjab Legislative Council on the 19th of July, 1927. This is still the policy of Government and Government will continue to carry out the requirements of the formula contained in the said statement of policy.

**EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.**

**\*4216. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) how much grant is given community-wise to primary, lower middle, middle, and high schools in each tahsil in the province ;
- (b) the number community-wise of recognized primary, lower middle, middle, and high schools, respectively in each tahsil in the province ;
- (c) how many recognized schools in each tahsil community-wise have so far not been entered in the list of grant-in-aid schools ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** With regard to anglo-vernacular secondary schools on the grant-in-aid list, the information required in (a), (b) and (c) of this question will be found in the statement of grants sanctioned for aided Indian schools during the year 1929-30 to 1933-34, a copy of which has already been sent to each member of this Honourable Council. To supply the information for vernacular schools by tahsils will involve a very lengthy correspondence with consequent expenditure of time and money. It is not, therefore, in the public interest to undertake this extensive enquiry. If, however, the honourable member will kindly explain to me the purpose of his enquiry, I shall do my best to satisfy him.

#### GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

**\*4217. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of girls' primary, lower middle, middle, and high schools, community-wise, in every tahsil in the province ;
- (b) the number community-wise of those girls' schools which are included in the list of anglo-vernacular grant-in-aid schools ;
- (c) how much Government money is being spent upon these girls' schools, community-wise ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to my answer to question No. \*4216 (above).

As regards the number of recognised secondary schools in each district the member is advised to consult the list of recognised secondary schools (Indian), a copy of which is being placed in the Council Library.

#### MOTOR VEHICLES.

**\*4218. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) how many motor vehicles were registered in the province during the last five years ;
- (b) how many (i) deaths and (ii) injuries were caused by motor vehicles in the province during the last five years ;
- (c) how much money was realized in the province during the last five years through (i) the registration of licence, and (ii) the imposition of fine on the motor drivers, and the owners of motor vehicles ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) 7,729.

(b) 790 deaths and injuries to 2,084 persons were caused by motor vehicles during the years 1930 to 1934.

(c) I regret that the answer to this part of the question is not ready.



## MOTOR VEHICLES.

**\*4219. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) how many motor vehicles were registered in the Jullundur district during the years 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934 respectively, and how many are plying for hire ;
- (b) how many (i) deaths and (ii) injuries were caused by motor vehicles in the Jullundur district during the years 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ;
- (c) how much money was realized in the Jullundur district through (i) the registration of licence, and (ii) the imposition of fine on the motor drivers and the owners of motor vehicles during the years 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) *Second Part.*—The number of motor vehicles which were plying for hire at the end of December, 1934, was 413.

(a) *First Part*, (b) and (c).—A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

YEAR.	Number of motor vehicles registered.	Number of deaths caused by motor vehicles.	Number of persons injured by motor vehicles.	Amount of fines imposed on motor drivers and the owners of motor vehicles.	Amount realised on account of registration of motor vehicles.
1	2	3	4	5	6
				Rs.	Rs.
1930 .. ..	237	11	13	1,670	..
1931 .. ..	97	7	22	4,217	528
1932 .. ..	118	5	9	6,513	1,957
1933 .. ..	98	6	14	6,570	1,538
1934 .. ..	96	6	15	5,017	1,565

## DISTRICT BOARD, AMRITSAR.

**\*4220. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the policy recommended for effecting economy in the expenditure of the District Board, Amritsar, and the principle on which reduction was made in the number of teachers and schools ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## DISTRICT BOARD, AMRITSAR.

**\*4221. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the reduction of schools and teachers in the District Board, Amritsar, (i) the special rights of agriculturists were borne in mind, (ii) the paucity of Muslim teachers was borne in mind ;

(b) if the answers to (i) and (ii) are in the negative, why no regard was paid to these matters ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## CHEMISTRY HONOURS SCHOOL.

**\*4222. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing how long each teacher was or since how long he has been on the previous and present staff of the Chemistry Honours School of the Punjab University ?

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

*Statement.*

## PRESENT STAFF.

1. Professor S. S. Bhatnagar, D.Sc., F.Inst. P., University Professor of Physical Chemistry and Director, University Chemical Laboratories from 1st October, 1924.
  2. Professor H. B. Dunicliff, M.A., Sc.D., F.I.C., I.E.S., University Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, Government College, Lahore, from October, 1924.
  3. Professor P. Carter Speers, M.Sc., Forman Christian College, Lahore, from October, 1934.
  4. Dr. J. N. Ray, Ph.D., D.Sc., F.I.C., University Professor of Organic Chemistry, from 15th November, 1928.
  5. Professor N. A. Yajnik, M.A., D.Sc., A.I.C., University Reader in General Chemistry, Forman Christian College, Lahore, from October, 1924.
  6. Dr. G. L. Datta, M.A., Ph.D., D. A.-V. College, Lahore, from October, 1930.
  7. Dr. Balwant Singh, D.Sc., Government College, Lahore, from October, 1931.
  8. S. Kartar Singh Narang, M.Sc., Micro-analyst, from 24th April, 1931.
  9. Mr. Amar Nath Kapur, M.Sc., Demonstrator, from 7th October, 1930.
  10. Mr. Pyara Lal Kapur, M.Sc., Demonstrator, from 7th October, 1930.
  11. S. Santokh Singh, M.Sc., Demonstrator, from 24th October, 1934.
  12. Mr. Mulk Raj Varma, M.Sc., Student-Demonstrator, from 1st October, 1932.
  13. Mr. Muhammad Tufail, M.Sc., Student-Demonstrator, from 1st October, 1934.
  14. S. Gurbachan Singh, M.Sc., Student-Demonstrator, from 27th October, 1934.
  15. S. Mahshar Singh, M.Sc., Student-Demonstrator, from 17th January, 1935.
- Professor Munir-ud-Din, M.Sc., of the Islamia College, has been recommended for lecture work to the Honours School in Chemistry from October, 1935.

## PREVIOUS STAFF.

1. Dr. S. Krishna, Ph.D., D.Sc., University Reader in Organic Chemistry from 1st October, 1925 to 30th September, 1928.
2. Dr. Nazir Ahmad, M.Sc., Ph.D., Islamia College, Lahore, from October, 1927, to September, 1930.

## DEMONSTRATORS.

3. Mr. Abdul Haq, M.Sc., from 9th October, 1931, to 3rd September, 1934.
4. Mr. S. D. Mahant, M.Sc., from 1st January, 1934, to 31st May, 1934.
5. Dr. Mata Prasad, from 1st October, 1924, to 30th September, 1925.
6. S. Balwant Singh, M.Sc., from 1st October, 1925, to 6th October, 1930.
7. Mr. Arjan Lal Aggarwal, M.Sc., from 5th October, 1925, to 31st October, 1927.
8. S. Ram Singh Ahuja, from 1st October, 1925, to 31st October, 1928.
9. S. Ram Singh, M.Sc., from 1st November, 1928, to 30th September, 1931.
10. Mr. K. N. Mathur, M.Sc., from November, 1927, to 6th October, 1930.
11. Mr. Joti Sarup Aggarwal, M.Sc., Micro-analyst, from 1st April 1930, to 23rd April, 1931.

## CHEMISTRY HONOURS SCHOOL.

**\*4223. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the award of Chemistry Honours School research scholarships of the Punjab University to students, community-wise, from the time of its inauguration up to the present time ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** There are no University or Government scholarships for the Chemistry Honours School. There is only one combined research studentship and demonstratorship given year by year by the University which is now held by Mr. T. K. Lahiri and was previously held by Mr. N. G. Mitra.

## CHEMISTRY HONOURS SCHOOL.

**\*4224. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that last year nine scholarships were fixed by the Indian Chemical Fund for the Chemistry Honours School of the Punjab University ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that eight scholarships were given to the Hindus, and only one was given to a Muslim, and even that is now proposed to be given to a Hindu ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that several Muslim students applied for these scholarships ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No such fund exists.

(b) Perhaps the honourable member is referring to the Punjab Chemical Research Fund which is maintained by private gentlemen and is financed by private donations. These scholarships are awarded by the Trustees. Neither Government nor the University have any right to say how these scholarships should be awarded. It will interest the honourable member to know that ten scholarships were awarded last year. Only three Mussal-mans applied of whom two were successful in securing scholarships. One of them secured the Attock Oil Company scholarship and the second one secured Professor S. S. Bhatnagar's scholarship of Rs. 60 per mensem. I am sure that the honourable member and his community have cause to be highly grateful to a non-Muslim professor, namely Dr. Bhatnagar, for having given a scholarship worth Rs. 60 a month to a Muslim by name Mr. Ahmad Hussain. I do wish that the honourable member had ascertained the truth before asking questions which are likely to show ingratitude on the part of Muslim students to their non-Muslim benefactors. It will also interest the honourable member to know that Professor Bhatnagar, Head of the Chemistry Department in the University Laboratory, has helped several other Muslim students by private subsidies.

(c) Does not arise.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL, LAHRRI.

**\*4225. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Middle School, Lahri, in the Rawalpindi division, will be turned into a high school ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Muslim Headmaster of the above school has been transferred, and a Hindu Headmaster has been appointed in his place ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Muslim Headmaster is far senior to the Hindu Headmaster in point of service ;
- (d) if the answers to (a), (b) and (c) are in the affirmative, the reasons for this appointment ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

**\*4226. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of industrial schools in the province and the places where they are situated ;
- (b) how much Government money is being spent upon these institutions ;
- (c) the number of teachers and students in these institutions, community-wise ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a), (b) and (c) in so far as it relates to number of students.

The attention of the honourable member is invited to Appendices IV and VII of the Annual Report of the Department of Industries, Punjab for 1933-34, a copy of which is placed on the table.<sup>1</sup>

(c) *Number of teachers community-wise—*

Muslims	..	..	..	..	121
Hindus	..	..	..	..	101
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	28
Others	..	..	..	..	11

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED)—*concluded.*

*Expenditure on communication.*

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the demand for Civil Works (Transferred).

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural) : The haphazard and unmethodical way in which the allocation of funds for the Public Works Department is made betrays total

<sup>1</sup>Placed in the Library.

ignorance regarding the physical geography of the province on the part of the Public Works Department officers and probably the members of the Finance Committee with whom rests the allocation of these funds. There are certain parts of the province which are poor as regards the revenue paid by them to the Government yet from a political and administrative point of view are very important. For example, the district of Mianwali, as every officer who has had to do anything with that district is aware, is very important from a political point of view. Only a decade ago that district was exposed to raids from outlaws from across the frontier and the people of that district used to be anxious all the time. The reason why those outlaws could not be tackled was the want of communications in that district. Since the introduction of the system of telephones and the construction of roads in the interior of Waziristan and also the establishment of police posts in the Isakhel tahsil, those raids have become considerably less, though they have not altogether disappeared. That is not the only calamity to which that province is exposed. There are certain other reasons upon which neither the Government nor the people have any control and those are the natural forces. The mighty Indus river flows in that district for a distance of 80 or 90 miles from Mari Indus to Behal, the southern extremity of the district. I happened to be in charge of the district in 1929, when there were the heaviest floods on account of the bursting of the Shyock glacier and the floods were supposed to be so tremendous that we had to make arrangements in anticipation. The Katchi tract extends over a distance of 7 or 8 miles in width and is honeycombed with hamlets and villages and if the people are not warned in time, they are exposed to all the dangers and their cattle will be swept away and sometimes there is danger to life also. With the exception of a single railway line which also runs practically over the same distance of 80 or 90 miles, there are no big roads and if kucha roads exist there, they are simply covered with sand and they can be called roads only in name. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that roads should be provided in that district. Most probably that district is not kept in view by the officers of the Public Works Department because they rarely have the opportunity of visiting that district and they do not therefore realise the discomfort and the inconvenience caused to the people. I therefore very strongly urge and bring it to the notice of the Public Works Department that there are certain roads which should be provided for in that district. The first is the Mianwali-Khushab arterial road. It becomes impossible to use it during rainy season. It is a very important road for political as well as administrative reasons and the distance is only 58 miles. The second road is from Kalabagh to Isakhel. That road is cut up by ravines and hill torrents and it is impossible for anyone to go along that road in the rainy season and as everyone knows railway trains are not available at all times. Another road which probably is arterial is from Mianwali to Campbellpore district, that is also very important. Similarly there is another road which runs from Mianwali to Bhakkar a distance of about 72 miles. I therefore request the Public Works Department and the Government to do something for that out of the way and probably God-forsaken district.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh:** How can that district be God-forsaken where you have been?

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** It may be urged that that district probably contributes very little to the revenues of the Government. But providence has placed the destinies of the people of this province in the hands of the Government and it is their duty to look to the interests and prosperity of the people of the whole province. Another reason in their favour is that they are the most loyal people in the province (*The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd : Hear, hear*).

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram** (Multan division, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : If everyone were to speak about the hopeless condition of roads or want of roads in his constituency, then you will have all the members of this Council speaking about roads in each individual constituency, because roads are very very bad indeed everywhere. The question should be taken as a general question and not as a question that Khushab and Mianwali road may be constructed at once. In that way I will say that Lyallpur-Jhang and Kamalia-Toba Tek Singh road should be taken in hand first. It is a matter of detail which should be discussed by the Communication Board and not by this Council whether this road is to be taken in hand first or that. The question may arise, how is the Communication Board to get on with the work ? I have been a member of that Board for sometime, though I am not so now. I know that the money given to that Board is very little bearing in mind all the work that it has to do. Whenever a question arose of completing one road or the other it was said that the Finance Department did not agree to give sufficient money in order to get on with the roads. This is a very important question that roads should be completed in each district and each district should be connected with Lahore by a metalled road. I dare say that in course of time it might be done but some arrangement must be thought of by the Finance Department to supply money to the Communication Board to have roads all over the province metalled. This is one point. How to raise money, where to get money from, is the other question which has to be met. I personally think that if a large road loan is raised in these days when money is so cheap, Government should get it at 3 per cent. interest or even less. They can then go on with the work of construction of roads and that money may be given to the Communication Board to construct roads as quickly as possible. An important point arises in this connection. It is possible that there is not sufficient working staff under the control of the Communication Board to complete all these roads. I submit that a special road engineer may be employed to assist the Communication Board in this respect. That expert may be brought from England, America or anywhere else in order that the construction of roads may be expedited, for I think at present the road-building work of the Buildings and Roads Branch is progressing very slowly. I do not know why. A road takes a very long time to complete. It may be due to want of sufficient staff or something of that sort.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Why not for lack of money ?

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** I was once present at a meeting over which the Honourable Minister for Agriculture presided when an American gave a big lecture on road construction in America. The Honourable Sardar Sahib introduced him to this province so that he may do some-

thing for this province. In course of time a scheme of the type described by that American can be introduced in this province for road construction. The Honourable Sardar Sahib knows the scheme well but I do not know it fully. I have noticed that some companies have been started with the object of carrying out road construction. If the Government has not got sufficient money and if the Government does not wish to raise a loan in order to construct metalled roads, let them give it to private enterprise. I am sure there is a good deal of private enterprise that can do this road construction work instead of letting it go on slowly. The Finance Department should try to squeeze out whatever little money it can out of its funds. Unless this is done road construction will not be completed for many many years to come. Good many roads have now been transferred to district boards for maintenance ; still many roads have yet to be constructed by Government, which they call arterial. For these money has to be found by Government. District boards are not doing very much in the way of construction of roads. They in fact cannot even keep them up in good condition with their meagre resources. Being an old member of the Lyallpur District Board I know very well that it finds great difficulty in keeping their old roads in good repair. There must be some scheme put in hand by Government by means of which money may be raised and from which money advances may be given to district boards to construct their roads. Buildings and Roads Branch should go on at a very quick pace to complete those roads which are in their charge. Though I do not want to join other honourable members who claim money for the improvement of roads in their own constituencies I cannot help saying that the important road namely Lyallpur to Jhang is still a kacha road as also the road connecting Toba Tek Singh to Kamalia. I am being told for the past twenty years that these roads will be metalled but nothing is being done. Go whichever way you like the question has to be met by the raising of money. There is no alternative. Unless Government takes it up as their duty to raise a lot of money for roads, nothing can be done. This money can be put in the hands of the Communication Board to be used on constructing roads and on the appointment of a special roads engineer. With these words I resume my seat in the hope that the Finance Member will do something to finance the road-construction scheme in the province.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): The roads which lie between the Jullundur, Hoshiarpur and Ludhiana districts can be metalled with a small amount of money and traffic on them will not only become smooth but increase considerably. These roads will prove of great benefit to the cultivators who will be able to send their agricultural produce to the markets. The poor zamindars and their bullocks work hard for the whole year, and when they have to carry their grain to the market they have to face much hardship owing to the wretched condition of these roads. If they are metalled, there will be a rapid increase in trade. And these roads can be metalled without much expense.

From Ludhiana up to Phillaur the road is metalled. From Phillaur to Lisara it is again metalled. From Lisara to Kang, about six miles, the road is unmetalled. From Lisara to Rahon, about 8 miles, it is again metalled. From Kang to Rahon the road is metalled, but is not in a good

[Ch. Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.]

condition. If these roads are metalled, Garh Shanker and Kangra will be connected with each other and the traffic will start between these districts on a large scale. The road which proceeds from Garh Shanker to Nawan Shahr is also unmetalled. It is the misfortune of the zamindars who are living in this area that these roads are unmetalled. Jullundur is very rich in the production of vegetables. The bullock-carts loaded with vegetables, starting from Garh Shanker, cannot reach their destination on account of bad roads. Sometimes they get stuck in the mud and have to wait for two or three days on the way thus spoiling their fresh and green vegetables. If this road is metalled, the whole Hoshiarpur area will become good.

Again, there is a straight road between Hoshiarpur and Phagwara. That portion of it which belongs to the State is good, but that which belongs to our Government, I am sorry to say, is bad. Once the Financial Commissioner had gone to Phagwara, and I went there to request him personally to do something for this road, but unfortunately he left for Hoshiarpur before I reached Phagwara. I, therefore, request the officers concerned that when they go there they should very kindly inspect that road. Another road goes from Rupar to Rahon. This, too, is unmetalled. The zamindars of this area have never had the good fortune of getting a metalled road. Their cattle are usually weak and they have to bear great hardships in carrying their agricultural produce to the markets. If this road is metalled, the condition of those zamindars will become far better.

The distance between Rahon and Rupar is 21 miles. The distance between Rupar and Simla is 60 miles. Now people go to Simla by a long route. If this road is constructed, this will be the shortest cut to Simla. Government officials go to Simla every year and use this route very often. If the new road is constructed, Government will save a lot of money. Besides, Rupar is at the head of the canal and is full of natural scenery. When officers go by this road, they will enjoy the scenery also. I think the officers have never gone to that side and have never taken notice of these things. I strongly request them that when they go to that side again they should carefully inspect the spot.

Rahon is at a distance of only five miles from Phillaur. The distance between Garh Shanker and Rahon is about three miles. Between Rahon and Rupar only there is a good distance. However, if all these roads are connected by means of metalled roads, they will be of immense benefit to the residents of this area.

In the end, I should like to request that on that road on the river Sutlej which goes from Rahon to Machhowarra and Ludhiana a bridge of boats may be constructed to facilitate the traffic. Those roads which go from Rahon to Machhowarra and Ludhiana may also be metalled. The unmetalled roads which exist already are in a worthless condition and are entirely unfit for traffic. Rahon had once a population of one lakh

3 P.M.

of souls but now it has not more than six thousand. It was formerly known for sugar and high class country made cloth. It is still a centre of trade. If as I have suggested a bridge is constructed there it will be conducive to the welfare of the people who are not at present very well off.



**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General) (*Urdu*): I would like to make a few observations with regard to the question now before the House. There are two kinds of roads. First the roads that run through a number of districts and are under the care of the Communication Board. They are called arterial roads, but their number is small. Secondly, there are roads which run within the same district and are under the charge of district boards. All of us are aware that most of the district boards have not sufficient funds to maintain these roads in good condition. Besides there is another difficulty and that is that in certain districts there are hill streams or nullas over which we cannot construct bridges without incurring very heavy expenditure. I know of two such cases. First the Bhimbar Nulla which runs through various parts of the Gujrat district and at times makes it impossible for the inhabitants of Kunjah to reach even Gujrat town, only 12 miles from Kunjah. The district board cannot afford to construct a bridge on this nulla. There is another nulla known as Dek which passes by Burj Attari and over which a bridge is absolutely necessary. But the district board concerned cannot construct a bridge over it without help from provincial funds. Of course there is financial stringency, but we should try to meet the situation and for that reason the suggestion made by the honourable member from Lyallpur is worth consideration. I would like to make another suggestion. We have read in the Press that Government of India have provided one crore of rupees for Village Reconstruction Work. I think it should include maintenance of roads, for if the rural people are not provided with good roads they are not likely to keep pace with urban people in national advancement. When we know that further extension of railways is impossible it is then roads alone to which we should give our attention. We should therefore not mind spending a fairly large sum on providing and maintaining good roads. With these words I support the motion now before the House.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I would like to say only a few words with regard to the motion now before the House. The question of roads is a very important one and as such it deserves careful consideration at our hands. No doubt good roads are absolutely necessary for the advancement of this country. I am in favour of pacca roads, but at the same time I do realise that if pacca roads are constructed throughout the province, the expenditure involved would be so great that it would be difficult to meet it from the revenues of the province. I would therefore request the Honourable Minister in charge of the department to find out means for providing the public with facilities in communication involving as little expenditure as possible. In this connection I submit on my personal experience that if some money is spent on kacha roads they can be used with advantage throughout the year except for a few days when rains set in. The recurring expenditure on pacca roads is already too heavy to permit us to embark on any new expensive scheme like the one suggested by the honourable member from Lyallpur. We should not consider any such scheme which may assume the form of the Hydro-Electric Scheme and saddle the province with great financial liabilities. I, therefore, request the Government to turn its attention to kacha roads for the present.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural): After hearing so many speeches on this question I pity the position of the Honourable Minister in charge all the more. The reason is that this question of fair distribution is a world-wide question of great difficulty. Here is the question of fair distribution of services, there is the question of fair distribution of seats; then there is fair distribution of wards and again the question of fair distribution of rights and loaves and fishes. In all these cases what may be fair distribution according to one man, may be most unfair distribution according to another. Opinions are bound to differ, judged from one standard a thing might be fair and judged from another standard it might be most unfair. Even the well-known poet Goldsmith was not satisfied when he had made his tour throughout the European countries to investigate whether happiness was equally and fairly divided among all human beings. We all remember that even after such a long distance of travel, he could not decide finally whether there was a fair distribution of happiness or whether there was an unfair distribution of it. But this does not mean that the Honourable Minister in charge should not take hints from what we say, for the only practical method for him is that when we make suggestions on the floor of this House he should go through the debates and listen to the speeches, and then he should make a selection himself uninfluenced by any extraneous considerations. He should judge only from the public opinion as expressed by this mirror of it on the floor of this House.

I do not agree with the views of my learned friend, Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram. His speech reminds me of a well-known Persian saying :

دیکران را نصیحت کردن را نصیحت

i.e., it is ridiculous to preach to others while you act yourself contrary to that preaching. He started with the criticism that it is very bad for a member of one constituency to suggest that we should have a road in his constituency and for a speaker from another constituency to say that he should have a road in his constituency and, so on, but that there should be suggestions of a general nature. But he ended by himself committing the same mistake because he impressed on us that the Lyallpur-Jhang road was the most important road compared with all the roads in the province, and that the metalling of this road be taken in hand at once. I submit, that several suggestions should be made by various members representing various constituencies, and a selection should be made by the Minister. This is on a bigger scale the question of distribution of light points in various wards in the municipalities. Every ward member suggests the reasons why he wants light points in his ward while the others give reasons why they want light points in their wards. What do we do there? We take down their suggestions one by one, take down the reasons in support of each and reasons against each of them and then finally at the end of the year take into consideration our budget position and our finance and then we decide that on such and such a point light should be put and on such and such a point it should be refused. In the same way this should be done.

I have heard a lot spoken about the Mianwali district, and I think one point which my honourable friend Captain Muzaffar Khan suggested has been left out. He said that the biggest reason in addition to the one given by Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan why the arterial road of Mianwali should have preference over others is that there is only 17 miles of pacca road in the whole of the district excluding municipal roads. This state of affairs is horrible taking into consideration the political and administrative importance of the district, this is another reason, and I should say the greatest reason, to satisfy us that that road demands our attention most of all. I would in my turn call the attention of the Honourable Minister through you to the road leading from Samrial to Jhang. (*A voice: Digra nashiyat*) (*laughter*). This does not fall in the category mentioned by Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram. This is not a road in which I am interested through my constituency. My constituency is Gujranwala (Muhammadian), i. e., one district, and the road extends over four districts—Sialkot, Gujranwala, Shahpur and Jhang. As mentioned by Raja Sahib this is a first class road which demands our attention most of all. From the military point of view this road will serve a high purpose in the way of communication of troops and rations so far as the distance covered by this road is concerned. The road is all right up to Hafizabad, and from that place it is all kacha. I am not in favour of kacha roads like the honourable member for Lahore, because I have seen that these kacha roads are not suitable, especially during the rainy season, as vehicles and animals, in fact everything gets stuck to kacha roads. So spending money on kacha roads is not as good as our spending money on pacca roads. Experience shows that pacca roads should be repaired and not kacha because they do more harm than good, especially when new earth is put on them. Why I want to lay stress especially on this is because of the fact that this road leads through four districts and is one of the biggest means of communication between district and district, and because it is one of the biggest means of transport of goods, and because if only ten miles from Hafizabad, up to Rasulpur are metalled, the whole trouble vanishes. For these reasons I support the cut motion.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Fazl Ali** (Gujrat East, Muhammadian, Rural) (*Urdu*): The question of roads is so very important that one is tempted to say something about it even though he may have no intention to do so. Another reason why I have got up to make certain observations about this matter is that I fear that otherwise my silence may be misconstrued, and it may be misunderstood that there is not much need for roads in that part of the province which I represent. Otherwise I am fully aware that there is no prospect of provision being made for the purpose and the money placed at the disposal of the Communication Board for these roads being increased, at least for sometime to come. Of course this money must be utilised in the best possible way. I feel that the proposal made by Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath is objectionable on the face of it. If one lakh of rupees, out of the provision for roads, were to be spent as suggested by the Raja Sahib, I need hardly say that many of the roads in the rural area, which must be attended to first, will have to be left uncarred for. I may repeat again that the grant made to the Communication Board is very small so much so that it has not been possible to even make the services of a camp clerk available to

[K. B. Nawab Fazl Ali.]

the Commissioner and another for his assistant which they both stand in great need of. I want to say that so far as there is not sufficient money for roads in every district of the province, it is essential that every care should be taken to make the present grant for roads over the province fairly as has been urged by the previous speakers. In giving grants for the roads it should be seen which districts of the province have already received a share and how much share they have received. It should also be seen which of the districts require to be first attended to and which part of the province requires money and how much. If all these things are taken into consideration I do not think that anyone of us will have any cause to complain so far as this matter is concerned. I do not know whether all the districts of the province are represented on the Board, or whether arrangement is made to consult the needs of every district, but if some such method is adopted, this difficulty will be easily solved. What I mean, in short, is that no pains should be spared to distribute the grant evenly and fairly over the different parts of the province.

I may also be permitted to say that I cannot agree with my honourable friend from Gujranwala who was pleased to say in his speech that kacha roads served no useful purpose. He went so far as to say that these unmetalled roads prove rather harmful and, therefore, no money should be spent on them. There is no doubt that in the rainy season the condition of these kacha roads becomes very bad so much so that sometimes traffic on them is totally impossible. But it does not mean that we should not spend money on them and should not keep them in good repair. On the contrary we must improve their condition. At this time of financial stringency we cannot afford to have metalled roads everywhere, and in the absence of such roads we have to depend upon kacha roads, particularly in the rural areas. These roads are particularly useful when they connect, after six or seven miles, a village with a pacca road and make it possible for the carts to carry goods to the markets. Therefore it would be a suicidal policy to abandon the scheme of kacha roads particularly in view of the interests of the rural population. While on this point I may as well say that besides kacha and pacca roads there is another class of roads which are disturbed by hilly nullas such as in the northern part of the Gujrat district. Such roads require more attention and more money for their maintenance, it is necessary that such roads should be classed as hilly roads. The roads on the north of this Grand Trunk Road which passes through Gujrat are such roads, and, if they are classed as hill roads, I think we will be able to demand more attention and more money for them. May I hope that the Government will kindly help us to improve the condition of these roads as well when it undertakes to improve the condition of other roads in the province?

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Non-official, nominated): Hitherto the speakers have made suggestions which if adopted will involve placing of funds at the disposal of the Chief Engineer. I am going to confine my remarks to unmetalled roads, and will place before the Council something which I learnt in a pamphlet from America. That pamphlet did not refer to these roads as "unmetalled" but spoke of them as "earth roads," and they divided all their earth roads into two parts, one part which was sandy and the other part which was clayey. They began by improving the clayey lengths. Then they decided to find the

percentage up to which sand does not have an adverse effect, and it can still be called a clayey road. That percentage I have forgotten.

Then they found that roughly it could be said that a road was clayey when after rainfall the marks of the hoofs of animals and ruts made by vehicles took the longest to wear out. Where the percentage of sand is larger there the marks of hoofs and ruts of vehicles got worn out more easily and the road resumed its former shape more quickly. In this way they were able to decide upon the lengths of roads which could be improved upon more easily. Having done that, their observation showed that the reason why earth roads get worn out sooner is because they are low in the middle and higher on the sides, and, therefore, rain water stands and softens the earth of the road and, therefore, as soon as a vehicle comes along it cuts a rut into it which otherwise would not have taken place. Then they decided that water should not be allowed to stand in the middle of the road. One way was that earth be imported and spread upon the road giving it a one-way slope so that one part of the road is higher and the other part is lower, so that the rain water flows away or even the water coming from a burst canal also flows away to one side. Then they found that the cheaper way was by scraping the earth from half the width and spreading it upon the other half. In this way according to circumstances they have found that a slope from 6 inches to about 18 inches varying with the width of the road was a suitable slope. In this way they found that their clayey road lengths remained good for a very much longer period. When it rained the water flowed to one side and the higher part of the earth road remained dry and the vehicles did no damage and people were able to pass in comfort. After a time when the water dried up then the rest of the road also became available for traffic. In this way half the width of the road was at all times available for traffic. Now, I cannot tell what the cost per mile would be of improving a road like this. It would require a little repair every year here and there, but the total cost even if the earth had to be imported would probably not exceed Rs. 400 a mile in the first instance. But this is a matter which is for the engineers to consider. This is what I learnt from a pamphlet from America, and I place this information before the Council.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh** (Sikh, Urban) : I will be failing in my duty if I do not ventilate grievance of the people on my side of the province in connection with road development. Means of communication are certainly necessary for the development of a country, and I think that roads should satisfy two conditions before their construction should be undertaken. The first is that a road should connect two important towns involving heavy traffic. Secondly, those roads which connect a place with a railway station must be given preference over other roads which run along a railway line. For this reason I would urge upon the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to take into consideration the connection of Mian Channu and Burewala by a metalled road. There is no railway line leading from Mian Channu to Burewala, and there is very heavy traffic between these two places, because both the places are very important business centres. There are metalled portions of this road from both ends, but there is a distance of about 10 or 12 miles which remains unmetalled with the result that the road becomes impassable for traffic during the rains. Wherever there is a pacca road and a patch is left unmetalled that patch ought to be completed first and should

[S. S. Sardar Ujjal Singh.]

not be allowed to remain in that condition. There is another important road running from Rupar to Anandpur and from Hoshiarpur to Anandpur which should be provincialised and metalled. Anandpur is a place of pilgrimage for Sikhs, and is an important town, but there are no means of communications. That road also must be metalled and made safe for traffic.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural) : I do not rise to put forth the claims of one road or another, but to raise a general question of fair distribution of roads throughout the province. It is absolutely necessary that Government should take the village roads or what I may call apologies for roads, in hand. These roads in villages are no roads at all. There are ditches and there are small hillocks on the road ; and there are branches of trees on both sides of the roads which would not even allow a pedestrian to walk safely without getting his turban removed by the trees. If these roads are taken in hand I am definitely of opinion that it would not cost much to Government. It is only a question of directing attention to that side ; and if this is done I am sure it would be of immense help to *gaddis* and pedestrians who use those roads.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : As Minister in charge of communications I find the speeches that I have heard from various members very encouraging. It means an awakened interest in communications on the part of honourable members. Sardar Sampuran Singh pointed out that we not only require arterial roads but also village roads properly maintained. I hope that as the finances of the province improve village communications will also improve.

As to the even distribution of funds for roads in the province, perhaps honourable members will be interested to know that our first road classification scheme was prepared in the days of Sir Malcolm Hailey, who knew almost all the districts of the Punjab, and who took keen personal interest in preparing the programme. My friend, Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan talked of haphazard system of road building. I may say that we consulted all deputy commissioners as to the road requirements of their districts. Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan was then one of the deputy commissioners, and he also was consulted. It was after careful consideration of the proposals of deputy commissioners that this scheme of arterial roads was prepared. We are still trying to carry out this programme. It is true, as some honourable members remarked, that the progress has not been as rapid as might be desired, but within the funds granted by this Council we are trying to fill up the gaps in that road scheme. There are gaps still existing which will have to be filled up before we can take up any more roads.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** : Can the Honourable Minister give us an idea as to how long it will take to complete this scheme ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** : It will take another three or four years. I may also mention that within this period of six years more than 300 miles of metalled road have been added. My friend, Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram, suggested that we had better borrow a crore of rupees and build as many roads as we require in the province. Nobody will be more pleased than myself to adopt this proposal, but no honourable

member has pointed out as to how the maintenance charges and debt services are to be met.

I quite realise the position of honourable members who have brought forward the needs of their villages and towns. If I were on the other side I would also have brought forward the needs of my villages to the fore. Every member certainly wishes that the roads in his vicinity should be improved. But I am sure honourable members realise that the building of new roads depends upon the finances of the province. All I claim is that even during this period of depression we have not only maintained the roads but improved them.

Now, coming to the specific problem of some of the roads about which honourable members drew especial attention, I can promise then, as Chaudhri Riasat Ali desired, that any proposals that have been made in this House will be carefully considered by my department and when funds are available, and if they are considered desirable they will be taken in hand. But for the next year I may give the House a list of roads which we propose to construct and for which we have provided funds. They are—

	Rs.
Metalling Lyallpur-Sargodha Road ..	2,00,000
Metalling Badopal-Sirsa Road .. ..	45,000
Metalling Multan-Jehanian Road .. ..	99,000
Metalling Sulemanke-Pakpattan Road .. ..	1,20,000
Metalling Sohna-Rewari Road .. ..	1,25,000
Metalling Malout-Abohar Road .. ..	1,25,000
Metalling and improvement to Ramdas-Basanter Nulla Road .. ..	73,000
Diversion of Grand Trunk Road, Jhelum .. ..	33,000
Widening Lahore-Ferozepore Road .. ..	50,000

Further we have applied for a grant from the reserve with the Government of India for taking up —

	Rs.
Ghatta-Mandi Road .. ..	1,40,000
Diversion of Sulemanki-Pakpattan Road .. ..	1,20,000
Lyallpur-Thikriwala Road .. ..	2,80,000
Taoru-Rewari Road .. ..	1,12,000
Pind Dadan Khan-Khewra Road .. ..	1,08,000
Khewra-Choa Saidan Shah Road .. ..	1,19,000
Choa Saidan Shah-Chakwal Road .. ..	82,000
Sheikh Fazil-Chichawatni Road .. ..	1,60,000
Chakwal-Talagang Road .. ..	93,000
Improvement of Larji-Luri Road .. ..	2,00,000

I am sure honourable members will agree that our programme embraces almost all the important districts of the Punjab. Regarding Mianwali-Khushab Road our programme was to complete it in two sections, the first

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

section from Khushab to Bundial at a cost of Rs. 1,18,000 and the second from Bundial to Mianwali costing Rs. 98,000. On this road already Rs. 50,000 have been spent. But a difficulty has since arisen. The Government of India committee that came to visit these roads after very careful examination of these roads have suggested that as this road lies parallel to the railway we should for the present not metal this road, but maintain it in good condition. Perhaps honourable members are aware that within the last two years Government of India have been taking a great deal of interest as to the ultimate results of rail-road competition. The Government of India or rather the people of India have invested 800 crores in railways, and if any competition interferes with the income of railways it would materially go against the interests of the general public. Therefore they have suggested to us that we should take greater interest in feeder roads; and I wish to inform the House that the department has been asked to take up the re-examination of our road programme with a view to prepare a plan for making more and more feeder roads connecting up villages. I am sure that when this new programme is ready, the objection which Sardar Sampuran Singh raised would be fully met and no more turbans of Sikh Sardars or Maliks passing along the roads will be removed by the thorns of *ber* trees.

Another matter to which I may draw attention of honourable members is on what basis we were providing roads in each district. I find that the present average for the Punjab is that for every 5,935 persons we have one mile of pacca road and for 2,678 persons one mile of kacha road. In some districts, such as Mianwali, the requirements of this population in the matter of roads have not been met. In Rohtak, to which Sardar Habib Ullah drew attention, every 3,399 persons have a mile of metalled road. I can assure honourable members that the needs of each district are studied both from the population point of view and from the point of view of traffic. I can assure you that any suggestions which the honourable members can make will be fully considered. I am sure the honourable mover will not press this cut motion to a division. The road problem is a very important problem for the province, but, as I said in the beginning, the problem depends on the finances of the province. As the finances improve communications will improve and with improved communications trade and industries will improve. In any case the province may well be proud that the Punjab roads are considered the best in the whole of India. Regarding the working of the Communications Board, we only get a small grant of 3 lakhs for 28 districts. What can we do with it? I would, therefore, ask the honourable member to withdraw his motion.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

*(Leave to withdraw not being granted).*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

*The motion was lost.*



*Tenders for Public Works Department Works.*

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammadan, Urban) :  
I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

I do not want to sling mud on any official. When I see that the Honourable Minister is in a mood and also the Government is in a mood to accede to our request that the whole question should be referred to and discussed by the committee which he is going to appoint, I will withdraw my motion. But my friend over there, the Chief Engineer, asked us to quote chapter and verse. I think this is one of the most dangerous demands ever made by any official.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member will please speak to the amendment.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** I am speaking to that, Sir. Luckily in my hand I have got a question which is going to be put by a certain member in this House. I see that certain information is being sought for, and that is with regard to the contracts for the foundation of the new Council Chamber. The sum involved is Rs. 1,50,000 and one would have supposed that the Honourable Minister in charge or the officer in charge would have called for tenders by spending some money on advertisements. What happened seems to be that a small slip of paper was put on the notice board calling for tenders, and there is no evidence whether that slip was there for 10 hours or whether it was torn away immediately after by some subordinate officer. The result was that only one tender came, and a firm got the contract without competition. Would a municipality, which did such a thing, have been easily let off by Government? Would a municipality have called for tenders for such a big amount by simply affixing a notice on its notice board? If this can be done for an amount of Rs. 1,50,000, we may rightly conclude that it is being done for lakhs and lakhs of rupees also. We want to put a stop to the whole thing. In the municipalities we ask for tenders even for Rs. 100. So I want this principle to be accepted by the Government. Unless the Government agrees to refer this question also to a committee, I will not withdraw this cut. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees are being spent on repairs and other things and nobody knows what the rates are. My suggestion is that tenders should be called for rates for repairs or minor works costing below Rs. 1,000 for the current year in a specified area, and that for works of higher value tenders should be called for through advertisements in newspapers and that in all cases contracts should be given to persons quoting the lowest rates. There should be no chance for jobbery. I am sure that if tenders are called for and the lowest rate is accepted much of the trouble will be gone. The tenders should be properly advertised in newspapers, so that everybody will have a chance to apply. Otherwise it is impossible to stop dishonesty and corruption in the department. We hear so much against municipal administration. But if a committee were to go into the affairs about the Public Works Department they will be absolutely shocked. What is the explanation for such a thing? The architect called for a tender and he got only one tender. Five or six Europeans firms wired to him saying that they

<sup>1</sup>To call for tenders for minor works, to call for tenders for major works by advertisements and to accept lowest tenders.

[Sh. Muhammad Sadiq.]

were ready to give their tenders, and that they were not given previous notice. But no, the architect had no time to spare. Now was it right on the part of the department to accept only one tender? Is the Council going to sit there within the next two or three weeks that the department should be in such a hurry? Could they have not given two or three weeks more time for the European firms to submit their tenders? The whole thing is due to the inefficiency of the department and also favouritism. I will not use a stronger word than that. But it is mere inefficiency, and this should be stopped, and the sooner it is done, the better. Look at the sum involved. My friend, Sardar Sampuran Singh, said that probably in the Punjab it is the engineers and contractors that are making a lot of money. They have better chances than anybody else to make money. The supervision is lax in the Public Works Department. The Chief Engineer, single-handed cannot do anything. There must be certain rules to guide them and those rules should be decided upon by this Council. We should stop this corruption and jobbery in the department. We are not attacking any individual and we have no intention to attack any individual. But day after day we hear complaints about this department. There are good honest engineers. But everybody knows that there is a bigger body of contractors and engineers who are not strictly honest. We have only to see some of the big buildings owned by these contractors, and engineers who get a monthly income of Rs. 200 or Rs. 300. Look at their motor cars, horses, cows, buffaloes, etc.

If the Honourable Minister agrees to refer this question to the committee he proposes to constitute in connection with the question of rates, I will withdraw my motion.

**Mr. E. Mayadas :** May I ask the honourable member a question?

Does he mean to say that tenders should not be called for works below the value of one thousand?

4 P. M.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** If he reads my speech he will find that all I said was that tenders should be called for works costing even one thousand rupees, but they need not be advertised. Tenders for works over the value of one thousand must be advertised.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I undertook to appoint a committee to consider the question of rates. I agree that the committee will also consider the procedure to be followed in giving contracts. I hope that in view of this assurance, the honourable member will not press his motion.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** In view of the Honourable Minister's offer to refer this question also to the committee which is to consider the question of rates, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Re. 78,01,700 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

## CIVIL WORKS RESERVED.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 94,800 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, 1936, in respect of Civil Works (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

## SCIENTIFIC AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,90,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred) and Miscellaneous (Transferred).

**Mr. President:** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,90,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred) and Miscellaneous (Transferred).

*Punjab Public Library.*

**Mr. Manohar Lal** (Punjab University): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 16,000—Grant to Punjab Public Library.

In commending this motion, the only motion that I have ever sponsored, I plead for support to an institution of undoubted public utility, an institution also which is very dear to my own heart. In pressing the claims of this institution on the attention of the Government, I am sure, we members of this House can speak with a united voice, because we seek in this to further the common and the general good of all, and are not concerned with the particular advantage of any section or party. It is a matter of gratification that we can now, after the excitements and agitated advocacies of the past three days, study the serene interests of intellectual advance, the advancement of knowledge as also a proper occupation for the leisure hours of our daily increasing educated unemployed. I trust that in approaching this question we shall not have any difference of opinion amongst members of this Council, and if I am pressing this motion, it is not with any view to attack any Ministry or any member of the Government. My object is to draw pointed attention to a great public institution in this town of Lahore and crave the utmost support that this House can give to this great cause. The Punjab Government has helped the Punjab Public Library in three ways. One is that they gave us a building. Now that building was given a very long time ago.

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by the Deputy President).*

<sup>1</sup>To draw attention of Government to the inadequacy of accommodation, and of the grant to the Library.

[Mr. Manohar Lal.]

So long that at any rate I who remember my life as a student in Lahore continuously for 40 years have no personal recollection. But whatever the suitability or the absence of suitability of that building which we all know, was when it was given for this purpose, and it can never be claimed that it was suitable even then, the Punjab Public Library in the course of time has long outgrown all possibility of proper accommodation in that building, and I recollect myself that during the last 15 or 20 years the matter has been actively canvassed by those who are in charge of the administration of the Library and the Punjab Government to find suitable accommodation for the one public library that our great province has in the capital town of Lahore, and it is a matter of regret to me, and it must be a matter of regret to all of us, that we have not yet a proper house for this institution of great public utility and importance. So far as the question of accommodation is concerned, may I say that while naturally the number of books in the Library has been steadily on the increase, and I shall tell the House presently how much that increase is, our accommodation, in the extremely small and inappropriate building, is seriously limited, and now for several years we have reached a position that our books have to be piled higher and higher seeking darker and darker corners of that unsuitable building, and stand in danger of seriously losing daily in value because of those improper climatic and other conditions where books are so hopelessly congested and placed in, dark house. The next thing that the Punjab Government has given the Library is this. It has provided the Punjab Public Library with an agency for administering the Library, and this agency consists of more than 20 members, and may I inform this House that the president of our Library Committee has been for a long time and is even now an Honourable Judge of the High Court who gives his valuable time to the administration of the Library. Not only this we have on the managing committee of the Library the Honourable Minister for Agriculture; we have an honourable gentleman who occupies the high office of Financial Commissioner, Mr. Latifi, and we have the privilege of having in our Library Committee the Secretary of the Government, Mr. Sanderson, who is himself in charge of this particular department. Thus there are three high placed Government officials who are directly concerned with the administration of this Library along with a High Court Judge; this gives ample guarantee, if guarantee were required, that this Library is well administered. In addition to these gentlemen Government nominates something like 17 or 18 other members, and I have had the privilege of being a nominee of the Government for something like 20 years. We have on this Library Committee representatives of the Municipality of Lahore, the Lahore Gymkhana, the Punjab University and the Bishop of Lahore; that is, of important public bodies, and of gentlemen who have academic associations. In addition to that we have on our committee a certain number of professors and some honourable members of this House like my friend Raja Narendra Nath and Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram, and we have also every community represented on the managing committee. One may, therefore, say at once that the Government has mobilized the strongest possible agency for the administration of the Punjab Public Library, yet we are ill-housed, inadequately housed, miserably housed, and, I shall say with all confidence, worse housed than any library of anything like the standard

of the Punjab Public Library in the whole of this country. This is the second thing which the Government has given us and has given to us in ample measure, furnishing the largest possible guarantee of efficient administration. The third thing which the Government gives us, and here I can only speak with real regret is the very poor annual grant which the Government gives to this one public Library in the province. That grant in the year 1929-30 about six years ago stood roughly at a round figure of about Rs. 20,000 a year. Then two years back for reasons roughly described as financial stringency it was reduced by two steps to the low figures of Rs. 16,000. I want the honourable members just to picture to themselves for a moment what a library of that magnitude means and what the paltry sum of Rs. 16,000 a year signifies. I for one do not think that any cause of retrenchment in this province calls for a reduction of Rs. 4,000 in the extremely slender grant which the Punjab Government was making to the Punjab Public Library. At any rate the time has long past in view of the restoration of many other cuts, when the Punjab Public Library should have been placed on the old grant of Rs. 20,000. Let me for one moment explain what this sum of Rs. 20,000 really meant. We have out of that sum and a small contribution from one or two bodies and from the subscription we are able to raise from life members and annual subscribers, to meet the costs of a staff, we have to provide the general equipment of the library and we have to meet charges on account of light and electricity in summer months and we have also to buy books. The result is, that we are able to purchase in this province for this Public Library books only of the value of about Rs. 10,000 a year.

Every one of us is aware that as years pass the number of books increases rapidly that even a modest library in the Punjab must possess if it is going to function properly and adequately. We have been under the lamentable necessity during the last year in budgeting even for this Rs. 10,000 for books to entrench to some extent on our small reserve of about Rs. 11,000 that we had built up by slow economy. We have been able to spend even this small sum of Rs. 10,000 on books because we have, call it a measure of retrenchment, call it a measure of absolute necessity, stopped the small honorarium that we used to give to our librarian, and we have been under the necessity of even cutting off half the portion of his telephone charges, the small amenity that we used to give to our librarian. And I think the House will take it from me, because I have got the figures, if necessary, that our staff is on the lowest possible basis compared with that of any library with half the books in India at the present time. We are working on the most economical basis and yet we cannot buy sufficient books. I will give two figures. But before I do that perhaps the House will permit me a little personal reference. The Government gives us or used to give us Rs. 20,000 and it has been cut down to Rs. 16,000. You have now some idea, of who the members of this Library are. I will give you an illustration of one which is best known to me and that is, myself. Will you take my word that I myself give three hours a week to the selection of books for the Punjab Public Library? And, never has this been interrupted even during the period when I myself as a member of the Government had the privilege of holding in my portfolio the charge of this Library. So dear has been the cause of this institution to one who represents among the public a reader in your province. We are giving of our

[Mr. Manohar Lal.]

best. Is the Library a proper matter of any economy for the Government to exercise? Can we call ourselves a Government that is dealing properly and fairly by its people, by its growing number of the educated, by its increasing number of graduates every year and under-graduates, with the vast amount of unemployment that prevails among the educated classes who have the right to ask the Government to provide them with facilities for reading because that is the one thing they require. Is it right for the Government, howsoever stringent and exiguous the financial circumstances of a big Government like that of the richest province in India as we call ourselves be, to give us no more than Rs. 16,000? We are proud of what the Library administration has been able to achieve in more than one sphere of activity. It will interest you, certainly it interests me as a Punjabi and I am proud of it, that the number of books that were taken out during the last year out of this Library, either borrowed and read or referred to, is higher than in any Library in India at the present moment. In spite of the fact that our accommodation is poor, that we provide no manner of facility for the seating of these readers and those who come to refer to these books, in spite of this serious inconvenience from which we suffer and in spite of the fact that our books in that building are not easily accessible the number of books that were read and referred to in 1931-32 was 110,000, in 1932-33 1,14,000, and in 1933-34, 1,20,000. The only Library that makes any approach to this in India is the Baroda Central Library which came very near our figures but still below ours. The Imperial Library at Calcutta is far below us. It might be said that library facilities otherwise have been growing in Lahore to some extent. May I say this at once that no library facilities that have grown up in Lahore are either comparable to the facilities in the way of the type of books available in the Punjab Public Library, or these libraries are not all available to the public. Often their books are of a specialist character from which the public can derive no profit. May I in this connection be permitted to refer to another library which I know quite as well and that is the Punjab University Library. That is a library for the specialists and the learned men and a person who just keeps his contact with reading matter with sufficient interest in two or three subjects with which one has developed acquaintance at one stage or other in one's life, even a fellow like myself, would feel deterred by the heavy specialised and difficult volumes which find a place on the shelves of the Punjab University Library and for very good reasons. Other libraries are of a much smaller and narrower character directed either more on the side of religion or, it may be, trade, industry or fiction. But we cater, if I may use the expression in connection with a library, for readers of all kinds. We are proud to feel that we have had the testimony of some of the highest scholars who have come to our University time and again, in order to give us lectures on Art subjects, not Science subjects, declaring definitely that the Punjab Public Library contains within its four walls, howsoever ill-housed, as fine a collection of general reading matter as any one could desire. Is it too much to ask that for the good name of our province, in order to provide adequate reading material for our young men in whom we are all interested that they cultivate their leisure properly—and I think the Honourable Minister for Education the other day said that we ought to be doing everything that

we can for the educated unemployed—is it too much to ask that the Government should think seriously of raising the grant of the Punjab Public Library to an adequate basis? Our own humble demands were pitched no higher than the restoration of the cut, only an additional Rs. 4,000. But let me say frankly that if I had my say this province is not doing justice to the cause of the general reader for whom a public library is intended if it cannot put its hand a little deeper in its pocket and give the library with all the heavy administrative machinery which the Government itself has mobilised and the efficiency that it has secured a sum of at least half a lakh. Give us a proper building, raise our grant and do not think of exercising any petty economy in this matter. The number of our educated is increasing fast and we should, with equal rapidity at least provide them with healthy reading matter. I as a member of the Council whom honourable members have, if I may say so, been always disposed to listen with consideration and indulgence, am able to give the assurance that we try to do the very best for our general reading public. I therefore invite honourable members to join with me in pressing upon the Honourable Finance Member and the Honourable Minister for Education in whose charge the subject is to look upon our demand with greater generosity. The Honourable Education Minister has visited the Library himself. I am not here to give expression to the kindly remarks which he has made to us. He visited the Library so recently as the last year and I am quite sure, and I shall not accept an official denial even from him, that he is absolutely and completely in sympathy with the demand which I am giving expression to to-day. What, then, should stand in the way of his giving effect to what I am sure is as much his wish as it is mine? *(Cheers)*.

**Mr. Deputy President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 16,000—Grant to Punjab Public Library.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) *(Urdu)*: We should be very grateful to Mr. Manohar Lal for laying before the House certain genuine grievances of the public with regard to the Punjab Public Library. I have visited the Library and I feel that neither the Punjab Government nor the Lahore Municipal Committee has made any efforts to improve its condition. In fact this is the only Library worth the name in Lahore city. There is of course another library, the Dyal Singh Library, but the general public only go to the Punjab Public Library. In the Lahore Municipal Library we find only a few periodicals and newspapers. It is really disgraceful on the part of the Lahore Municipal Committee to maintain such a library when their actual annual expenditure exceeds Rs. 86 lakhs. In other provinces there are very good and useful libraries but in this province we do not find any such library for the use of the reading public. If the Honourable Minister had taken the trouble of visiting the Punjab Public Library *(An honourable member : He has gone there)* he would have seen that it was so miserably housed that one cannot conveniently sit and read books there for a few hours.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Has it deteriorated now in the time of the Honourable Minister or was it so even in the time of his predecessor? *(Laughter)*.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Its condition is as bad as ever. (*An honourable member :* It may continue to remain so). Goodness knows. One does not find sufficient light in various rooms, for the ventilators are covered by book-shelves. I feel that I am not very well educated and I cannot therefore make any useful suggestion. But because I am also fond of reading books and I also visit this library sometimes, I feel inclined to say something on the subject. I know that Government wants to take work out of us but it does not take us into its confidence. Anyhow I would suggest that Government would do well if they nominate one or two members of the House to the managing committee of the Punjab Public Library. If that is done, the nominated members would be able from time to time to lay before the House all matters pertaining to the Library. I am sorry to submit that our own Library, the Punjab Council Library is not as dignified and up-to-date a library as it ought to be. But that is by the way. If you want to maintain an up-to-date library you should first secure for this a very fine building and then the very best books on various subjects. And for that we need large funds. Ordinarily we pass these budgets as they are placed before us. But if we take a little trouble in scrutinising the various items of expenditure, I am sure we can sufficiently provide for all these things. With these words I support the motion now before the House.

**Mr. R. Sanderson** (Director of Public Instruction) : I have listened with very great interest to the eloquent and very heavily gunned speech of my honourable friend, the member for the Punjab University. It is not the first time that I have heard him speak with considerable feeling on this matter and I may venture to say that in speaking on this matter none speaks with better right. We know of his profound scholarship and we know how much he feels for the Library. Very few of us know as well as I do how much of his valuable time he gives every week to our Public Library. I sit on its managing committee when my official duties permit me and I know how many hours he spends in careful and informed study. His advice is wise and I find that by the Committee, consisting as he said of various learned gentlemen and the Director of Public Instruction, his advice is almost constantly sought.

Again I would accept much of what he said about the Library. The Library is most inadequately housed. I do not know how many use it, but it is almost impossible to find a book quickly and comfortably and easily. That is one reason perhaps why our membership is so low and consequently our income from membership fees. But, I would point out that it is not so vilely and abominably housed as many of the girls' schools in this province or in Lahore city. It is possible that capital expenditure may be more necessary elsewhere than for library buildings. But on the whole it is safe to say that Government fully realises the inadequacy of the accommodation as it stands at present. I am betraying no official secret, I believe, when I say that in 1928 Sir Malcolm Hailey spoke to me about the possibility of using my present office which is an extensive building with some little amount of land around it laid out as a garden, as a public library, on that remote day when I could be housed in the new Secretariat. That remote day has become much more remote. I do not think that any of us here will live to see the day when the Education Department is moved into a commodious and imposing building in the new Secretariat. I cannot hope for that.



Therefore it remains for us to consider the possibility of extension on the present site. I have gone into this matter over and over again with my friend the Library Secretary and with my friends the members of the Committee on one occasion. It might be possible in the course of a few years, if money should be available, to begin extensions. The plans that I have seen are such that we could put up a first class building on a small scale, but in consonance with a general plan of development which ultimately would give us a building worthy of our library which I believe is the second best in India. Then it will be possible for people to get books in comfort and with celerity. That cannot be done at the moment. It will also be possible for them to read the periodicals in a decent room. I assure the University Member that amongst the items of capital expenditure which will come within the purview of my department this will be one of those that will receive earlier considerations. I have indicated certain other items of capital expenditure on which I may be called upon to advise Government which are of greater importance, but still this will rank as a proposal of importance. I should like the honourable member to accept my assurance in this matter.

I turn to that other thing more familiar to me—the question of a recurring grant. Recurring grants are amongst the greater burdens of my life. They have turned me gray in eight years. I think the honourable member was not entirely exact in his statements about the amounts of these grants. I find from a file which I have inherited from another department that in 1929-30 Government grant to the Public Library was Rs. 18,000.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** It was Rs. 19,700.

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** That is introducing another item which I do not think is relevant to this debate. This was a scheme originally sanctioned about 1923 for an attempt to make the Public Library what they would call in the Navy the "mother ship" to smaller libraries throughout the province. It was sanctioned in the first case for two years, and it was carried on for some time. The actual grant-in-aid to the Library for its own special functions was Rs. 18,000. Other receipts amounted to Rs. 7,778. That probably is entirely the membership subscription, and I should think that also represents now about the amount we draw from membership. The membership runs somewhere near 1,000. That represents a very fair proportion of Government grant to expenditure from other sources.

Then as a matter of retrenchment—and retrenchment, as we all know, is a very dire necessity—my honourable friend the Minister for Education sanctioned reluctantly a reduction in the grant of Rs. 2,000. That represents, roughly speaking, a percentage cut of 11 per cent. But during that time under that same dire necessity I have had to cut down my educational budget, by far more than 11 per cent., and that budget has not yet been fully restored. Therefore I plead that I have not been severe or step-motherly in my treatment of the Public Library. The actual cut in grant is much less than we applied to our schools, and it is probably much less than was applied to any other department. But as soon as the grant is restored to schools, I think we shall be fully justified in restoring this grant and going beyond it.

The member for the University touched a very soft spot in my heart when he referred to the proper employment of leisure time. In writing and in words I have constantly urged the very great importance in education of

[Mr. R. Sanderson.]

providing the youth of our province with the proper means of spending their leisure time—healthily, wisely, happily and profitably—and I hope that a love of reading can be fostered by our libraries as a most important factor in developing the use of leisure time. Therefore, I think it may be assumed that when it is financially possible, the attention of Government will be given directly and earnestly to achieving the object which my honourable friends desire.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural):

I also rise to support the motion moved by the honourable member representing the Punjab University (Mr. Manohar Lal). He has put the case so plainly and in such a lucid manner that there is hardly anything left to be said on the subject. His vast knowledge and his long experience and his close touch with the Library have eminently fitted him to speak on the subject, and I may say that whatever he has spoken may be taken as gospel truth. I had once the privilege of being associated with the Library, and was for sometime a member of the committee of the Library. I found from my own experience that it was in such a rotten condition that it would not be called a library in any sense of the term. Even now the building is such that it is not comfortable for anybody to sit there for even an hour. The finances of the Library are so bad that the committee is handicapped in the matter of adding books to the Library. I remember once a highly placed gentleman suggested the purchase of some very useful books, but simply because there were no funds those books could not be added to the Library. I have my full sympathy for the demand made by the honourable member for University, and I give my whole-hearted support to the motion. Even some years ago when the honourable member was a Minister holding charge of this department I suggested to him the desirability of improving the Library, but I do not know why he could not give effect to my suggestion. Perhaps funds were not available to Government then. But now there can be no justification for not raising the grant to the Library to what it used to be in pre-depression days, that is, to Rs. 20,000. I therefore whole-heartedly support the motion.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural):

We have listened to two very interesting speeches, one by the honourable member for University and the other by the Director of Public Instruction. If I rise to speak in favour of the motion it is only to strengthen the hands of the Director of Public Instruction and the Minister for Education in making a demand for more money from the Finance Department for grant to this Library. Unfortunately in the province neither the people nor the Government recognise the extreme necessity and utility of having a well-equipped and well-furnished Library. The honourable member for the Punjab University and the Director of Public Instruction may be proud that our Library is the second in importance in India. But I must point out that it bears absolutely no comparison with any of the big libraries in European countries. The British Museum and libraries of equal importance in France, Italy and other countries stand on a far higher level than ours. Our Library dwindles into insignificance when compared with those libraries I have just mentioned. There are many books even in an ordinary library in a big European town which we cannot find in our Library. It is, therefore,

not a matter of pride but of extreme shame and regret that our province which is said to be the richest province in India does not possess a library which can stand comparison with the biggest libraries of European countries.

Libraries are going to acquire greater importance in the future. We are entering upon a democratic era as they call it. More and more newspapers are springing up, and it is essential that every newspaper should have a good library for reference when in need. But we find that our Library here cannot supply their needs. We hear a good deal about the educated unemployed. There are people who have distinguished themselves in the University, but are unable to find even small jobs. If there is a good library they can utilise their idle hours usefully. In other countries educated young men have ample opportunities to go to the libraries, get scholarships, write books and thus enrich the intellectual treasures of those countries. But no such facility exists in the Punjab or even in India. Aristotle once said, "The happiest person is he who has got sufficient leisure to indulge in intellectual pleasures." Here are people who have got plenty of leisure at their command having got nothing to engage themselves. On the other hand, there are people who can amass money but have no leisure at their disposal to enjoy libraries. That is a problem which Government must tackle. It must adopt means to found libraries properly equipped so that these young men who have nothing else to do and who are roaming about the country in search of employment may find not only suitable accommodation but also studentships so that they may carry on their intellectual work and thus enrich the treasures of this province. Looked at from all points of view there is a great need for the Public Library here to be well-equipped not only with books but also provided with studentships so that these young men belonging to all castes and religions who are thrown out in large numbers by our University may be able to employ their time usefully not only for themselves but for all humanity. This is a very important point, and I hope the learned Director of Public Instruction will give a whole-hearted attention to this fact that there are several young men in this province who, if he gives them only Rs. 90 or even Rs. 25 will add immensely to the intellectual treasures of this province.

I am glad to observe that the motion of the honourable member for University has received support from all sides of the House. It is these libraries that build the souls of a nation. The libraries are the products of intellectual men. It may perhaps interest honourable members to know that Napoleon during the wars used to collect the intellectual treasures of the places he conquered and bring them to Paris to enrich the place with these intellectual riches. We have got also men who can add to the intellectual wealth of our province only if they are given a little encouragement. With these words I support the motion.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural): The previous speaker has compared the condition of our Library with that of libraries in western countries. Comparisons, as a rule, are odious, but taking all things individually I think we cannot compete or compare with those countries favourably. Our financial position does not compare favourably with theirs. We must cut our coat according to our cloth. But I do not want to be understood to mean that adequate provision should not be made for our Library. On the other hand, I believe

[K. S. Chaudhri Riasat Ali.]

that if we spend adequately on this object we will be saving a lot of other expenditure. For example, the other day there was a reference to police expenditure, and it was said that the population was increasing by one per cent. every year and that therefore there should be additional police to cope with the additional population. I may urge that if we have good education and if we provide the means of good education by means of handsome libraries, I think we will be able to stop several people from turning into regular ruffians. There are people who as everybody is aware cannot get good education because of its heavy cost. In order to save the best brains of our province, in order to give education for people who cannot afford it in schools and colleges it is our duty to provide good books in our libraries. With these words I support the motion.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): I appreciate the spirit in which this motion has been moved by the honourable member for the Punjab University and supported by members from various parts of the House. As I see it the demand can be divided into two sections. Firstly, there is a demand for a new building; and, secondly, there is a demand for increase in the recurring grant-in-aid to the Library. As far as the building is concerned, I am in a position to say that I have visited the place myself. The Secretary of the Library took me round one day; and I can confidently say that the building is not only inadequate but thoroughly unfit for the purpose of a public library (*hear, hear*). There is absolutely no ventilation and light exceedingly bad. There is no seating arrangements nor a reading room. Books are piled up in a most haphazard manner. I know that most valuable books are stacked away on the top of shelves where there is great danger of their being destroyed for ever. So, as far as the question of a suitable building is concerned, there is not the slightest doubt that a new library building is needed provided we can find the money for it. As for the recurring grant, my honourable friend the member for University has looked at it only from the point of view of a lover of books. But I, as a Punjabi, would like to draw his attention to one or two other matters which I feel, if I had the money, would receive my primary consideration. I may give him one instance. A few weeks ago I was invited by Miss Thomas, the Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, to visit some of the girls' schools within the municipal area in Lahore. Will the honourable member believe me when I say that one of the schools is situated in one of the inner streets of Lahore. There in a room, which is 14 feet square, there were not less than 110 girls? I am sure that in any other country the public would have felt ashamed of putting so many girls into a room of that size. Now, I ask the honourable member, if he had the money whether he would spend it on building a good school for the children or for building a library.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit**: How did it contain so many children?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon**: If the honourable member will come with me I will show the place. I am glad to acknowledge here that Mrs. Nanak Chand Pandit, takes greater interest in the welfare of the city than the honourable member himself. I am sure she knows the condition of this school. I have seen the school with my own eyes, and I can assert that there is not even standing accommodation there

for the girls. The school is in such a wretched condition that anybody who visited it is likely to be tempted to condemn every one connected with the running of that school. Sir, may I quote another instance? In the course of my tours I have gone out into the province and visited a mofussil hospital where human beings were operated on in the verandah. There was no operation theatre,

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nor even gauze wire. I ask the honourable member if money is given by this Council, would he spend it on the library or on the objects mentioned by me? I am only pointing out the difficulties of Government. Under the present financial stringency it has been impossible for this Ministry to find money for a library building. If there had been any money available, I assure him that the library grant for the building would have received the best sympathy and support of the Ministry for Education.

Now I turn to the recurring grant. I will place some figures before this House. These figures are given in a letter written by the Secretary of the Public Library in 1930 to the Director of Public Instruction. The total income for the Library was about Rs. 26,000. The expenditure, all told, excluding books, was about Rs. 23,000 with the result that for the purchase of books only Rs. 3,000 were left. Even with the grant that the Punjab Government are giving to the Library, they are able to spend only Rs. 3,000 per annum on new books. If you increase your grant by another Rs. 2,000 it will enable them to buy books to the extent of Rs. 5,000 a year instead of Rs. 3,000. Owing to financial stringency through which we are passing, and in view of the fact that there has been a cut of nearly 25 lakhs on the whole education budget, we felt when reducing the various items that there was a possibility of curtailing the expenditure on this account, the purchase of new books from Rs. 5,000 to 3,000. But I do not say this is the best thing to do. If we had money I am certain one of the best objects to spend on would be provision of new books for this Library. I do believe, and I agree with the honourable member for the University, that it is absolutely essential to provide healthy literature and a good library for the educated classes in our capital city. If we do not provide them with these facilities, what I am afraid is that our educated classes particularly our youth may go into places where they may not find literature of a healthy nature. They may get hold of books which are not in the best interests of the youth. Therefore in order to take them away from such undesirable places, it is our duty to provide them with a good library and with good reading material. As far as the new building and the recurring grant is concerned, I have said already that the honourable member has my sincerest sympathy and support, and I am very grateful to him for having moved this out. The speeches made in the house to-day will serve as a guide to the Ministry in asking for more money. I am sure that if there is money available the Finance Department will be glad to hold in this laudable object. With this assurance of sympathy on the part of Government I hope that my friend will withdraw his cut.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): A great deal has been said about figures in connection with this debate rightly because they are the key of the whole situation. I think as a result of the cut which has been moved by the honourable member, it will be possible

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

for the Minister to ask that provision be made in the schedule of expenditure for next year for improving the accommodation in the Library. Whether it will be possible to include that item in the schedule or not, I cannot possibly say at this stage. But if the Minister moves the Finance Department to have this item included in the schedule, it will take its chance with all the other items which are approved for inclusion in that schedule.

**Mr. Manohar Lal:** My object was to draw the attention of the House to this matter. The motion is not in terms to invite a vote. I see the whole House is with me and that has served my object.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair.)*

### *Consolidated and development grants to district boards.*

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the grant be reduced by Re. 1, with respect to the item of Rs. 12,24,020, consolidated and development grants to district boards.

My object in moving this cut is to draw the attention of the Government and the honourable members to the bad condition of the roads of our province. A grant of Rs. 12,24,000 is given by the Government to the district boards of the province to enable them to maintain their roads in good order. I want to make a few submissions to the House regarding this grant. It is known to all honourable members that at present the roads of the province are in a very bad condition and specially the *kacha* roads. About these means of communication much light has already been thrown by various honourable members and all of them have complained against the deplorable manner in which they are maintained. The grant which is given to the district boards is too small for the needs of a province which consists of 30 districts. In the Shahpur district the total length of roads in miles is 1,400, and if you add to it the length of the roads of other districts the total length would reach many thousands. To maintain all these roads the grant which is given is too small. At present even the full grant is not given to the district boards. If you refer to page 95 of the Memorandum you will find that only 65 per cent. of the grant is paid to the district boards. I would like to press it upon the attention of the Honourable Minister that he may kindly see his way to make full payment of the grant to the district boards. Not only this but he should also take some steps to get this grant increased as much as possible.

**Mr. President:** Demand under consideration, amendment moved;

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1, with respect to the item of Rs. 12,24,020, consolidated and development grants to district boards.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): It is all very well for the members of this House to ask for an increase in the amount of grants given to the district boards; but have they ever noticed that whatever grants are given are not properly used by the boards? If the Government is going to give grants to these

<sup>1</sup>To discuss the policy underlying consolidated and development grants to district boards.

bodies, it should be its duty also or the duty of the Communications Board to see that when the roads are completed whether *kaacha* or *pacca*, it should send some officer to go round the districts and supervise and inspect the roads, so that it may satisfy itself that it has had the full value of these grants. The other day a complaint was made that the money given to the Public Works Department goes either into the pockets of engineers or the pockets of contractors. Here there is a greater need for vigilance and supervision than it is in the case of the Public Works Department, because experience shows that the material used by the Public Works Department is far superior to that used by the district boards. Some members of this House have been only members of district boards. I, in the course of my official career and as chairman of district boards, know personally that the money granted to district boards is not well spent and very inferior material is used. Therefore though I am not in opposition to the cut of the honourable mover, I think that more vigilance and more supervision is necessary here than in the case of other departments.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): I had no intention to participate in this debate, but the remarks made by the previous speaker have obliged me to say something. I am sorry that after holding a responsible position in the Government for a considerable time and after working as a chairman of several district boards he stood up here to-day to complain that the district boards do not make a proper use of their money. He has concluded in the end that the district boards should not be given the grant demanded by them. May be, the district boards of which he may have been the chairman may not have been spending their money usefully. But it certainly does not lie in his mouth to make this sweeping statement that all the district boards are in the habit of spending their funds lavishly and without proper regard to economy. It may also be true that he got a district engineer dismissed on a charge of corruption, but there may be dozens of such engineers in the Public Works Department who are there simply because their misdeeds have not been brought to light. One should be considerate while making such vague allegations against the local bodies of the province. If you compare the money spent by the Public Works Department of the district boards with the sums spent by the Public Works Department which is under the control of the Government you will be surprised to find the vast difference between their respective expenditure. What does, for instance, the Public Works Department spend on repairs per mile of roads? Compare this with the money spent by the district boards per mile on repairs. The result of the comparison will convince you that the extravagance does not lie at the door of the district boards, but at the Government-controlled Public Works Department which is the greatest sinner in this respect. I do not claim that absolutely no money is wasted in the district boards; there may be a slight waste of money here and there, but the sweeping charge brought forward by Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan is totally unjustified. The district boards do make a proper use of their money, and they are more considerate in this respect than the Public Works Department which is under the vigilant control of the Government. He has complained that no vigilance is exercised over the work done by the boards, and he has urged that officers should be specially appointed to inspect

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the constructions carried out by the district boards. I may mention it for his information that officers appointed by Government are already there who inspect all buildings constructed by the district boards. They inspect all roads built by the boards, and so long as they do not submit a satisfactory report the grant is not made. It is with the greatest possible economy therefore that the district boards are meeting their liabilities out of the scanty money that is at their disposal. For instance, the Lahore District Board has to maintain 50 miles of *pacca* roads and not less than 600 miles of *kacha* roads and the grant given to it by the Board for the purpose of keeping the roads in good condition is about Rs. 40,000. Now ask the Public Works Department how much they would spend on the maintenance of these roads? It is all very easy to make a scathing criticism of the work done by local bodies, but it is difficult to support the criticism with cogent arguments. I think the motion moved by my honourable friend Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi is a very important motion, and we should all support it. If the Government is really desirous of seeing the district boards properly maintaining their roads they should provide them with sufficient funds. Is it not funny to give grants of twenty, thirty or, in some cases, even fifteen thousand rupees to those district boards which have to maintain 150 miles of *pacca* roads and several hundred miles of *kacha* roads each? If you want that these district boards should maintain their roads in a really admirable condition provide them with adequate funds. There is no doubt that the condition of the roads maintained by the district boards leaves much that is to be desired, but the way of improving the present conditions is to encourage the boards with the grant of more funds. If, on the other hand, it is not possible to provide the boards with adequate funds at this stage some of their roads may be put under the control of the Public Works Department. In this way the burden of the district boards will be lightened, and they will be able to maintain the remaining roads in a good condition.

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** (Lahore, Sikh, Rural) (*Urdu*)  
I associate myself with the remarks made by Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan and also with those made by my honourable friend, Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah. (*Louder*). Yes, I hold both of them to be in the right. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah has complained of the paucity of funds made available to the district boards and the complaint of Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan is that those funds are not made proper use of. He has said that much of the money provided by the Government to the district boards is misappropriated by the engineers with the complicity of the contractors. He has urged, therefore, that the expenditure of the district boards should be properly scrutinized and the constructions carried out under their direct supervision. He has told us that he got an engineer dismissed on charge of corruption. Most probably the previous deputy commissioner could not see through the misdeeds of that fellow, and he was allowed to play havoc with the district board funds. However, he was brought to book in the long run, thanks to the vigilance of Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan. If the Government were to catch hold of three or four such engineers more, corruption would die its own natural death. Every body is aware of the fact that contractors are always at the mercy of the



district engineer ; if he is properly kept under control the contractor will have to stop their evil practices. There is no doubt that there are clamours everywhere that district boards are not supplied with adequate funds but the Government is helpless. It simply cannot do anything in this matter. There is lot of corruption in the departments under their control like the Public Works Department. It is, therefore, very difficult to save money to be spent for district boards. It is necessary that a committee should be appointed to examine the working of the Public Works Department. The committee should carefully examine all problems and see that all corrupt practices are stopped and all corrupt officials and contractors are properly dealt with. If this is done, much money will be saved and it will be available for use at the proper places. There is, for instance, no road between Rupar and Anandpur, although there is a good deal of traffic between these two places. The kucha path between Rupar and Anandpur is simply honeycombed with pits, and the lorries and tum tums plying on it often turn turtle resulting in injuries to the passengers. It is, therefore, essential that the district board concerned should be supplied with funds so that the road between Rupar and Anandpur is metalled and the people are relieved of great inconvenience.

The other roads goes from Anandpur Sahib to Hoshiarpur, and the distance between these two places is only 22 miles. On both these roads there are fine agricultural villages. But, unfortunately, as these roads are not metalled and traffic on them is not easy, the poor zamindars cannot send their agricultural produce to the market places. I, therefore, invite the attention of the Government to these roads and appeal to it to metal these roads at their earliest convenience. It is not proper for us, non-official members to quarrel among ourselves lest the official members should say that since we are quarrelling among ourselves, therefore, they are not going to help any of us. Then there is another road which goes from here to the Lahore Cantonment and from there to Jaman. That is an important political centre, and even the police have to go there often to arrest thieves and dacoits. Even that road is in a deplorable condition, and calls for immediate attention. I fervently hope the Government will take steps to metal all these roads as soon as possible.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : First of all we have to see as to where the districts boards spend their money and what their requirements are. There is no doubt about it that the district boards are the best institutions. I admit that the administration of these bodies is not good and that they do not spend the money given to them properly. But it is not right to say that these boards should be abolished, or no money should be given to them. The district boards are of great help to the villagers and the zamindars. They build hospitals, schools, veterinary hospitals, train nurses, and in the days of malaria supply quinine to the villagers. The village people derive great benefit from these boards. If their administration is bad, it should be improved. If the servant of a sick person mis-uses the money and does not bring medicine for his master, we should not say that we should not give any medicine to the patient. Our duty is to make the servant properly look after the patient. The district boards have been constituted to help the zamindar. The Government should give them sufficient money to carry

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out their duties. If there is mal-administration, the Government should improve it and should see that the money given to the district boards is properly spent. The coolies of the district boards go to the bungalow of the deputy commissioner and work there. The deputy commissioners derive great benefit from the district boards. I should have told these things in detail but I am afraid I may be taken to task for it. If anybody likes, I can show him the attendance register to prove where the coolie has been working. I am already in the bad books of the officers and, therefore, I shrink from telling these details.

There is a general complaint that in the malaria season the villagers do not get sufficient medicine and proper treatment. The district boards should be supplied with sufficient funds so that they may be able to start itinerary hospitals in those days. The rains make a lot of pits. The sun is very hot and the zamindars have to look after their crops but in those days they are laid low by malaria. They cannot do any cultivation in those days. The district boards must get sufficient money to help the poor zamindars in those days. The doctors should move about from village to village on horseback and their medicine should move about with them on mules. I, therefore, would submit that instead of abolishing the district boards it will be far better to improve their administration and give them more money to help the zamindars.

**Mr. D. Macfarlane** (Chief Engineer) : The subject matter under discussion refers to the consolidated grants for district boards but the debate that is now taking place has touched to some extent on the question of the grants which are being given to district boards by Government for the maintenance of their roads. This is a separate subject financially speaking, as it appears under the budget head 41—Civil Works, as grants-in-aid which is an entirely different head from the one under discussion dealing with lump sums for consolidated grants. But I would like to take this opportunity of explaining to the House the way in which these grants-in-aid are given. They are given in a way which might perhaps be described as being based on the policy that "He that hath, to him shall be given" which is admittedly unsatisfactory, but Government has been unable to devise a better way. In other words the grants are given to each district board as percentage of the amount which they have actually spent in the previous year on their maintenance. Of course it is regretted that with financial stringency Government has only been able to give 65 per cent. of the full amount to which the district boards are ordinarily entitled but the same remark might be applied with regard to grants for all other forms of maintenance, including provincial works.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated non-official) : The question of district board roads having been raised in the discussion I beg to point out that roads in every district are of three kinds. They are class I, class II and class III. Class I roads have probably all been taken over by the Public Works Department. If any are yet with the district boards, it is the intention of Government to take them over as soon as they are in a position to do so. As for class II roads, as has been explained by the Chief Engineer, the Government gives aid which depends upon the amount of expenditure incurred but before

the grant is really given, an official from the Communication Board goes to inspect the roads to see whether they have been kept well or not. If they are kept in good condition, they get a grant of higher percentage than those which are not well kept. The boards are thus induced to keep their roads in good condition. Then there are class III roads for which the Government gives no grant. Now the complaint is that the district board roads are not maintained properly, because they do not get enough money and it is also complained that money goes into the pocket of officials and contractors.

If this be so, it is probably happening more in the case of class III roads than in class II, because class II roads are inspected by an official of the Communication Board, but class III roads are not so inspected. For this reason if the district boards wish that the condition of their class III roads should improve and surely every member in this House—

**Mr. President :** May I ask the honourable member to speak to the motion ?

**Mr. E. Mayadas :** I am just replying to some of the arguments that have been advanced. My idea is to show how money can be saved and how more will be made available for improving the roads.

**Mr. President :** That matter is not before the House.

**Lala Bhagat Ram** (Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana, non-Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : I would like to consider the motion now before the House from another point of view and that is that only those roads are maintained in good condition which the district officers make use of while on tour.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member is not speaking to the motion now before the House. If he reads the note appended to the motion he will observe that it is meant to discuss the policy underlying the grants to district boards.

**Lala Bhagat Ram :** The contract system as it exists at present is highly objectionable and for that reason also I oppose the grant under consideration.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government) : As the matter raised in the course of the speeches on this motion refers to the consolidated and development grants to district boards perhaps I am expected to say a word. All that I would say would be that not a single speech has been made to the motion. No one has stated what the policy is that underlies these consolidated grants, what the defects in that policy are and how those defects can be removed. I am, therefore, not called upon to say anything further.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** May I speak by way of reply ?

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Minister's point was that the policy of Government was not referred to or dealt with by any speaker. To what does the honourable member want to reply ? If he makes a reply, the Honourable Minister will be entitled to reply further.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi (Urdu) :** I did criticise the Government's policy underlying these grants in my previous speech. It is stated on page 95 of the Explanatory Memorandum that only

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65 per cent. of the grant due was paid to the district boards. This shows that the Communication Board has not cared to afford the promised help to the district boards.

**Mr. President :** Obviously the honourable member is not discussing the policy of the Government underlying these grants.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** There are two kinds of roads, class II roads and class III roads. With regard to class II roads the Communication Board gives grant-in-aid but totally ignores the class III roads. The district boards have not sufficient funds to attend to class III roads. Consequently these roads are in a very bad condition. I, therefore, request that some grant-in-aid should be given for class III roads. At present the Government is following a very objectionable policy in so far as it ignores class III roads. With these words I resume my seat.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang (Urdu) :** I cannot help saying what I have said already that none of the speeches made so far, not even the reply of the honourable mover was relevant to the motion now before the House. The explanation given on page 95 of the Explanatory Memorandum does not relate to the grant under consideration.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 12,24,020, consolidated and development grants to district boards.

*The motion was lost.*

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,90,200 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1936, in respect of Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (Transferred) and Miscellaneous (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS (RESERVED).

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd (Finance Member) :** I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,45,200 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, 1936, in respect of Miscellaneous (Reserved).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,45,200 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, 1936, in respect of Miscellaneous (Reserved).

#### *Indians on the Motor Vehicles Inspection Staff.*

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon (Lahore, Sikh, Rural) :** I move—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1, with respect to the item of Rs. 3,300 conveyance allowance—Inspection of motor vehicles.

This country has been crying for a long time for Indianisation of services and it is very strange, nevertheless, that in this department of the motor vehicles inspecting staff there is no Indian. Then non-Indians who have been

<sup>1</sup>To urge the importance of Indians on the motor vehicles Inspection staff.

given appointments in this department do not understand the language of the people with whom they have to deal, the motor lorry drivers. The drivers are all people who do not understand English and the inspectors do not freely speak Punjabi. The one does not understand the other and frequently inspectors challan drivers for no fault of the latter except that they do not understand the language in which they are spoken to. It is very strange that while there are among the ranks of Indians persons who could hold responsible posts there are none appointed as motor-vehicle inspectors. I strongly urge that a few of these appointments should be given to Indians.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1, with respect to the item of Rs. 3,300 Conveyance allowance—Inspection of motor vehicles.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : There is no need to say much in reply to this motion but I should make it clear that the Inspector-General of Police has agreed that there is no objection whatever in principle to the employment of Indians in connection with motor vehicle inspection. In practice, Indians of the class of inspectors and sub-inspectors of police, as a rule, have a general education and have not special experience of motor mechanics. On the other hand, the European inspectors and sergeants are recruited practically entirely for purposes of traffic control and for purposes of service as railway police. For these two particular branches they are recruited and a great many of them have got real motor mechanical knowledge. It is therefore natural that they should be put on the job of inspecting motor vehicles. At the same time I should make it quite clear that there is no objection whatever in principle to the employment of Indian police officers or subordinates on this duty and the attention of the Inspector-General has been drawn to the matter through this motion. (*Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon* : May I ask when that principle will be carried out in practice ?) It naturally cannot be carried out into practice until some vacancy arises. When a vacancy occurs the Inspector-General will certainly keep the principle in mind.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : It is really a matter for our serious consideration that no Indian has been able or I should say that no Indian has been found capable to hold any post on the motor vehicles inspection staff in all these years. The Honourable Finance Member has been pleased to tell us that the Europeans or Anglo-Indians, who have the monopoly of this service, all possess expert mechanical knowledge and are, therefore, best fitted to discharge the duties of these posts. By this he meant as he himself explained that the Indians did not possess that knowledge. In the first place I doubt very much whether the non-Indians who are holding these appointments are all expert mechanics. I know personally that many of them have little or no knowledge of motor vehicles or at any rate many of them were mere laymen to begin with. But all the same they were considered fit to hold these appointments. I am also not prepared to believe that there is no Indian either in the Police Department or outside it who can discharge the duties of motor vehicles inspector or sub-inspector if he is given a chance to prove his worth. Here again I will say that I personally know many police officers who possess

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this mechanical knowledge and who can acquit themselves, if not better at least as well as the present staff is doing. I am, therefore, constrained to say that these are all lame excuses which have been put forward by the Honourable Finance Member to shut out the Indians from this branch of the service. I may say that this attitude of the Government is nothing to be wondered at. It is an attitude which has been adopted in the case of almost all services of any importance and the Government has always given way only when it finds that it is no longer safe to ignore public opinion in regard to a particular matter. This assurance which the Honourable Finance Member has given that on principle there is no objection to the appointment of Indians on the motor vehicles inspection staff has been given, I believe, because perhaps the Government has seen the force of public opinion in this matter. This question, as the House will be aware, was raised by me last year in the form of questions in reply to which I was told that there was no Indian in this branch of service. But I think that we should not be satisfied with this assurance. We must insist that in future no non-Indian should be recruited for this service until such time as the proportion of Indians becomes fairly large among these sub-inspectors and inspectors.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I have very little to say in reply except this that the honourable member who has just spoken has confined his attention entirely to one very small portion of the police in which it so happens that there are something like 7 or 8 posts—5 inspectors and two or three sergeants. That is a very small portion of the police. He has complained about the employment of Europeans and Anglo-Indians to the exclusion of Indians in that very small portion of the police. If you look at the police as a whole, it is almost entirely Indian, so that the racial question does not arise. The honourable member has stated that many inspectors and sub-inspectors have expert mechanical knowledge. In that case they must be very fortunate. They are usually recruited not out of workshops, but the Europeans are generally recruited from amongst ex-soldiers who have had regular mechanical training in the army. That is how it comes that they have a special training, and I think that the honourable member in making a general statement that there are equally qualified Indians, is making a rash statement. I can assure him that there is no objection whatever in principle and if the Inspector-General can find an Indian inspector or sub-inspector with a real good knowledge of motor mechanics, I am sure that he will recruit him to the ranks of motor vehicles inspection staff.

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** In view of the assurance of the Honourable Finance Member, I beg to ask for leave to withdraw my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

#### *Rural Reconstruction.*

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) I beg to move—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1, with respect to the item of Rs. 1,33,500. Commissioner, Rural Reconstruction.

*To draw attention to the inadequacy of provision for rural re-construction.*

Since the establishment of the British Raj in India little attention has been devoted to the work of village uplift. The Government in the past never tried to do any kind of rural uplift work. But it is our good luck that a European officer has since become interested in the welfare of the villages. The grant that has been provided for the Rural Re-construction Department is too small. The total sum provided for the uplift work is so small that if we divide it among all the villages in the Punjab, we will find that only Rs. 2 fall to the share of each village. What work can you do for the uplift of a village with only Rs. 2? The re-construction of villages is very necessary. The villages are most insanitary. The streets are dirty, full of animal dung. There are ponds in the vicinity with stagnant water in them. Mosquitoes breed in these ponds and spread malaria. Not only this but the Chumars clean skins of animals in these ponds. And it often happens that those animals whose skins are washed in the ponds, had died of some epidemic disease and consequently the germs of that disease are washed into the water of the ponds. The animals of the zamindars drink water from these ponds and contract that disease and die causing much financial loss to the zamindars. In addition to these unhygienic conditions there are dung hills also near the villages. They also are the cause of a good deal of unhealthy conditions of the villages. The Rural Re-construction Department has undertaken to remove all such complaints from the villages. The department has not only set itself to the work of rural uplift but has also undertaken to teach economy to the zamindars. Mr. Brayne preaches economy to the people and also tries to make them observe all the rules of sanitation. Up to the present there was no influential gentleman who could approach the Government in order to inform them about the backwardness of the villagers. But we are lucky that a European has undertaken to do this work. Previously even if such complaints were brought to the notice of the Government, they never cared to listen to them. I remember that once the inhabitants of village Basian complained to the Government against a skin factory which was situated very near the village. The Government did not do anything to remove that factory from that site. But now at least we have got this confidence that Mr. Brayne would bring all such complaints to the notice of the Government and would also try his best to get them removed. It is most unfortunate, that the money that has been budgetted for the rural re-construction work is very little and not sufficient to enable Mr. Brayne to carry on his reform work. If the Government can increase the grant of this department I think it should not hesitate to do so. If the condition of the zamindars will change, the prospects of Government getting more revenue from them will also increase. At present the malaria spreads exactly at the time when the crops are to be sown. The result is that the poor zamindars are laid up with fever, and fail to sow at the proper time. On account of this they have to suffer and the Government have also to suffer a good deal of loss. The zamindars fail to raise good crops and the Government consequently get less revenue. Often these zamindars go to the fields with fever. They work in the fields in the same condition. They have to attend to their work because if they fail to attend to it at the proper time they will not get corn on which they have to live for the whole year. It is very necessary that the Government should seriously take steps to ameliorate the condition of the zamindars. They are the backbone of the country. All depend upon them. The Government depend upon them for their

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revenue. The pleaders depend upon them for their income. The professions whether sahkara or others cannot continue if the zamindars do not work or if they give up cultivation. Hence it is very necessary that much attention should be devoted to their welfare. It was very kind of Government to start this department with a man of the calibre of Mr. Brayne as its head. But I am sure Mr. Brayne's efforts will fail if he is not provided with sufficient funds to run his department. I understand that this department has not got even sufficient staff to cope with its work. How can a department do any work if it has not got sufficient staff to run it. We must, therefore, provide Mr. Brayne with more funds.

Another point which I want to bring to the notice of the Government is this. The zamindars are too poor to afford to live in houses with good ventilation. They cannot afford to buy mosquito nets. I brought this point to the notice of Mr. Brayne also. If the total income of a man is only Rs. 5 how he can afford to sleep under a mosquito net and also effect minor changes in his house in order that it may become well ventilated. It is on account of their poverty that even though they know that a thing is useful they cannot adopt it. They know that an open and a well lighted house is useful for the purposes of health but they cannot derive any benefit from their knowledge. They simply cannot afford to raise their standard of living. It is necessary that something should be done to ameliorate their financial condition before they are asked to act according to the advice of Mr. Brayne. Their income ought to be increased. If the honourable members sitting on the front benches were given only five rupees a month and asked to meet all their expenses with that sum, I think we would be asking them to do the impossible. They cannot keep a cook, a bearer, a washerman and a gardner with only an income of five rupees a month. I tell you, if their incomes are reduced to such a low figure, they will fail to keep up their standard of living. I request the Government that they should take steps to increase the income of the zamindars at the same time they are trying to better conditions of sanitation in villages.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved is—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1, with respect to the item of Rs. 1,33,500, Commissioner, Rural Reconstruction.

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P.M., on Monday, 11th March, 1935.*



## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, 11th March, 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### OATH OF OFFICE.

*The following members were sworn in :—*

Khan Bahadur Dr. K. A. Rahman (Director of Public Health).

Mr. H. R. Stewart (Director of Agriculture).

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

NAL-CHAH IN SONEPAT AND JHAJJAR TAHSILS.

**\*4227. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** With reference to questions Nos. \*9278<sup>1</sup> and \*3855<sup>2</sup> asked by me and answered on the 26th of June, 1934, and the 29th of October, 1934, respectively, will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state the total amount of money refundable to the owners of all the wells which had become unserviceable for the purpose of irrigation since 1924 or 1925 in the tahsils of Sonapat and Jhajjar, district Rohtak, and the number of which was admitted by Government to be about 250, if the whole amount collected in respect of these wells during the period of desuetude were ordered to be refunded ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

### SALARIES OF PROVINCIAL SERVICES.

**\*4228. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state whether a new scale for salaries of all the provincial services (including class I and class II, where such classification exists) has been decided upon by the Local Government ; if so, when it will be announced and when it is intended to give effect to it ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Considerable progress has been made with the fixing of the salaries of provincial services, and Government hope to be able to make an announcement towards the end of this month. It is intended that the new scales should be brought into force with as little delay as possible.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXV, page 31.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, page 698.

## SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

**\*4229. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of posts in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, filled by direct recruitment in 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ;
- (b) the number of posts referred to in (a) which fell to the share of Hindus ;
- (c) the number of posts out of the Hindu share which went to statutory Hindu agriculturists ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table.

2. I may, however, add for the information of the honourable member that the communal representations of permanent men in the Subordinate Educational Service (Anglo-Vernacular Section), as it stood on the 1st January 1935, was as under :—

Hindus	..	..	..	..	46.8%
Muslims	..	..	..	..	38.9%
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	13.2%
Christians	..	..	..	..	1.1%

*Statement showing number of direct recruitment made in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section (Men's Branch) during the years 1930—34.*

years 1930-31.

YEAR.	HINDUS.		MUHAM- MADANS.		SIKHS.		OTHERS.		Total.
	Members of notified agricultural tribe.	Others.	Members of notified agricultural tribe.	Others.	Members of notified agricultural tribe.	Others.	Members of notified agricultural tribe.	Others.	
<b>PERMANENT MEN.</b>									
1930	1	5	6	3	1	..	..	..	16
1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1932	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1933	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1934	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1	5	6	3	1	..	..	..	16
<b>OFFICIATING MEN WORKING AGAINST PERMANENT VACANCIES.</b>									
1930	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
1931	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
1932	1	2	6	2	1	..	..	..	12
1933	..	3	6	3	..	..	..	..	12
1934	..	5	9	2	..	..	..	1	17
Total	1	10	21	12	2	..	..	1	47

## SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

**\*4230. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of Hindu agriculturists employed in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, on the 1st of January, 1927, and on the 1st January, 1934, respectively ;
- (b) if there has been no increase in the number of Hindu agriculturists, or if there has been an actual decrease, between the years 1927 and 1934, the reasons for this state of affairs and the steps which Government has either taken or proposes to take to remedy it ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the consolidated statements showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government as it stood on 1st March, 1927, and 1st January, 1934.

(b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to question No.\* 18564 in 1929.

## VETERINARY COLLEGE.

**\*4231. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of students who obtained admission to the Veterinary College at Lahore in 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ;
- (b) the number of statutory agriculturists among the candidates referred to in (a) ;
- (c) the reasons for a fall in the number of admissions and the fall, if any, in the proportion of agriculturists among the candidates referred to in (a) ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :**

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
(a)	61	36	20	10	12
(b)	16	7	10	5	5

(c) The reason for a fall in the number of admissions is the lack of prospects for appointment in the department after graduation. The proportion of agriculturists among the candidates referred to in part (a) has not fallen.

As far as Jat zamindars are concerned I have obtained figures of their population, and they are as follows :—

Hindu Jats	..	..	..	..	992,309
Sikh Jats	..	..	..	..	2,133,152
Muslim Jats	..	..	..	..	2,940,819

## VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4232. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state whether there has been any fall in the proportion of agriculturists employed in the Veterinary Department, and, if so, the reasons therefor ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The proportion of agriculturists in the Civil Veterinary Department was 47·3 per cent. on 1st January, 1931, and 45·5 per cent. on 1st January, 1935. The reason for this fall is the paucity of agriculturists passing out from the L. V. P. course.

## GIRDARWAR KANUNGOS, AMBALA DIVISION.

**\*4233. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) the number of girdawar kanungos in the districts of Ambala division ;
- (b) the number of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs among the girdawar kanungos referred to in (a) ;
- (c) the number of statutory agriculturists under each of the three main groups ;
- (d) the number of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in the population of each district ;
- (e) the years in which the last two selections of girdawar kanungos took place ;
- (f) the number of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs and the number of statutory agriculturists under each head accepted at each of these selections ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement containing the required information is laid on the table.

## Statement.

Division.	District.	(a). Total number of Girdawar Kanungos.	(b). TOTAL NUMBER OF GIRDARWAE KANUNGOS UNDER			(c). NUMBER OF STATUTORY AGRICULTURISTS UNDER			(d). POPULATION OF		
			Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.
Ambala	Hissar	16	4	8	4	1	6	3	*589,408	253,784	55,169
	Rohatak	17	8	9	..	6	7	..	†655,963	137,880	596
	Gurgaon	19	10	9	..	9	9	..	493,174	242,357	500
	Karnal	21	10	10	1	1	7	..	565,286	259,730	16,928
	Ambala	18	7	9	2	3	8	2	346,711	230,837	155,555
	Simla	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	28,661	5,810	760
Total		83	41	45	7	22	37	5	2,679,203	1,130,398	229,508

\*Including Jains.

†Excluding Jains, Others and Christians.



PUNITIVE TAX ON MR. WAZIR SINGH.

\*4234. **Lala Jyoti Prasad** : Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether any representation was received by the District Magistrate, Karnal, from Mr. Wazir Singh, Indian Railway Service of Engineers, Divisional Executive Engineer, North-Western Railway, Delhi, in or about June, 1934, protesting against the imposition of punitive police tax on him for meeting the cost of extra police stationed at Pundri village ;
- (b) what enquiries, if any, were made on the said representation and whether Mr. Wazir Singh was allowed any chance to substantiate the facts stated in his representation ;
- (c) what orders were passed on his representation ;
- (d) whether he will lay on the table a copy of the representation and the orders passed thereon ;
- (e) whether Government is aware that Mr. Wazir Singh, beyond owning some house property at Pundri, has no other interest in the said village and has not resided there during the last thirty years, and his house has been lying vacant as he has permanently settled at Hissar ;
- (f) whether Government is aware of the fact that Mr. Wazir Singh's official residence as shown in his service book is Hissar ;
- (g) what steps, if any, Government propose to take to refund the tax ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** : (a) Yes, in April 1934.

(b) and (e) The admitted fact that Mr. Wazir Singh held immovable property in Pundri rendered him liable, under the explanation to section 15 of the Indian Police Act, to contribute towards the cost of the additional police posted there.

(c) His representation was rejected.

(d) A copy of the representation is laid on the table. The District Magistrate, after consideration of a report by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, rejected the application to be exempted.

(f) Government have no information.

(g) None. Other Government servants who were not residing in Pundri but who owned property there were also assessed, and there is no reason to make an exception in Mr. Wazir Singh's case, who, even if he has not lived in Pundri for many years, still retains a connection with that place.

THE PUNJAB MINOR MINERALS RULES.

\*4235. **Thakur Pancham Chand** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Minor Minerals Rules have been enforced as published in notification No. 4945-R., dated the 23rd December, 1933 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to these rules even the land-owner has to submit an application to quarry minerals for personal or charitable purposes in Form M-1 to the Collector through the patwari ;

[Th. Pancham Chand]

- (c) if the reply to (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government is aware that a considerable delay takes place in transmitting the papers to the Collector;
- (d) what action Government proposes to take to exempt the landowners from applying in prescribed Form M.-1, especially in the Kangra district where the rains are heavy and delay in transmission, etc., may prove detrimental to applicants' interests?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) (i) No, where the mineral belongs to the landowner.

(ii) Yes, where the mineral belongs to Government.

(c) Government have no information.

(d) Does not arise.

#### POSTING OF EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS.

**\*4236. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether there are explicit orders of Government that excise sub-inspectors should not be posted in their home districts;
- (b) the number of the excise sub-inspectors of the Ambala and Jullundur divisions who are posted in their home districts;
- (c) the reasons for not complying with the Government intention regarding the posting of the excise sub-inspectors in their home districts?

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

(b) One for a short period in the Jullundur division and none in Ambala division.

(c) For administrative reasons.

#### FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

**\*4237. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Esahan Ellahi and Manzur-ul-Haq were accepted as candidates for the post of sub-inspector of fisheries by the late Warden in the years 1930 and 1931;
- (b) whether it is a fact that none of them joined the service;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that none of them was in the Government service at the time of acceptance as sub-inspector of fisheries candidates;
- (d) the reasons for removing their names from the list of the accepted candidates for the post of sub-inspector of fisheries?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Government has no information.

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



## DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE'S OFFICE.

\*4238. **Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) the clerical strength of the Director of Agriculture's office;
- (b) the names of branches with names of head assistants and clerks, communitywise;
- (c) the dates of the appointments of the head assistants and clerks attached to the different branches of the office?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) The clerical strength of the office of the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, including one Superintendent and two Fisheries clerks, is 31.

(b) and (c) The information required is given in the attached statement.

*Statement showing the names of branches, Head Assistants and Clerks community-wise in the office of the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, together with the dates of appointment of the Head Assistants and Clerks.*

		Date of first continuous paid appointment to Superior Government service.	Date of appointment in this office.	Date of appointment to present grade.
<b>1. GENERAL BRANCH.</b>				
<i>Muslims.</i>				
1. Shaikh Jan Muhammad, Head Assistant ..		16-5-09	16-5-09	1-7-26
2. Shaikh Niaz Ahmad, Assistant .. ..		10-6-08	10-6-08	1-7-26
3. M. Niamat Ullah, Senior Clerk .. ..		20-11-22	20-11-22	1-10-28
4. M. Barkat Ali, Senior Clerk (Fisheries) ..		12-8-19	2-8-32	1-4-30
<i>Hindus.</i>				
5. Lala Nand Kishore, Junior Clerk .. ..		29-10-26	29-10-26	29-10-26
6. Lala Hari Chand, Junior Clerk .. ..		9-5-29	9-5-29	9-5-29
<i>Sikhs.</i>				
7. Bhai Harnam Singh, Junior Clerk .. ..		3-12-25	4-2-26	1-7-26
<i>Others.</i>				
8. Mr. S. Maula Bakhsh, Senior Clerk .. ..		30-11-25	30-11-25	1-7-26
<b>2. ESTABLISHMENT BRANCH.</b>				
<i>Muslims.</i>				
1. K. Said Ali, Head Assistant .. ..		13-5-08	31-3-28	31-3-28
2. M. Ghulam Ahmad, Assistant .. ..		18-7-18	18-7-18	1-7-26
3. M. Ghias Muhammad, Junior Clerk .. ..		29-7-29	29-7-29	29-7-29
M. Muhammad Bashir, Junior Clerk (officiating for L. Gian Chand No. 6 below).		1-4-26	6-10-34	6-10-34

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	Date of first continuous paid appointment to Superior Government service.	Date of appointment in this office.	Date of appointment to present grade.
<i>Hindus.</i>			
4. P. Bishan Dass, Assistant .. ..	10-10-16	10-10-16	1-7-26
5. Lala Durga Dass, Junior Clerk .. ..	13-8-23	13-8-23	1-7-26
6. Lala Gian Chand, Junior Clerk (officiating as Accountant, Deputy Director of Agriculture's office, Rawalpindi).	17-2-25	17-2-25	1-7-26
<i>Sikhs.</i>			
7. S. Rajindar Singh, Senior Clerk .. ..	1-10-26	1-10-26	1-10-26
3. ACCOUNTS BRANCH.			
<i>Hindus.</i>			
1. Lala Amar Nath, Head Assistant .. ..	12-10-13	11-4-29	11-4-29
2. Lala Dina Nath, Head Clerk (Fisheries) .. ..	1-8-16	2-8-32	1-4-30
3. Lala Manohar Lal, Senior Clerk .. ..	14-10-18	14-10-18	1-7-26
4. Pt. Chand Kishan, Senior Clerk .. ..	17-2-25	3-12-25	1-7-26
<i>Muslims.</i>			
5. M. Muhammad Nasir, Assistant .. ..	1-8-17	18-7-27	18-7-27
6. Shaikh Mubarik Ali, Junior Clerk .. ..	10-9-25	10-9-25	1-7-26
<i>Sikhs.</i>			
7. S. Ujagar Singh, Senior Clerk .. ..	17-12-25	17-12-25	1-7-26
8. S. Balwant Singh, Junior Clerk .. ..	31-1-27	31-1-27	31-1-27
4. EMPLOYED ON MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES.			
<i>Muslims.</i>			
1. Chaudhri Muhammad Khan, Senior Clerk, (General Record-Keeper.)	2-3-11	2-3-11	18-9-26
2. M. Abdul Latif, Junior Clerk (Typist) .. ..	3-8-25	3-8-25	1-7-26
<i>Hindus.</i>			
3. Lala Janki Dass, Stenographer .. ..	13-1-20	16-1-25	16-1-27
4. Lala Bishambar Lal, Stenographer .. ..	10-10-21	3-4-28	3-4-28
5. Pandit Amar Nath, Junior Clerk (Despatcher)	1-3-26	1-3-26	1-7-26
6. Lala Kishan Chand, Junior Clerk (Typist) .. ..	12-3-30	12-3-30	12-3-30
<i>Sikhs.</i>			
7. B. Gurbakhsh Singh, Junior Clerk (Typist) .. ..	14-4-23	14-4-23	1-7-26

## CHAUBURJI QUARTERS.

**\*4239. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (i) with reference to reply to question No. 797<sup>1</sup>, the reasons why wire-gauze doors and windows have not been provided in type III quarters of the Chauburji Gardens Estate when gazetted officials are eligible for these houses ;
- (ii) the number of quarters of this type and the number of them actually occupied by gazetted officials ;
- (iii) the number of tenants in the Chauburji Gardens Estate drawing salaries between Rs. 350 and Rs. 650 per mensem ;
- (iv) the plinth areas of the quarters occupied by them and the corresponding plinth areas occupied by Government servants drawing equal salaries in Rivaz Gardens ;
- (v) the number of quarters in Rivaz Gardens of the highest type and those occupied by gazetted officials ;
- (vi) whether the quarters in Rivaz Gardens of this and of smaller type are all provided with wire-gauze doors ;
- (vii) in view of the reply to question No. 797<sup>1</sup>, when Government intends to provide type III quarters in Chauburji Gardens Estate with wire-gauze doors and windows ;
- (viii) whether it is a fact that the standard rent of type III quarters in Chauburji Gardens Estate is Rs. 40 per mensem ;
- (ix) whether the permissible outlay in view of figures given in (viii) above, permits of further expenditure of over a thousand rupees on each of these quarters ;
- (x) the reasons why this amenity is denied to type III Indian tenants in the Chauburji Gardens Estate when similarly placed Anglo-Indians enjoy it in the Rivaz Gardens ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (i) The reasons why wire-gauze doors and windows have not been provided in type III quarters are given in the replies to items (ix) and (x).

(ii) The number of type III quarters in the Estate is 20, and the number actually occupied by gazetted officers is 6.

(iii) Eight.

(iv) Plinth area of type III quarters, Chauburji Gardens Estate—

	S.ft.
(a) Building .. .. .	2,682
(b) Open paved compound with enclosure walls ..	1,762

Total .. 4,444

Plinth area of type A Rivaz Gardens (old) ..	3,980
Ditto ditto (new) ..	4,060

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(v) Ten, of which six are occupied by gazetted officials.

(vi) No.

(vii) Estimates are under preparation for the provision of wire-gauze doors and windows for the cook-houses. Provision is also being included for the remaining rooms where the cost involved will not increase the rent beyond the amount permissible under the rent rules.

(viii) Yes.

(ix) No, except in the few cases referred to in paragraph 7.

(x) The buildings on the Rivaz Gardens Estate were constructed at a much earlier date. The amenities in the Chauburji Gardens Estate were dependent on the cost at the time of actual construction and in many other respects, such as playing fields etc., which are maintained at Government expense with no additions to the rent, exceed those of the Rivaz Gardens.

#### EXTENSION OF SERVICE, IRRIGATION BRANCH.

**\*4240. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) the policy of Government in the matter of granting extensions of service after the age of superannuation in the Irrigation Branch of the Punjab Public Works Department ;
- (b) the number of persons who have been granted such extensions during the last two years and the grounds on which these extensions were granted ;
- (c) whether it was not possible to replace these men from amongst the junior staff ;
- (d) whether there are any such applications or cases now under consideration or pending consideration ;
- (e) whether Government is aware that just rights and expectations of people next in order are adversely affected by such extensions ;
- (f) what steps Government intends to take in order to safeguard the rights of such people ;
- (g) whether there are any openings for people in the Secretariat for promotion ;
- (h) if answer to (g) above be in the negative, what justification there is to sanction such extensions ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) As laid down in Fundamental Rule 56 and Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab's letter No. 1855-S. (H.—Gaz.), dated 1st July, 1927, a copy of which is laid on the table.

(b) One non-ministerial servant and 15 ministerial servants whose extensions have been granted or approved by the Chief Engineer. The information regarding the establishment controlled by Superintending Engineers is not available.

In the case of ministerial servants, efficiency is the criterion, and in the case of non-ministerial, public grounds.

- (c) Does not arise in view of reply given in (b) above.
- (d) None known to Chief Engineer.
- (e) The promotions of people next in order must be adversely affected, but their just rights and expectations must be considered in relation to the orders of Government quoted above.
- (f) Does not arise.
- (g) Yes.
- (h) Does not arise.

*Letter No. 1855-S. (H.—Gaz.), dated the 1st July, 1927, from Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to all heads of departments in the Punjab.*

*SUBJECT.—Retirement of ministerial servants between the ages of 55 and 60.*

I AM directed to invite attention to Fundamental Rule 56 (b) in accordance with which a ministerial servant may be required to retire at the age of 55 years, but should ordinarily be retained in service if he continues efficient up to the age of 60 years. I am desired to explain that in the application of this rule the test of efficiency should be applied with reference to the requirements of the post that the ministerial servant in question is filling, and that, if he is not efficient as judged by this standard, he should be required to retire at the age of 55 years.

In the case of higher ministerial posts, the duties of which involve responsibility <sup>or</sup> and the supervision of other clerks, the head of the office should not agree to retention in service beyond the age of 55 years, unless he is satisfied that the ministerial servant in question is fully able

to discharge the responsibilities of the post <sup>or</sup> and efficiently to carry out the supervision of his subordinates, as the case may be. Similarly, in regard to lower ministerial appointments the head of the office before agreeing to the retention in service should satisfy himself that the requirements of the appointment will be efficiently met if retention is allowed, and he should not sanction retention merely because he is satisfied that the work of the official in question will not be less efficient than it has formerly been.

2. In order that effect may be given to the above instructions, I am to ask that at least 4 months before a ministerial servant attains the age of 55 years, or if sanction to his retention in service has already been given at least 4 months before the date from which the sanction to further retention will take effect, the head of the office should consider the question of retention and, if he is satisfied that this should be allowed, he should certify in his own handwriting that the servant in question is capable of efficiently performing for the period of another year the duties of the appointment he holds.

#### POSSESSION OF SPEARS BY RESIDENTS OF QADIAN.

**\*4241. Pir Akbar Ali:** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some spears were recovered from the possession of certain residents of Qadian as reported in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, Lahore, in its issue of the 19th October, 1934;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative—
  - (i) the number of spears recovered;
  - (ii) the size of each spear specifying the size of the spear-head in each case;
  - (iii) the number of persons from whom the spears were recovered;

[ Pir Akbar Ali. ]

- (iv) the profession of each of the persons from whom the spears were recovered ;
- (v) whether any of these persons has been or has not been prosecuted for possession of the spears ; if not, why not ; if so, with what result ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) No. Only one spear was recovered.

(b) (i) One.

(ii) The spear head measured 12·1 inches and the shaft 26·4 inches.

(iii) One.

(iv) Blacksmith.

(v) No prosecutions were undertaken as no further recoveries of these weapons were made.

#### AHRAR AND AHMADIYA CONFERENCES.

**\*4242. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on the occasion of the Ahrar Conference near Qadian in October, 1934, members of the Ahmadiya community in Qadian were requested by the local authorities to abstain from—
  - (i) attending the said conference for any purpose whatsoever and
  - (ii) distributing their literature among the Ahrars ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that an Ahmadi on being suspected of distributing such literature near the Ahrar Conference was apprehended and then let off on his satisfying the police officer concerned that he was at the time of his apprehension on his way to his village and had not distributed any literature among the Ahrars ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that on the occasion of the annual gathering of the Ahmadiya community at Qadian in December, 1934, the Ahrars, numbering about fifteen thousand (*vide* report in the ' *Ihsan* ' newspaper of the 30th December, 1934) assembled at Qadian and that some of them led a procession from the railway station to the town ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that on the occasion of the aforesaid conference the Ahrars freely distributed objectionable literature to the extent of twenty thousand pamphlets (*vide* the ' *Ihsan* ' newspaper, dated the 30th December, 1934) among members of the Ahmadiya community ;
- (e) if the answer to (a), (b), (c) and (d) be in the affirmative, the reasons for the differential treatment meted out to the two communities on these occasions and also the legal authority for the apprehension of the individual referred to in (b) ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) (i) and (ii) Yes.

(b) An individual carrying Ahmadiya literature was found in the Tabligh Conference Camp and produced by the Ahrar volunteers before the local police. The individual was allowed to go after the police had satisfied themselves that he had not distributed literature in the camp.

(c) No. The facts are that during the annual meetings of Ahmadiyas at Qadian about 5,000 Muhammadans attended the Ahrar Juma prayers on the 28th December, 1984. There was no regular procession from the railway station to Qadian but about 50 Sunni Muhammadans met an Ahrar Maulvi at Qadian railway station and accompanied him to the town.

(d) No. The facts are that some copies of certain anti-Ahmadiya publications were distributed by Sunni Muhammadans in Qadian town on the first day of the annual Ahmadiya meetings on the 26th December, 1984. The distribution in the streets was stopped immediately the matter came to the notice of the local police.

(e) Does not arise.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF MOSQUE AT QADIAN BY AHRARS.

**\*4243. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ahrars started the erection of a building for the purposes of a mosque at Qadian in March, 1984, without making an application to the Small Town Committee of Qadian to obtain permission to erect the said building ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Small Town Committee on discovering that the building was proposed to be erected without its sanction proposed to stop the progress of the building and to demolish the portion which had been constructed without the requisite sanction ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Small Town Committee was first ordered by the Resident Magistrate, Batala, and then by the Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur, to accord immediate sanction for the building to the Ahrars ;
- (d) if the answer to (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, the authority for the action of the Resident Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) The president of the Town Committee issued a notice prohibiting the construction of the mosque without the sanction of the Committee. At that stage the digging of foundations only had begun.

(c) No. In view of the danger of a breach of the peace, the Resident Magistrate, Batala, and the Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur, asked both the parties to proceed according to law and the magistrate asked the president of the Town Committee to convene a special meeting of the Committee to consider the application presented by Umar Din, son of Gullu, of Qadian, for permission for the construction of the mosque. The building plan of the mosque was then sanctioned by the Committee unanimously.

(d) Does not arise.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan :** What authority had the Resident Magistrate over the Town Committee ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I think he acted in the interest of law and order and gave only advice.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan :** My question is whether the Resident Magistrate had authority to issue order to the Town Committee.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I do not think any authority is required to give advice.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan :** Do I understand then that his direction to the Committee was in the nature of advice ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I believe so. I am not aware of all the facts.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan :** Are we not entitled, when a Minister answers a question to expect that he is aware of all the facts ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** It is not always possible to anticipate supplementary questions.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Zafrulla Khan :** My supplementary question is contained in part (d) of the question which the Honourable Minister says does not arise.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I said in answer to part (c) that the Resident Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur, asked both the parties to proceed according to law. I think that in doing so they were fully justified.

#### ADDRESS BY AHRAR MAULVI AT QADIAN.

**\*4244. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the members of the Ahmadiya community are not allowed by the police to attend and take notes of the address delivered by the Ahrar Maulvi Inayatullah on Fridays at Qadian and that they are thus deprived of the opportunity of gaining first-hand knowledge of the allegations and accusations made against them and the doctrines of their faith and of being in a position to be able to refute such of them as are false and baseless ;

(b) if the answer to (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government proposes to take to remove this disability imposed upon the members of the Ahmadiya community ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) There is no order of the police preventing members of the Ahmadiya community from attending the Ahrar mosque on Fridays and taking notes of the addresses delivered by the Ahrar Maulvi Inayatullah. On two occasions within the past few months the presence of an Ahmadi reporter in the mosque used by Ahrars has caused an uproar necessitating police intervention in order to prevent a breach of the peace.

(b) Does not arise.



RAILWAY BUNDS.

**\*4245. Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the railway authorities have erected two bunds by the Sutlej Bridge near Giddar Pindi railway station in Jullundur district on Jullundur City-Ferozepore line ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the railway authorities have closed two small bridges between Lohian Khas railway station and Sutlej Bridge and have thus stopped the flow of water from Sutlej river when in floods ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the railway authorities have raised the level of the railway line between Giddar Pindi and Jogewala railway stations by nearly 5 or 6 feet ;
- (d) if the answer to questions (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, what protection Government proposes to give to the following villages in Jullundur district from being flooded or washed away by the floods from the Sutlej owing to the above-mentioned facts :—

Nadirpur, Sardawala, Marajwala, Kotha, Kang Khurd and Janian ;

- (e) whether it is a fact that the railway authorities have erected a *kacha* bund from the above-mentioned Sutlej Bridge to Budala to protect the villages of Ferozepore district from floods ;
- (f) if answer to (e) be in the affirmative, whether Government proposes to give the same protection to the above-mentioned villages in Jullundur district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INDUS WATER.

**\*4246. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the agreement or understanding arrived at between the Government of Bombay and the Punjab Government regarding the distribution of waters of the Indus and its tributaries ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The honourable member is referred to portions (a) and (b) of the reply given to Question No. 1176 in 1929.

Representatives of various parties, including the Punjab, interested in the distribution of the waters of the Indus and its tributaries have recently met in Delhi at the instance of the Government of India with a view to obtaining a decision on the subject by that Government with the least possible delay.

## DISTRIBUTION OF INDUS WATER.

**\*4247. Mr. Muhammad Din Malik :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to an article written by Sir Arnold Minto, Chief Engineer, Sind, which is given in the Asiatic Review (January number) 1935 and in which the writer urges that the province of the Punjab should not be allowed to draw more water from the Indus and its tributaries for her contemplated irrigation schemes ;
- (b) in view of this article and other cognate circumstances, what steps the Government is taking or proposes to take to safeguard the interests of the province ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Attention of Government has not been drawn previously to this article.

(b) The Punjab Government may be relied upon to press its just claims.

CASE PROFESSOR S. R. SYAL *versus* MR. R. F. NEAL, A. S. P., AND OTHERS.

**\*4248. Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) the total expenditure incurred by the Government in the case Professor S. R. Syal *versus* Mr. R. F. Neal, Assistant Superintendent of Police, and others ;
- (b) whether Government has taken any action as a result of the decree in the above suit ;
- (c) if any, what action ;
- (d) if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Rupees 12,581-2-0 ;

(b) and (c) Government after very careful consideration paid the amount of the decree and costs.

(d) Does not arise.

CASE MR. JAMNA DASS *versus* A NEWSPAPER.

**\*4249. Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Jamna Dass, Superintendent of Jail, Multan, has succeeded in getting a decree against one of the newspapers of Lahore ;
- (b) if so, whether Government have recovered from the decretal money the expenses incurred in connection with this case ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Rai Sahib Mehta Jamna Das, retired Jailor, Multan Central Jail, obtained a decree against the Punjab Akhbarat and Press Company.

(b) The whole of the amount recovered from the defendant was credited to Government towards the expenses of Government in connection with the suit. These, however, were far greater than the amount recovered.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

\*4250. **Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the salary *plus* travelling allowance drawn by the Assistant Director of Agriculture during the tenure of his office up-to-date ;
- (b) the expenditure (pay *plus* travelling allowance) incurred by Government when this post was held by the Extra Assistant Director of Agriculture ;
- (c) what steps the Government proposes to take to reduce the status of Assistant Director's post to that of Extra Assistant Director ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Mr. D. P. Johnston, I.A.S., the present Assistant Director of Agriculture, has drawn a sum of Rs. 21,488 and £ 507 as salary *plus* travelling allowance from the 4th October, 1933, viz., the date of his permanent appointment as Assistant Director of Agriculture up to the 28th February, 1935.

(b) The post of Assistant Director of Agriculture has never been held by an Extra Assistant Director of Agriculture.

(c) None.

SUB-INSPECTORS OF FISHERIES.

\*4251. **Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Messrs. Manzur Ellahi and Muhammad Salim Khan were accepted as Sub-Inspector of Fisheries candidates by the late Warden of Fisheries ;
- (b) whether their names were ultimately removed by the Warden ;
- (c) if so, the date when their names were removed and reasons for doing so ;
- (d) whether the above-named candidates were already in Government service at the time of their acceptance as Sub-Inspector of Fisheries candidates ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) M. Muhammad Salim Khan was directed to join for training in September, 1930, but failed to do so. His name was therefore removed from the list of candidates on 16th January, 1931.

M. Muhammad Manzur Elahi joined for training in November, 1930, but resigned in December, 1930. His name was removed from the list on 16th January, 1931.

(d) Government has no information on this point.

## CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIP.

**\*4252. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the total number community-wise, of approved candidates for public prosecutions in the province on the 1st January, 1935, specifying the number of statutory agriculturists among the candidates of each community and also give similar figures for the same date of those on the Crown lists of the High Court and those who are legal advisors or counsel to the Income Tax Commissioner or other public departments ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the reply given to question No. 4102<sup>1</sup> asked by him on the 28th February, 1935.

## JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

**\*4253. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

(a) the number of sub-judges, district and sessions judges and clerks of courts as on 31st December, 1934 ;

(b) the number of sub-judges recruited in the past five years, with their percentage community-wise ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle (Chief Secretary) :** (a)

District and sessions judges .. .. .	27
Subordinate judges .. .. .	168
Clerks of court .. .. .	51

(b) A statement containing the information required is laid on the table

*Statement.*

Year.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	Total.
1930 .. .. .	4	4	2	1	11
1931 .. .. .	4	4	2	1	11
1932 .. .. .	4	4	2	1	11
1933 .. .. .	No examination.				
1934 .. .. .	4	4	2	1	11
Total .. .. .	16	16	8	4	44
Percentage .. .. .	36·4	36·4	18·2	9·1	..

**Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Chief Secretary please give the number of clerks in the sub-judges' court and in the sessions judges' court separately?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle :** Yes, if the honourable member will give me notice.

## JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

**\*4254. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

(a) whether the recruitment of members of various communities to the posts of clerks of courts, senior sub-judges, sub-judges and district Judges, is made on the population basis ;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the negative, the reasons for it ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** (Chief Secretary) : (a) No.

(b) The policy of Government in this respect was stated in the Honourable Member for Finance's speech on the 19th July, 1927 (Volume X-B, page 877 of the Council Debates).

## CONGRESS SOCIALIST PARTY, RAWALPINDI.

**\*4255. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Congress Socialist party of Rawalpindi wanted to hold a public meeting on Basant festival and the City Inspector of Police even gave a written permission to the President of the Socialist Party, Abdul Aziz ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Inspector of Police tore off the permit and did not allow the meeting to be held ;

(c) whether the Congress Socialist party is declared unlawful ;

(d) if not, why the meeting was dispersed by the Police ;

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The Basant Panchmi festival is held in Rawalpindi at Bagh Sardaran—situated on the Nehru Road, and it has always been customary for the fair to be set apart for women exclusively up to 2 p. m. Certain men of the Congress Socialist Party came to the site shortly before 2 p. m. and wanted to push through a crowd of women, but they were stopped by certain volunteers of the Sewa Samitti, and a foot constable on duty as the women raised objection to their entry. On this Abdul Aziz accompanied by two or three men went to the City Inspector and told him that there was not very much time left for them to arrange for a public meeting at a place on the far side of the fair ground, and to enable them to get entry into the fair ground the City Inspector wrote a slip probably with the following words on it :—

*" In ko jane do "*

Verbally he instructed them to go round the edge of the fair ground and not push through the crowd of women. Instead of doing this the party went straight through the crowd of women, which the women and the Sewa Samiti volunteers resented and demanded that the Congress Socialist Party volunteers should be stopped. The Sub-Inspector on duty asked the Congress Socialist Party volunteers to wait till the women had moved off. This apparently annoyed the Congress workers, but the Sub-Inspector in question denies that he ever tore a chit issued by the City Inspector

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nor were any orders ever given that a meeting was not to be held by the Congress Socialist Party. The answers to the questions, therefore, are :—

(a) Yes, the Congress Socialist Party desired to hold a meeting, and held it, but no written permission was given nor did they ask for it ;

(b) No ;

(c) No.

(d) The question does not arise as the meeting was duly held.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** I want to know whether the complaint to the Sub-Inspector is in writing or not.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I have given all the information at my disposal and I shall be glad to give more if notice is given.

#### CONSPIRACY PRISONERS.

\*4256. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of conspiracy prisoners of 1914 still in jails ;

(b) the number of those released in the year 1934 ;

(c) whether the Government proposes to release the rest of them forthwith ;

(d) whether it is a fact that they have served about 20 years of imprisonment ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) One.

(b) Six.

(c) Government are not in a position to make any statement.

(d) Yes.

#### CONSPIRACY PRISONERS.

\*4257. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of last conspiracy prisoners (Crown *versus* Jahangiri Lal, etc.) who are serving their terms outside the Province ;

(b) whether it is a fact that after two years the Government asked the conspiracy prisoners to give a statement as to their social status ;

(c) whether the Government is reconsidering their classification ;

(d) why such steps are being taken after two years ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) None.

(b) No, after one year.

(c) Government are not reconsidering their classification but are considering the question of the confirmation of the classification awarded by the Commission.

(d) The Commission who tried the case of these prisoners did not submit their recommendation for 'B' class for the confirmation of Government. It was discovered only in November last that the classification as 'B' class of these prisoners had not been confirmed by Government.

#### MARTIAL LAW PRISONERS.

\*4258. **Chaudhri Afzal Haq** : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of martial law prisoners now in jails ;
- (b) the number of those who were released in the year 1984 ;
- (c) whether the Government now proposes to release all the martial law prisoners ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that all of them have served more than 14 years of imprisonment ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** : (a) Fourteen.

(b) Two.

(c) Government are not in a position to make any statement.

(d) Yes.

#### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

##### GIDDARBABA CIVIL DISPENSARY.

1095. **Pir Akbar Ali** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state re Giddarbaba Civil Dispensary (Ferozepore district) for the year 1984 :—

- (a) the number of indoor patients treated ;
- (b) how many of them are residents of the Ferozepore district ;
- (c) the number of operations performed ;
- (d) whether Government gives anything by way of grant to the said dispensary ;
- (e) if answer to (d) be in the negative, whether keeping in view the useful work done by the said dispensary, he proposes to find means to allow it a handsome amount by way of grant ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** : (a) 3,638.

(b) 2,666.

(c) 7,886.

(d) No.

(e) The question of giving a grant can be considered on receipt of an application from the local body maintaining the dispensary.

##### PASS PERCENTAGE IN SHASTRI EXAMINATION.

1096. **Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the pass percentage of candidates in the Shastri examination of the University of the Punjab for the year 1984 ;

[Shrimati Lekhwati Jain.]

- (b) if it has been below 20 per cent. in 1934, whether he intends to enquire from other Universities of India what the pass percentages have been in this subject during 1934?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) 20·3 per cent.

- (b) Does not arise.

#### QUACKS.

**1097. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that printed posters of medicines prepared by medical men not having been trained or certified by any duly recognised allopathic, ayurvedic or unani institute of medicines are often seen adorning prominent places not only in all towns but also small villages ;
- (b) if so, what action the Government proposes to take in order to check the trade of quacks and cheats ?

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

- (b) None, Government has no statutory power to prevent untrained persons from practising as physicians and surgeons.

#### DEWALI OCCASION.

**1098. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Government is aware of the general impression that the Police relaxes its vigilance over gambling stalls on the Dewali day and night ;
- (b) the number of prosecutions launched and convictions secured in connection with the gambling on the Dewali occasion for the last three years, respectively, in the district of Amritsar ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) No. No instructions have been issued to the Police to relax their vigilance over gambling on the occasion of the Dewali.

(b) Year.	Number of persons prosecuted.	Number of persons convicted.
1932 .. ..	6	1
1933 .. ..	9	2
1934 .. ..	5	3



## MOTOR ACCIDENTS.

**1099. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state the number of motor accidents in the Punjab during the last three years respectively as well as the number of deaths caused thereby each year during this period ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** In 1932 there were 555 accidents and 64 deaths ; in 1933, 410 accidents and 148 deaths ; and in 1934, 579 accidents and 191 deaths.

## DISCOVERIES IN SCIENCE.

**1100. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of new discoveries made in each year in different fields of science by Indian and European professors in various institutions during the last five years ;

(b) the number of inventions duly patented by Punjabis in India each year during the last five years respectively ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) It is not in the public interest to incur expenditure on the enquiry. moreover the question is not clearly understood.

(b) This information is available in the Government of India, not in the Punjab.

## ELECTRICAL INSPECTORATE.

**1101. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to separate the Electrical Inspectorate from the Buildings and Roads Circle of the Public Works Department ;

(b) whether he is aware of the replies given by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to Council question No. \*3167<sup>1</sup> asked by me on 19th March, 1934, regarding the qualifications of a European Executive Engineer appointed to officiate as Electrical Inspector towards the end of 1932 ;

(c) whether this European gentleman is a Corporate Member of a Chartered Institute and possesses the qualifications necessary for the post of an Electrical Inspector ;

(d) what are the minimum qualifications for the post of Electrical Inspector as laid down in section 86 and Rule 3 of the Indian Electricity Act of 1910 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No decision has yet been reached.

(b) Yes.

(c) He is not a Corporate Member of a Chartered Institute, but he is believed to possess such qualifications as are necessary.

(d) The honourable member is referred to the rule quoted by him.

## ELECTRICAL INSPECTORATE.

**1102. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) (i) the number of orders issued by the officiating Electrical Inspector under section 34 of the Indian Electricity Act during his officiating period last year ;
- (ii) the number of such orders actually complied with by the licensees to whom the orders were issued ;
- (iii) the number of orders which remained uncomplied with and why ;
- (iv) the number of orders withdrawn and why ;
- (b) the number of orders passed by the officiating Electrical Inspector which were questioned by licensees on whom these were served (as *ultra vires*) ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that in some of the cases in which the licensees failed to comply with the orders this officiating Electrical Inspector applied for Government orders for their prosecution ;
- (d) the number of cases with brief details in which the prosecution was not sanctioned and why ;
- (e) the scale of fees charged for inspection and re-inspection under the Electricity and Cinematograph Acts ;
- (f) the number of inspections and re-inspections carried out during the officiating period of this Inspector ;
- (g) whether it is a fact that the fees prescribed were not realised in all cases requiring payment of fees ;
- (h) the number of re-inspections carried out without charging the prescribed fees and the approximate loss involved to Government due to these non-realizations of fees ;
- (i) whether he is aware that the electrical industry is making rapid strides in the province and that a large number of fatal accidents have taken place recently ;
- (j) whether he considers it advisable to appoint a really competent man in the interest of public safety ;
- (k) whether he intends to submit the case of the appointment of Electrical Inspector to the Public Service Commission of India ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) (i) Four.

(ii) Two.

(iii) Two. The licensee on whom these orders were served took action under section 18 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

(iv) No such orders were withdrawn.

(b) One.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A copy of Punjab Government (Electricity) Notification No. 54-W., dated 28th January, 1933, as amended subsequently together with a copy of rule 16-A of the rules framed under clauses (a) and (c) of sub-section (2) of section 8 of the Cinematograph Act, 1918, is placed on the table.

(f) Forty-two.

(g) No.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) Yes.

(j) Yes.

(k) No consideration has yet been given to the point.

# GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB.

## (ELECTRICITY).

The 23rd January, 1933.

No. 54-W.—The following scale of fees for testing and inspection and generally for the services of the Electric Inspector under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, has been prescribed by the Punjab Government in accordance with the provisions of Rule 5 (2) of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1922, in supersession of this office notification No. 764-W., dated the 16th November, 1932, and is hereby published for general information :—

		Rs.
(1) For inspecting, testing and giving a decision on an appeal covered by Rule 25.	(a) Low pressure ..	25
	(b) Medium pressure ..	30
	(c) High Pressure ..	40
(2) Testing and giving a decision on the accuracy of disputed meters and other apparatus, under section 26 (6) and (7) of the Act.	(a) Low pressure ..	15
	(b) Medium pressure ..	20
	(c) High pressure ..	30
(3) Testing of meters or other similar apparatus submitted for certification.	(a) Low pressure ..	10
	(b) Medium pressure ..	15
	(c) High pressure ..	20

Provided that if more than one meter of the same rating is submitted for certification at the same time, the following reduced charges shall be made for every meter after the first :—

		Rs.
	(a) Low pressure ..	2
	(b) Medium pressure ..	3
	(c) High pressure ..	4
(4) Decision of disputes ..	Section 21 (4) ..	20
	Section 26 (4) ..	10
	Clause VI (3) of the Schedule..	30
(5) For making a pressure test at the applicant's premises or site of works.	(a) Low pressure ..	15
	(b) Medium pressure ..	20
	(c) High pressure ..	25
(6) For each re-inspection of an electrical installation.	(a) Low pressure ..	20
	(b) Medium pressure (including installations falling under rule 52) ..	25
	(c) High pressure ..	35

N.B.—No fee is charged for an original inspection under the Indian Electricity Act, but the above fees are chargeable for each re-inspection necessitated by the fault of a licensee owner or consumer.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

**Norms.**—(1) On receipt of an application in connection with a dispute between a consumer and a licensee as to the correctness of any meter, the Electric Inspector will arrange with the consumer and the licensee for an officer to attend at the premises of the consumer. The officer will take charge of the meter which is not to be disconnected from the circuit except in his presence and then only by the licensee.

(2) Applications for the tests referred to above should be made in writing to the Electric Inspector to Government, Punjab, Lahore.

(3) Government will not be responsible for any damage to any meter, nor for any loss sustained in consequence of the time that may elapse before the test is completed.

A. R. ASTBURY,

*Secretary to Government, Punjab (Electricity).*

*Rules made under clauses (a) and (c) of sub-section (2) of section 8 of the Cinematograph Act, II of 1918, as subsequently amended.*

\* \* \* \* \*

### *Inspection.*

\* \* \* \* \*

16-A. Before granting a licence the District Magistrate shall call upon the Electric Inspector to examine the electric appliances to be used in the cinema premises and to report as to their efficiency and safety for purposes of cinematograph exhibitions. Defects revealed by such inspections shall be brought to the notice of the District Magistrate who may refuse to grant a license unless and until they are remedied to his satisfaction. The charge for an inspection by the Electric Inspector under this rule shall be fifty rupees for the first and one hundred rupees for the second inspection, should a second be necessary before a license can be granted.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ELECTRICAL INSPECTORATE.

**1103. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- the number of Electrical Inspecting Officers including the Inspectors and their assistants who have been gazetted as such ;
- the percentage of the various communities on the present strength of the Inspectorate ;
- whether he is prepared to entertain the services of suitable qualified Muslims in the above services and thus give effect to the Resolution of Government of India for better representation of the Muslim community ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) 10.

(b) Muslims ..	..	..	..	..	20%
Hindus ..	..	..	..	..	50%
Sikhs ..	..	..	..	..	10%
Europeans and Anglo-Indians ..	..	..	..	..	20%

(c) Under the present arrangements the staff on the executive side which is in the portfolio of Honourable Minister for Agriculture, works also on the inspection side. The question, therefore, does not arise.

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

MISCELLANEOUS (RESERVED).

*Rural Reconstruction.*

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the motion :—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,33,500, Commissioner, Rural Reconstruction.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural) : I suppose everybody here is well aware of the position that the Punjab is a country of villages. No political or social advancement is possible unless and until we devote our special attention to the amelioration of the condition of the rural masses at large. In order to achieve that end, it is desirable that we should concentrate our whole attention to improve the condition of these people. On a matter of principle also they have a right to this special attention being devoted to them. We have learnt from the learned speech of the Honourable Finance Member the other day that these people pay Rs. 272 lakhs as land revenue and 409½ lakhs of rupees on account of irrigation dues and water rates. So, even if there is no other right of these people for having the money spent on the amelioration of their condition, this fact alone is sufficient to justify it. So far as urban areas are concerned, they have got their rate-payers' associations and in spite of the fact that the taxes which they pay to the Government are absolutely incomparable to those which the rural people pay, they are always loud in their lamentations when their rights are interfered with even by an inch. On the other hand the rural people, the speechless dumb masses, have no organisation to ventilate their grievances. But that does not mean that we should not care much for their rights. If we go to the countryside, what do we see? Take the case of the ordinary village with heaps of refuse scattered here and there, with narrow and insanitary lanes, with marshy expanse of water spread all over. That is the favourite haunt of diseases such as plague, cholera, malaria, pneumonia, etc. There is a saying that any calamity wherever it might have been destined to go, finds its way in the home of the poor zamindar and it finds its proper place of rest there. This also reminds me of a couplet of Anwari :—

✓ ہر بلائے کو آسمان آید      کچھ ہر دیگراں قضا باشد  
✓ بر زمین نا رسیدہ مے پرسد      خانہ البری کجا باشد ؟

“Every calamity that descends from heaven though it might be destined for others, without reaching the Earth it asks where would the house of Anwari be?”

Every calamity which fate might have meant for the city of Lahore or other urban area, goes to the house of a poor zamindar because the sanitary conditions are such that it finds its best food there. The other day the honourable member from Hoshiarpur, Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit, was criticising the programme which is being carried on by this Commissioner for Rural Reconstruction and his staff. He was criticising the mosquito nets, ventilations, Howard quinine and so on and so forth. He asked, are these the things on which the money is to be spent? I would like to assure him that

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these are not the only things which comprise the programme of rural reconstruction work. They are only links in the chain. In this programme we should also include, and I hope they will be included, the establishment of maternity centres, child welfare centres, hospitals and educational institutions as well as the distribution of good seeds and keeping of good stud bulls. I would suggest that something out of the department of industries and agriculture, as they stand to-day, should form part of this rural reconstruction work. If we cannot spare money otherwise we should try more and more to amalgamate these two departments. There will be nothing materially gained unless we do this and establish cottage industries, village industries and give good seed to the people and help the agricultural farms. It does not mean that either of these departments should be altogether abolished. But we may more and more amalgamate them so that they may form a good whole from which the people will benefit. So far as the actual expenditure is concerned, I do not think we can say that they are spending much in any way. Even those luxuries which are given to officers in districts are denied to them. There is no camp clerk to the Personal Assistant to the Commissioner for Rural Reconstruction and to the Commissioner himself, though these are given to the inspectors of co-operative societies and even to assistant district inspectors of schools. The Commissioner is getting Rs. 250 a month as permanent travelling allowance. I do not say either that this is a big amount or a small amount. But I would like to point out that an officer who is supposed to tour over the whole province should not be considered to be having too much when we give him this paltry sum. I do not like to talk about the various details. I have given a general idea and I would like the Government to spare some money to be spent on this uplift work in order that we may educate our masses and they may become good citizens.

**Professor W. Roberts** (Nominated, non-official): I have very few words to say on this motion and those are in favour of the work that the Commissioner for Rural Reconstruction is doing. The only point in regard to this motion, where I think this distinguished officer has been put in an invidious position, is that practically no resources have been placed at his disposal to carry out the great work which he is engaged on. From that point of view the criticism of this House is fully justified. One other aspect, I have heard is, that the Government of India will be giving a grant to this province of between 7 to 10 lakhs. I should like to have some statement from Government whether they have any definite information about this money and secondly what definite plans they are making for utilising it, whether they are leaving it to be spent without planning properly or whether they have a proper plan prepared and if so, by whom.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi** (Shahpur West, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): It is very gratifying to note that the whole of India is now clamouring for rural uplift. I find that every politically-minded person whether he be a Government official, a congressite, or a liberal, is favourably inclined towards this movement. It is indeed the good fortune of the country that the Government is thinking of improving the condition of that class which is undoubtedly the mainstay of the nation. I do not want to dwell on this point; I just want to say this much that the

Government should pay greater attention to this work. They have fixed some money in the budget for this purpose, but I regret to say that that amount is far too small for this gigantic work. However, it is very fortunate that the Government of India have allotted one crore of rupees for the rural uplift. We shall now anxiously watch how the Punjab Government and Mr. Brayne, by their tact, ability, and efficiency, will please the Government of India and persuade them to give to the Punjab Government more money for this work. I, therefore, trust that both Mr. Brayne and the Punjab Government will leave no stone unturned to get as much money as possible from the Government of India in order to accomplish this prodigious task. With these few words I support the cut under discussion.

**Khan Bahadur Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani** (Non-official, nominated) (*Urdu*): I can say without any fear of contradiction that there is no divergence of opinion on the immediate necessity of rural reconstruction. It has now been recognized on all hands that the rural uplift is one of the most vital needs of the country at this juncture. It is not correct to say that the Government has done nothing to improve the conditions of the villages, but it cannot be denied that the efforts of the Government in this direction have not attained the amount of success which could have been expected. The reason, in my opinion, is that the various beneficent departments of the Government hitherto worked independently of each other and there was no set programme of work. The work was left to the whims and fancies of the local officers. Mr. Brayne was the first to point out the necessity of co-ordination between various beneficent departments and the importance of joint action. He started the work of rural reconstruction in Gurgaon district with a definite programme before him. His efforts met with unprecedented success and earned for him a worldwide reputation and admiration. After the experiment of Gurgaon the government realised that working in a haphazard and unsystematic way will not lead them far, and they decided that a definite programme should be formulated and the work of rural reconstruction should be started on scientific basis. The Punjab Government can deservedly take pride in giving a lead to India in this direction. The deputy commissioners were instructed to form rural uplift societies in their districts and to consider the work of rural reconstruction as a part of their duty. Efforts were made to ensure co-operation and co-ordination between the local officers of various beneficent departments as well as the non-official agencies. This system had also one drawback. There was no uniformity in the rural reconstruction work carried on in various districts and every deputy commissioner had his own programme of work and on his transfer from the district his successor pursued a different line of action which he thought fit according to his own lights. There was no consistency either in the policy or in the line of action. Moreover, the officers of various beneficent departments working in the districts did not always accept the programme of work suggested by the deputy commissioners as they were responsible to their respective departments and not to the deputy commissioners. It was, therefore, felt that the government should draw up a programme of work which should be followed by all the beneficent departments in close co-operation and co-ordination with each other. The Punjab Legislative Council also supported this view and suggested the appointment of an experienced officer who should draw up a programme for united action. With

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this end in view the Government appointed Mr. Brayne as Commissioner for Rural Reconstruction. The Government could not have thought of any better person for this work than Mr. Brayne, who can be styled as "the father" of this movement in India. With his wide experience and vast knowledge in this line he was most suited for this work. I hope after a careful study of the local conditions and requirements Mr. Brayne will be able to suggest a line of action and a programme of work which will be followed by each department concerned in every district. If the rural reconstruction work is done on scientific lines it will be easier to judge the success or otherwise of the work from time to time and it will be possible to cover the ground in a comparatively shorter period and without any wastage of energy and money. It is necessary to have an officer with sufficient staff to watch the activities of various departments in rural areas and to make them work in close co-operation with each other and also to give them a push wherever it is needed. Otherwise there is a danger of their becoming independent of each other and thus mitigating the benefits of joint action, which is so essential in the work of rural reconstruction. It has been rightly complained time and again that the rural population has received much less attention than the urban people. The attention of the Government has been focussed at the big cities where the people are well versed in the art of propaganda and agitation while the peace loving population of the rural areas which forms the bulk of the population of the province has not received due amount of attention. The government officers have said on many occasions that the zamindars are the backbone of the country. On their prosperity and well-being depends the prosperity and well-being of the whole country. The unfair and unequal burden of taxation, the heavy indebtedness and usurious rates of interest and unprecedented fall in the prices of land produce have eaten deep into the backbone of the country and it is at the verge of breaking. It is high time that these deep-rooted diseases should be uprooted and the backbone of the country should be properly treated and nourished. I am afraid the Punjab Government is entirely mistaken if it thinks that it will be possible to accomplish this gigantic task with the small amount of money which it has allotted in the budget for this purpose but I think the Punjab Government has an eye on the money sanctioned by the Government of India for this purpose. I would, therefore, urge that the Punjab Government should strain every nerve to get as much money from the Government of India as possible for this purpose and set about the work of rural reconstruction with singular zeal, enthusiasm and earnestness. It is gratifying to note that the Congress has also thought of improving the lot of rural population and has realized the importance and significance of rural reconstruction. These are mere words of sympathy so far but let us hope that these sympathetic utterances will be translated into practice. I, however, congratulate the Government of India for having a march on the Congress by sanctioning one crore of rupees to start the work of rural reconstruction. The Punjab being the largest wheat and cotton growing province in India can be termed as the centre of agricultural activities in the country. It is almost entirely a rural province, if I may say so, as an overwhelming majority of its population lives in villages. The Punjab, therefore, needs more attention in the way of rural reconstruction work. Punjab was, as a matter of fact, the first to realise the necessity and importance of rural



uplift movement. Our province certainly deserves a greater share of the Government of India allotment for rural reconstruction, as its needs are greater and more pressing than any other part of India. It is, moreover, a fortunate coincidence that we have a man of Mr. Brayne's capability, efficiency and experience in charge of this work here and the Government of India should be assured that they will have a full value of their money spent in the Punjab under the guidance of that champion of the cause of rural reconstruction, Mr. Brayne.

**Khan Bahadur Captain Malik Muzaffar Khan** (Mianwali, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I too have risen to make a few observations in support of this cut. Members from all sections of the House have spoken on this cut, and I, as a representative of the zamindars, feel that I must also say a few words in respect to this motion. The condition of villages is very bad indeed and they require a great deal of help. These people have always been loyal to the Government and have rendered valuable services to the Crown. The zamindars are the mainstay of the country. When Mr. Brayne took in hand this work of rural reconstruction, he had to encounter a good many difficulties. But he did not lose heart and steadily went on with the work he had taken upon his shoulders. His subordinates have also been working most willingly and have given him full co-operation. So far no member of this House has said anything against their work, but during the general discussion of the budget an honourable member called this department a white elephant and said that instead of creating this department it would be better to engage a few graduates to carry on this work. I think my learned friend, Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit, made this remark in a light-hearted manner. I do not want to talk disparagingly of graduates. They are really clever men and I have every regard for them. But in the villages they will have to deal with the digging of pits, manure, and many other unpleasant tasks. In this connection I am reminded of an incident. Once Mr. Brayne was passing by a village and he saw a dead dog which was polluting the whole atmosphere. Mr. Brayne at once got down from his horse and took a piece of rope with which he tied the legs of the dog. Then he got a pit dug and buried the dog there. By burying the dog he saved people from disease and helped them to get more *khad*. Will our graduates be able to do all these things? They will not bear the sight of a dead dog and will scarcely tolerate its offensive smell. They will require a basin for washing their hands, a towel, a soap case and some sort of scent. Delicate as they are, how can they do such disagreeable things? But the sons of zamindars may do these things. I am not attacking the graduates in any way. But I feel that if the graduates who are sons of zamindars are given proper training they may be of some help. They have sympathy for the zamindars and they will not shrink from this work. This step will prove useful and the movement will also flourish. The money provided by the Government is far too small. The Rural Reconstruction Department should be given sufficient money to do its work efficiently and on a large scale. The Industrial, Medical, and other departments should give their co-operation to this department and make it a success. The Government ought to give more money to this department for rural uplift work. The poor villagers do not get help in the same way as the people in towns do. The urban people can threaten the Government and the Government can find leisure for them

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and give them money also, but for poor zamindars the Government finds no time nor does it give them the necessary monetary help. The money which the Punjab Government has provided for this village uplift work is too small for this province. They should do their best to get double and treble the amount of money from the Government of India and spend it on the welfare of the zamindars. With these words I support this cut.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural) : There cannot be two opinions about the usefulness of this work of rural reconstruction, but in some quarters there is an objection to the method or line of action on which this work is done. Prior to the introduction of the Reforms, there used to be one Lieutenant-Governor and two Financial Commissioners and the work of the Government used to be carried on by these three officers. Since the introduction of the Reforms there have been a number of departments, Department of Agriculture, Industries, Co-operative Societies, Education, Public Health and so on. Why ? When there are so many beneficent departments already I do not know whether there is any necessity for a further addition of this reconstruction department, and whether there is any necessity to place such a highly salaried officer in charge of a department which is only a side issue. Cannot these departments be co-ordinated and can they not carry on this work ? What authority Mr. Brayne has when he goes about in the districts and what amount have you placed in his hands for this very good work ? One lakh, for the whole of the province which is not equal to a drop in the ocean. If he wants to seek the help of any body he has to secure the help of the district officers. This work can very well be done by the Financial Commissioner, Development. He can issue a letter and pull the ears of deputy commissioners and can at once have the work done cheaply and efficiently. Moreover, Mr. Brayne, had he been incharge of a division, could have set an example to the other four commissioners and there would have been a competition among them and all of them would have showed very good work which he is now doing single handed. He is simply doing propaganda work and cannot even stay for more than two or three days at one place and see whether his advice is being acted upon.

Furthermore is it such a technical subject for which a highly paid officer is necessary ? Cannot an ordinary officer be placed on special duty to look after the cleaning of huts, digging of manure pits and advertising the necessity for good seed ? In the speech of the Honourable Finance Member it was put down that this sum had been provided for propagation and distribution of good seed. If that is the only object I do not see any necessity for this separate department. As I have already stated the efforts of these various departments can be co-ordinated and the work can be done in my opinion more easily and efficiently. We do not know what the Government has in mind. Had the Honourable Revenue Member spoken on the subject we would have been in a position to know what programme the Government has chalked out for rural reconstruction. For want of such information I feel that I am a little handicapped. I have not the least objection to rural reconstruction but my objection is to the method which has been adopted and the amount which has been provided by Government.

**Khan Sahib Risaldar Bahadur Nur Khan** (Rawalpindi, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I want to express my deep sense of gratitude to the Government who have very kindly thought of starting the rural reconstruction work. The villages are a kind of spring from which the Government derive all their resources. It is from among the villagers that the Government raise their armies which go and fight in the battlefield. It is really very kind of Government that they have entrusted this task of rural uplift to a man of Mr. Brayne's ability, efficiency, and experience. Mr. Brayne has been the Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum, and we are fully aware of his qualities of head and heart. He is a great well-wisher of the zamindars, he is sympathetic, capable, and the most suitable man for this purpose. His appointment to this work is appreciated by everybody. But I feel that the money provided by the Punjab Government for this village work is very small. The work to be done in the villages does not merely consist in preaching to the villagers that there should be sufficient ventilators in their houses, and that the rubbish should be buried under-ground; the real trouble of the villagers is their hunger, and we have to cure this trouble. That is the real disease for which we should find out a remedy. If the Government of India and the Government of the Punjab work together, they will relieve the poor zamindars of their good many anxieties.

It has been suggested by one honourable member that only graduates should be appointed for this work. There is no denying the fact that graduates are useful persons. But just as only the person in the middle of a running stream can feel the strength of the current, similarly, it is only the zamindars who can fully realise the difficulties of the villagers and are therefore better fitted for rural reconstruction work. A graduate who is born in a rich family and has resided in some hostel for some years cannot be expected to know much of the countryside. There are not many graduates amongst the zamindars and those who are there have not been able to pass their degree examination in first class. I, therefore, request that when the question of selection arises, zamindar graduates should be given preference to non-zamindar graduates. With these words I resume my seat.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural): It is a great compliment to Mr. Brayne that a very large number of speakers have made speeches in favour of his department. Further it is another exhibition of the readiness of human nature to pay its homage to authority. But I will not go into side issues. There are two things which require to be made perfectly clear. Activities for the reconstruction of rural life is one thing and the creation of a fresh department for rural reconstruction is an entirely different thing. So far as the diversion of larger funds to be spent on activities for the uplift of rural people or for the amelioration of rural population is concerned I am whole-heartedly at one with every word that has fallen from the lips of every speaker in this House. A provision of Rs. 50,000 or even ten or fifteen lakhs is mere fleabite so far as the object in view is concerned. The object which we have all favoured requires crores and crores, not merely lakhs. But if it is intended that a fresh department, a permanent department for the reconstruction of rural life should be created I am absolutely opposed to it. It is very natural for individual members to take an one-sided view, and to fail to take a comprehensive view of the subject as a whole. At present we have just the acti-

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vities of Mr. Brayne before our eyes. We know the activities are very good. We know that the activities are intended for the good of the rural population to which most of us belong, and with whom every member of this House sympathises. But that should not mislead us into a step which may become very difficult to retrace later on. We have been fighting in this House fairly vigorously that the number of commissioners should be reduced. But instead of any of the five commissioners being reduced you have a sixth commissioner added, and if it is intended that we should help in the creation of a fresh department over the destinies of which a fresh commissioner is to preside, I am afraid I must dissociate myself from any proposal of that character. But those who know how Mr. Brayne came to be appointed for this particular work also know that he was never intended to form the nucleus of an additional permanent department. He was appointed for a limited period and for a limited purpose. That limited period was, of course, never specified but it was not expected to go beyond about two years. The limited purpose of the appointment was that the subject of rural reconstruction seemed to require special attention, and it was felt that it was necessary to appoint temporarily a special officer in charge of those activities. The work that Mr. Brayne was expected to do was to focus attention of existing departments on the great need of rural reconstruction. He was never supposed to be a fresh centre of a fresh department; nor was he supposed to become a fresh channel of independent expenditure. The purpose of his appointment was, as I suggested, to focus attention on the great need for rural reconstruction and to stir a little more life in the existing departments which did not pay sufficient attention to this work and also for the time being to co-ordinate the activities of these departments. I must draw the attention of members of the House to the fact that there is no beneficent activity which cannot be undertaken by departments which already exist for the purpose. The Education Department is there, the Public Health Department is there, the Agricultural Department is there, the Co-operative Department is there, the Industries Department is there. Can anybody conceive that there is any class of activities which cannot be undertaken by one or more of these departments for the uplift of the rural population or for the purpose of ameliorating the conditions of rural areas? The answer is one and one only. These departments are quite sufficient and quite competent to undertake the whole of this work and to execute it. The only purpose which seemed to require the services of a special officer for a limited period was that he should be able to create a little much needed enthusiasm in the bosom of those who had not felt it so far. Whether the idea of undertaking rural reconstruction was first mooted by the Congress or by Government or by anybody else is a matter which need not really agitate us at all. Let us confine ourselves to the present motion. I am wholeheartedly in support of placing fresh funds at the disposal of departments whose business it is to promote rural reconstruction. But I am not in favour of creating a fresh department.

Another thing which I should very much like to draw the attention of Government to is that before they enter upon any large scheme of rural reconstruction and earmark funds for it out of the money that is likely to

come to us from the Government of India they should give very close attention to the objects on which and the manner in which that money is to be spent. In this connection it would be a good thing if representatives from the various sections of the House are taken into confidence. We should not enter upon any haphazard scheme and fritter away the money which we are likely to get from the Government of India. Our share is likely to be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 10 lakhs. Set apart one lakh so far as the work of propaganda or pamphleteering is concerned. That can be easily done and if any more money is needed by Mr. Brayne for that purpose it can come out of the sum of one lakh which has already been placed at the disposal of the Finance Department. But so far as this big sum of eight or ten lakhs is concerned I think that should not be placed at the disposal of Mr. Brayne. That money should be placed at the disposal of heads of various other departments who are already in existence. Of course Mr. Brayne's services will be there just for the purpose of creating fresh interest and rousing fresh enthusiasm in the hearts of those who have not felt them before. But the direct spending of funds for fresh activities should rest with the departments under which those activities legitimately fall.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh** (Multan division and Sheikhupura, Sikh, Rural): I had no mind to take part in this discussion but after hearing the Leader of the Unionist Party I feel compelled to support him in the view that there is absolutely no necessity of creating a new department for the purpose of rural reconstruction. Those who are living in the countryside will fully agree with me that the departments of Government concerned, especially the Agricultural Department, are trying their utmost to ameliorate the conditions of the rural people by means of theatrical performances, demonstrations and other conceivable methods showing people that cleanliness is next to godliness and that they should raise their standard of living and so on and so forth. I can pay testimony myself to the success with which this work has been done. As regards the Co-operative Department I am connected with that department in a way and so I know fully well that every year there is a fair held at the headquarters of the district and there each inspector and

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also the Registrar take part and make speeches that the zamindars should try to get hold of better seeds and similarly they should try to make use of better implements and so on. Similarly I know something about the Health Department. I think the doctors are already doing propaganda work amongst the villagers and they and the district medical officers are trying to impress upon the people who are living in the countryside that they should try to keep their premises clean as health is even better than wealth so on and so forth. I do not therefore understand the special need for employing such a highly paid officer for this post. I realise the real necessity for ameliorating the conditions of the zamindars but that can be done without our spending so much money. For instance, everybody in this House is aware that corruption is rampant in almost every department. I was going to say that they are trying to squeeze the last drop of blood from the zamindars.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan**: How is that relevant?

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh**: There are officers who do not take drastic action against corruption amongst their subordinates, say

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in the Canal Department. Because the Revenue Member has put this question, I am prepared to meet him on his own ground.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please speak to the motion ?

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** I was saying that to ameliorate the condition of the zamindars there are other methods to which Government should resort. My point was that corruption which is to be found everywhere in all these departments—

**Mr. President :** Corruption is not under discussion now.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** Any way I think I have made myself quite clear that there is absolutely no necessity of creating a new department because the departments already existing are doing very good work and they should be helped in every possible method available to Government.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member) (Urdu): According to a well-known Urdu saying—

ہر ایک نے اپنے آپ کو دیکھا ہے

every one in this House appears to have begun taking interest in the welfare of the rural population. We hear from every corner of the House the call that steps should be taken to ameliorate the condition of the zaminadar. It is really a happy sign of the times and no one is happier than myself to witness this change in the attitude of members belonging to different sections of the House. The Government welcome this change in the outlook of honourable members who really deserve to be congratulated. But I cannot help saying that some of the honourable members appear to be labouring under a serious misunderstanding of the situation. I am surprised to see that honourable members like Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi, who being fully aware of what the Government has always been doing to promote the interests of the zamindars and the rural population should also have joined the chorus and should have exhibited the same ignorance of facts as some of my other friends here and in the Assembly, particularly my friends of the Congress Party, exhibited not long ago regarding this matter. It needs no great proof to show that the movement for the rural reconstruction and for the general welfare of the rural population is neither a new one nor started after Mahatma Gandhi made a move in this direction. As will be admitted by the House, British Government has always protected and promoted the interest of the rural population and a definite move was made in this direction, and it gives me some pain to say so, not by any public-spirited Indian but by a white-coloured man, Mr. Brayne, more than ten years ago at Gurgaon. I have a pamphlet in my hands which gives an account of the activities of Mr. Brayne in this direction. This pamphlet was written by me—I mean by one of my representatives who can write better English than I can.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** What is the year of the publication referred to ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The year is not given here, but as I have said it was written and published some ten years ago,

so the year must be 1925. It is, therefore, apparent that a beginning in this direction was made not only recently but many years ago and it will be more correct to say that the Congress followed the lead. And here I may say that it has given us very great pleasure to see that the Congress has after all begun to devote its attention to this all-important question and has started the work of rural reconstruction. To remove any misgivings on this point I may assure the House that nothing is farther from the intention of the Government than to discourage or to look askance at these activities of the Congress provided always that the intentions of the Congress workers are good and there is nothing sinister in their activities. I do not mean to say that so far I have any reasons to doubt the *bona fides* of the leader of this movement, Mahatma Ji, who, I know, possesses angelic qualities. I do not doubt either the activities or the *bona fides* of persons like Colonel Shamsher Singh, retired Civil Surgeon, and Bibi Amrit Kaur who are very well-known for their integrity and honesty of purpose and who have chosen to step into this field of work as lieutenants of Mahatma Gandhi. Government are rather pleased to find such workers in this field who will render the task of rural reconstruction easy for the Government. I may again say that Government will always welcome their help, but only so long as it is sure that the intentions of the workers of the Congress are pure. I think I have made the position of the Government very clear so far as this matter is concerned and I am sure that there will be no misgivings on this point now.

It has been said by some of the honourable members and particularly by my friend from Sheikhpura who has been a deputy commissioner for a pretty long time that the work that Mr. Brayne is doing or has been entrusted to him is not of a technical nature and, therefore, not very difficult to do. But may I ask him whether he achieved anything of importance in this direction while he was in office if, as he says, the work of rural reconstruction was so very easy? I can testify from my personal knowledge that this work requires great skill which Mr. Brayne possesses in abundance as has been acknowledged by the members of the House. I have seen on the spot much of the work done by him and I can speak with some authority that lot of good work has been done and is being done by Mr. Brayne and his staff. The publication which I have referred to before and copies of which were distributed among the members sometimes in 1925, gives some account of this work. If the honourable members have not already gone through it, they will do well to read it and find the truth of what I have said. I have got a few copies of this pamphlet and if members desire, these can be made available to them. It will perhaps be within the recollection of at least some of the members that impressed by this and other reports of the work of Mr. Brayne, Sir Geoffrey deMontmorency visited Gurgaon to see things for himself somewhere in 1925 and although he may have differed from Mr. Brayne with regard to the methods of his work, he appreciated what he had done and promised to encourage him by rendering financial help. It will interest the honourable members to know that when the reports of the work done by Mr. Brayne were published we received a large number of requisitions from Assam and other places outside the Panjab for copies of these pamphlets and I may also say that these reports won great praise for the officer concerned. Mr. Brayne has produced a volume of literature on the subject

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and his fame has spread all over the country. He is rightly called the pioneer in this field and the country should feel very much indebted to him. It does not, therefore, behove us Punjabis for whom he is doing so much to minimise what he has done. To say that the work that he is doing is of an ordinary nature or that it is very easy and simple or that it can be done by any and every one reminds me of the jealous men who at a feast given in honour of Columbus when he returned after discovering America, said that there was nothing wonderful in the discovery and that any one sailing in that direction could have discovered America. Columbus in reply simply took up a boiled egg which happened to be on the table, and asked his critics whether any of them could make it stand upright on the table. This, of course, was not possible. Columbus then broke the lower portion of the shell and placed the egg in the desired position. "That is easy," they shouted, "and any one of us could have done that." "Why did you not do it then" retorted Columbus. This is my reply to the critics of Mr. Brayne.

To set at rest the fears of some of the honourable members I may say that it is not at all the intention of the Government to create a new department for the work of rural reconstruction and thus to place another burden on the tax-payers. The object of creating the post of Rural Reconstruction Commissioner is to co-ordinate the activities of the various departments of Government to create interest in this work in the minds of all officers, in the minds of deputy commissioners and commissioners and the Revenue Member himself, so that all of them may join and help in promoting the welfare of the rural population of the province. These words should not be taken to mean that these officers were not already taking interest in the welfare of these people. On the other hand they have all been doing whatever it was possible for them to do. But the difficulty was that every department was doing this work in its own way. Take for instance the officers of what was my department—I mean, the Publicity Department—who went to the villages with their own cinema lorry followed by the Veterinary Department, the Agricultural Department, the Public Health Department with their separate films and so on. The method resulted in over-lapping and also proved troublesome to the villagers. To co-ordinate the efforts of all these departments and to instil greater enthusiasm among Government officials it was thought necessary to create this post and the best and fittest person available was appointed to hold it. The experiment has undoubtedly proved successful and the choice has been approved of by the majority of the members of the Council. Mr. Brayne has done what was expected of him. There may be a difference of opinions as to the methods of his work but this has to be admitted that Mr. Brayne has infused a new life and new spirit into this work. He has, as I have said before, produced a vast literature on the subject and this in itself has resulted in awakening the interest of the public in this vital question. To say the least he has given a good lead for others to follow.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Well done, Master Sahib.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I am thankful to my good and favourite pupil for his words of encouragement, but it does not



behave my pupil to interrupt like that when he is himself upset on being interrupted as he was the other day. I was saying that great pains are being taken to push this work of rural reconstruction everywhere. In Jullundur district much has already been done which I had an opportunity to see, when I went there the other day. I am sure my friend Chaudhri Abdul Rahman will bear me out when I say that the officers of the various departments are working hard in that district to improve the condition of the villagers. I am sorry to observe that the honourable mover of this cut coming from that district and from that tahsil where this work of rural reconstruction is being done for the last so many years, has thought fit to say that except that the villagers are being asked to provide for themselves mosquito nets and well ventilated houses nothing has been or is being done in his district. He has complained that no way has been suggested to the villagers by which they may be able to earn sufficient to maintain themselves and their children. He perhaps forgets that a *poli* week was started in Jullundur division many years ago. This *poli* is a weed which destroys the crops and which, it was feared, would render the lands unculturable if it were allowed to grow. In order to root it out from that division and thus to save the only means of livelihood of the zamindars from destruction a full week has been devoted by the Commissioner, Jullundur division every year, with an army of officers and they did not take a minute's rest until they had seen personally that this evil had been rooted out from every field. They did not depend for the removal of this evil on the efforts of the zamindars themselves, but personally went to the villages to see it cleared. I know that the honourable mover was himself among those who helped to remove this curse from that locality and that the people of Jullundur district are indebted to him for his efforts in that direction. But I wonder that having seen and done all, he should now complain that little has been done for his district. To see that the people of his district and other districts should become prosperous many other things have also been done. For example 8-A wheat has been popularised and now another kind of wheat called 518 is being popularised. By the help of this seed the zamindars have been able to make their lands yield 4 maunds per kanal.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state whether this kind of wheat has been raised in any of the agricultural farms?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** 518 is a new wheat, which has given a very high yield on small plots. It has given as much as 50 maunds an acre. People who have cultivated it on larger areas have secured an average of 25 or 26 maunds an acre. I can inform the honourable members that so far as the average of wheat is concerned on irrigated lands we have reached the average which is now obtained in England.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Was this seed introduced by Mr. Brayne or by the Agricultural Department?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** By the Agricultural Department.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** As is known to Honourable Sardar Sahib, in the land granted to the literate grantees in the Lyallpur district, the yield of the particular wheat per acre is 40 maunds. This is

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a new variety. In brief every department of the Government is trying to do all that is possible for the help of the agriculturists.

For the information of honourable members I may also state that the Agricultural Department in Jullundur district is popularising the cultivation of ground-nuts amongst the zamindars. As would be known to the honourable member coming from Jullundur, in village Takhra in about 600 acres of land these nuts were sown and the result was that this village was enabled to pay all Government dues with the sale-proceeds of this crop. If this work of the department is not in the direction of rural uplift, what else could be? Then, honourable members would be interested to know that the Agricultural Department imported some tobacco seed and the tobacco grown was of an excellent quality. I have myself tried some cigarettes made from this tobacco. Their flavour was very good. About the sugar-cane crop my honourable friend the mover of the cut can throw some light. I believe the yield of this crop has increased to twice or thrice as much as it was some years before. In short all the beneficent departments of the Government are doing their share of the rural uplift work. The Department of Rural Reconstruction was brought into existence in order to co-ordinate the activities of other beneficent departments in this direction. This department will effect a sort of co-operation between the different departments. It will remain in existence so long as the work of other departments in various spheres is not co-ordinated. After it has accomplished its purpose, it will be terminated.

In the end I may assure the honourable members that all the suggestions which have been made by honourable Chaudhri Sahib in the matter of rural reconstruction will be sympathetically considered and also so far as possible steps would be taken to give them a practical shape. I oppose the motion now before the House and with these words resume my seat.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): I am sure all members must have been delighted to hear the learned speech of the Honourable Revenue Member. It was really an excellent speech but it is very unfortunate that that gentleman who is at the helm of affairs so far as the work of rural uplift is concerned, is not present in this House. There is a Persian saying:—

“ تصنیف را مصنف نیکو کند بیان ”

It means that an author can explain his work best. I have been studying the question regarding the rural uplift work for the last 10 years but it is deplorable that up to this time neither the official benches nor the non-official members have been able to follow exactly the spirit in which Mr. Brayne has been doing the work of rural uplift. I studied him while he was carrying on his mission in a village in the Gurgaon district. I was very much impressed by his zeal and diligence. Immediately after that I turned my attentions to the Government of the Punjab to find out how far it was sympathetically disposed towards the mission of Mr. Brayne. I was disappointed to find that the Government was not responding to the voice of Mr. Brayne in the spirit in which it was expected from them to respond to. The first encouragement that was given to Mr. Brayne was when he wrote his first book on the problem of rural uplift. This encouragement

was given by Sir Malcolm Hailey by writing a preface to his book. So long as Mr. Brayne remained in the Gurgaon district the work of rural uplift progressed but on his transfer from that district all that he had done was undone within a few years. It exactly happened in the same way in which, in the absence of Moses his followers had become pagans notwithstanding all the efforts of Haroon to keep them on the right path preached by his elder brother Moses. If all the work which Mr. Brayne had accomplished in the Gurgaon district was undone within a few years of his leaving that district it was not on account of any fault of his but it was due to the fact that the official members as well as the non-official members had failed to grasp the spirit of Mr. Brayne. I have known Mr. Brayne from his writings and from what I have heard about him from the people. Only once I had a chance to meet him and that was also for an hour only. The Government should undertake this work and help Mr. Brayne in every possible way. Before now it never occurred to the Government to do something in this behalf but when Congress started work in this behalf it also struck the Government that it should emulate the Congress and it accordingly made a move towards it in a showy manner. Last year it was urged that the staff working under Mr. Brayne was not sufficient, and some additions should be made to it. The Government did not take any steps to do what was required and expected from it. If Government did any thing, it was because the Congress had launched a scheme of rural uplift work and the Government in order not to remain behind it in any way brought forth a scheme of its own and also adopted some half-measures to meet the requirements of that scheme.

I now leave all these questions and divert my attention to the question under discussion which is whether Mr. Brayne should be supplied with sufficient staff or not. Ours is a big province. It consists of some thirty districts and in each district there are nearly three or four tahsils. These tahsils have got a very large number of villages. You have to administer to the needs of each of these villages so far as rural uplift work is concerned. The number of these villages extend to thousands. Do you think that an office consisting of one head clerk and four clerks, is sufficient to cope with the work which extends all over the province? This department has to enlighten people regarding the benefits of education and suitability of modern implements of agriculture. In addition to this work it has to teach them the rules of sanitation. Not only this, it has also to preach to them economy. There is no doubt that the Departments of Agriculture and Education are beneficent departments and they exist for the benefit of the people but so long as they do not imbibe the spirit of Mr. Brayne they cannot succeed in discharging their duty efficiently. Mr. Brayne has helped the Department of Agriculture a good deal. All the efforts of the Department of Agriculture have not achieved half so brilliant a success as the literature produced by Mr. Brayne has achieved.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I should like to point out to the honourable member that so far as the distribution of seed is concerned it has been going on for the last ten years and has been carried out by the Agricultural Department and is still being carried out.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** No doubt it is so, but it was Mr. Brayne who introduced the idea of rural uplift and then others followed it without much zeal.

[Ch. Afzal Haq.]

At present the country is waging a political war with the Government and this political war is bound to continue but it is very necessary that there should be a common centre where the Englishmen and Indians should meet to serve the people at large in some way or other. So far as politics are concerned let them do whatever they think proper, but so far as the work of rural uplift and similar other works to bring about the prosperity of the people are concerned, let them forget their political differences and join hands to push forward this common cause. The Congress is working for the uplift of the villages and the Government also intends to do something in this behalf. Let them join hands and do it together. If the present spirit continued it is very probable that it may hamper the progress that is being made by the Congress in this direction but if all Government officers are convinced of the value of the work that is being done by the Congress they would in every way try to afford facilities to the Congress to accelerate the progress of their work. If the honourable members by their speeches excited the Government to oppose the Congress then the progress of the rural uplift work that is being made on account of the Congress efforts will come to a stand still. If the Government and the Congress began to oppose each other the work will stop, but on the other hand if they co-operate in this matter they can jointly achieve very good results in a little time. Let them work together for the benefit of the masses. No doubt, Departments of Agriculture, Education and Public Health are doing their duty, but their position is exactly that of those blind men who had gone to see an elephant. One of the blind men described its trunk and said that that was the elephant. Another described its leg and said that that was the shape of the elephant. A third described its ear and thought that that was the shape of the elephant. But still the real concept of the elephant was not any of those which were described by the blind men. Similarly, all these beneficent departments are there, but without Mr. Brayne and his department their work cannot be co-ordinated and concentrated. Mr. Brayne is like that man who has got eyes and can explain to the blind men the real shape of the elephant. In fact, if the departments under the control of the Government work in right earnest and imbibe the true spirit of co-ordination inculcated by Mr. Brayne, all our difficulties will be solved. I am sure that if every officer in the Education Department imbibes the spirit of Mr. Brayne, the problem of illiteracy will be solved in the twinkling of an eye. With the same expenditure which is being incurred by the department now education will spread ten times more than it is spreading at present. If every zamindar and every lambardar imbibes the spirit which Mr. Brayne wants them to assimilate, corruption will die its natural death in no time. I propose that an educational centre should be set up for the benefit of lambardars so that they may be put under the guidance of Mr. Brayne and his lieutenants. They should be told the purpose of their life. The life which God has given them as a free gift has been given to be spent usefully. At present our complaint is and the same is the complaint of Mr. Brayne that big and influential people seldom take any interest in the affairs of the common people. They prefer to remain aloof. Mr. Brayne wants to create in their minds an interest for the welfare of the masses. He should be afforded opportunities to have still closer contact with the lambardars and zaildars so that he may be able to coach them in their civic

responsibilities. So long one does not take interest in a particular affair so long success in that line is impossible. In recent years I have not taken much interest in any particular affair. Once I was asked by the Government to work as a non-official visitor of jails. I spent seven years of my early life in that work and I did achieve some success. If the Government desires I can help them in the work of rural uplift. But an offer from me to that effect is objectionable. Perhaps some quarters may view my move with suspicion. But if the Government makes a direct proposal I shall be willing to do something in this line. Anyhow a single man cannot successfully carry out the work that is expected of a rural reformer. Mr. Brayne is an Englishman. We are obliged sometimes to criticise Englishmen rather harshly. But the spirit of Mr. Brayne has received nothing but praise from us. He is the only man in the official class who has really the interest of the people at heart. He has filled people's heart with the noble feeling of serving humanity. Neither in England nor in India will you find any person who has produced more illuminating literature on rural uplift. Perhaps he may not be able to put his case before the people very clearly because he does not know their language well but his books form most interesting and useful reading. In his behaviour he is unassuming and generous. He is not out to crush the spirit of the people. He has not the awe of a dictator about him. He works in the spirit of a reformer. If the Government can tolerate the highhandedness of a sub-inspector, haughtiness of a tahsildar, and dominant attitude of a deputy commissioner, why should they not look upon this officer as a really useful man?

**Pir Akbar Ali** (Ferozepore, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : I am sure that now all our difficulties will be solved and we will be successful in the work of rural reconstruction ; all the problems with which the Government finds itself confronted will be satisfactorily settled. The trend of some of the speeches delivered to-day in this House holds out happy promises for the future. High Government officers have described the Congress notables, as angels and saints and the accredited representatives of the Congress have revealed their true spirit by their appreciation of the work of the Government officers.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** : Have they?

**Pir Akbar Ali** : Is it not high time that Government should appreciate the services of those people whom the high Government officers hold in high esteem for their virtues? The result is that the people in their turn will begin to respect the officers of the Government. Thus a good atmosphere might be created for the welfare of the people and the country.

After this brief introduction I should like to point out that the Government have not started their scheme of rural uplift in order that it may successfully combat or compete the efforts of Mahtma Gandhiji in this respect. All of us know that the Government began the work of rural uplift many years ago. The work was begun soon after the advent of the British Government. Soon after the Englishmen took over charge of the Government of this country they tried to introduce here the blessings of their civilization. They tried to spread education. They tried to improve the general conditions in the rural areas. But at that time all this work was in the hands

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of the deputy commissioners, commissioners, and the Financial Commissioner and these officers did the work with great enthusiasm. It is true that the work was done slowly in those days and its results were not conspicuous as they are now. And when the beneficent departments were put under the control of Ministers the aforementioned officers ceased to take much interest in this work, but their interest in the work of transferred departments should be viewed with suspicion.

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** Or it would be considered interference.

**Pir Akbar Ali :** Yes, Government officers now think that it is not necessary for them to poke their noses in the affairs of the transferred departments. They would be considered meddlesome, if they do it. Especially two of our Ministers are doing their work for the rural uplift quite satisfactorily and they will not, I think, tolerate any interference from outside, the third Minister having little to do with rural area. The Honourable Minister for Education sends a *darogha-i-safai* to the villages. He tells the people that they should have ventilators in their walls and take quinine pills in case of malaria. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture sends his man to acquaint the villages with good 8-A seeds and the like. In this way seven or eight people are sent by both the Education and Agricultural Departments to do propaganda work in the villages. So, obviously, these departments do not want a new agency to do propaganda for them. The Revenue Department has its own men to ask the people to pay revenue at the proper time. If, however, in spite of all this these departments want a separate agency to do propaganda work for them they will be of no use themselves. People will think that if they cannot do propaganda for themselves they may as well be abolished. What will the Education and Agricultural Departments say in reply when this charge is levelled against them? In fact, at the time when the Retrenchment Committee was deliberating I was of the opinion that the work now done by the three Ministers could be safely entrusted to two Ministers. I raised this point in the Retrenchment Committee. I told my colleagues that my party and myself were willing to sponsor this proposal. The other party was willing to lend support to this suggestion if I undertook to support their proposal of not reducing the salary of Ministers to a lower amount than Rs. 3,000. Though I undertook to support the proposal of my honourable colleagues they, however, ultimately refused to lend support to mine. The same was the case when the proposal for reducing the number of commissioners was considered. My friends there on the opposite bench were desirous of seeing all the five posts of commissioners reduced. At that time Mr. Puckle was working on behalf of the Government. He has produced such a record that if the coming generation does not waste it but keeps it in safe custody it will benefit by it to a very great extent. In short, we said that the number of commissioners should be reduced to three, but Mr. Puri and others insisted on getting the entire number of commissioners reduced.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** With the result that they are six now.

(Laughter).

**Pir Akbar Ali :** Now it is proposed that the work of rural reconstruction should be entrusted to a separate department. But what will be its result? Honourable Ministers of Education and Agriculture say that they can do propaganda work for their departments. The Minister of Education can say that he has been carrying on the work of propaganda for the departments under his control since 1920. After such a long time he does not stand in need of a separate department to do propaganda work for him. In the same manner the Revenue Department is not desirous of availing itself of the propaganda work proposed to be done by the Rural Reconstruction Commissioner. The Ministers think that if a separate department is demanded by the people for propaganda work of all sorts, it means that they have lost confidence in their powers of propaganda and organisation. The third Minister, I mean the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, has very little to do with rural affairs. He, however, is concerned a little with the inter-village communications. He cannot, even if he wishes, help the people in this respect. He cannot improve the condition of small kucha roads that pass within the fields of the zamindars. They are the property of the zamindars. The Government has no jurisdiction over them. If, however, a Bill is passed and the roads passing through the fields of the zamindars are taken possession of by the State or by the district boards, the Government can do a lot to improve their condition. But under the present circumstances nothing can be done in this respect.

There is no doubt that Mr. Brayne is a very able man. He did much work for rural uplift when he was deputy commissioner of Gurgaon. It is another thing that the whole of his work was undone soon after he left the district. He asked the people to bury their manure in pits before using it. As in most villages proper distribution of village common land does not exist, land for digging the pits is not available. But when an officer like Mr. Brayne is present at the spot people allow their neighbours to dig the pits in their land but when he is gone and his awe is not there, the land, the pit and the manure is taken away by the owner of the land. In this way the whole of the work done by the enthusiastic officer goes to the winds. Moreover, taking into consideration the special conditions of the Punjab villages one is constrained to remark that such a business is not possible in our villages.

Then there is the Consolidation of Holdings Department. People say that it is doing useful work. But I do not subscribe to that view. The fact is that rich and influential people get their land consolidated by including the fertile lands of the poor and the latter get only barren pieces of land. It is all very well to say that people are submitting applications in thousands to get their holdings consolidated but the number of such applications is not sufficient to convince of the usefulness of the department.

An honourable member has suggested that an education centre should be set up where lambardars and zaildars can be taught never to tell a lie or bear false witness or give bribe, and be instructed to discharge their duties faithfully. But, if they will not help the sub-inspector of police by giving false evidence against an accused, how will the police cases be successful? How will the sub-inspector say that he has succeeded cent per cent. in his challan? If the

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lambardars and the zaildars will not help him, he will immediately get their names entered in register No. 10.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** If the zaildars and lambardars never tell lies, what would the lawyers do?

**Pir Akbar Ali :** The lawyers may be starving, but they never tell lies. It is the witnesses who tell lies. The lawyers' munshies may ask the witnesses what would be their statements but they do not advise witnesses to tell lies.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member will please speak to the motion.

**Pir Akbar Ali :** The motion for the improvement of villages is under discussion. The lawyers are closely connected with the villages. The Honourable Revenue Member has made a few remarks which it is not possible for a man of ordinary intelligence to comprehend. One fails to understand how the cultivation of monkey-nuts in the Jullundur district will benefit the rural reconstruction work. This nut is neither the staple food of the zamindars nor will it serve as fodder for their cattle. These nuts will at the most remain at the railway stations, or they will come to the cities and will prove of benefit to the Government and the urban people. But I fail to understand what advantage the zamindars will derive from it? Secondly, he has said that in the Lyallpur district land was granted to the educated people and there an acre has yielded forty maunds of wheat. Perhaps, a ghumaon or so may have yielded as much as 40 maunds; but I do not think that this policy of granting land to the educated people and graduates will be extended generally.

All this work of rural uplift can be done by the Agriculture and Education Departments, which at present is being done by the Rural Reconstruction Department. But these poor people do not know how to do their propaganda or perhaps they are fed up with their work and have grown old and now cannot take any interest in it. I really do not know whether I should support or oppose this motion. If it is expected from me that I should say that more money should be given to this department, I am afraid I cannot say so. The officials of this department can make very good speeches, though the villagers do not follow them. They are working day in and day out to help the zamindars in every district, but the zamindars do not appreciate their activities. The money that has been provided in the budget is enough for the purpose. With respect to the money which we have to get from the Government of India, my view is the same as that of the Leader of our party. It should be spent on opening new colleges in the mofussil towns and on making new roads. That money should be spent on these two things. The Rural Reconstruction Department does not require more money. By saying these words I do not mean to say that I do not recognize the valuable services which Mr. Brayne has rendered to our province. But we should train our people to appreciate his services. Up to this time we do not find any outcome or result of his services and efforts. This work can be done by our Ministers for Agriculture and Education. So either they should do this work or Mr. Brayne should do it.



We have come to know to-day that the Government wants to join hands with the Congress. If the Congress movement goes to the villages, there will be no peace in the country. For God's sake do not let the Congress go to the villages. Instead of cleaning the villages, they will spoil the whole atmosphere. So leave the zamindars alone. They will look after themselves. The suggestion which I have to make in this connection is the same which my honourable friend, the Leader of our party, has made.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh** (Jullundur, Sikh, Rural) : I strongly support the speech that has been made by the Honourable Revenue Member. He has referred to the Jullundur district and I can say that since 1929 when Mr. Ferguson came as deputy commissioner of that district, three weeks were fixed in the year for rural uplift work. One week was the *poli* week which has been of great benefit to zamindars as explained by the Honourable Revenue Member. The second was the cleaning of the villages week and the third was *wat bandi* week. These three things have been very usefully done by Mr. Ferguson when he was there as deputy commissioner and his successors have also continued the work efficiently up till now. I will be failing in my duty if I do not mention that the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Fateh-ud-Din, has been the moving spirit to make these weeks a success. A deputy commissioner can do a lot in this direction and this is the best way to do rural uplift and no money should be wasted on engaging a large staff, etc. All the money can be well spent to remove the poverty of zamindars.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammadan, Urban) : I have been a member of the Council for ten years but I have never heard a funnier speech than the one just delivered by my honourable friend Pir Akbar Ali. He appreciates Mr. Brayne ; he says that Mr. Brayne has a lot of new and valuable schemes in his brain but that people do not understand him. He wants on the one hand propaganda and on the other he does not want it. He does not want *safai* because he thinks Congress will come to take up the work. If a good work is likely to be done by the Congress it must not, he thinks, be helped. Is the Pir Sahib in enmity with the Congress, or is the Government, according to him, in enmity with the Congress ? There may, of course, be enmity where the Congress and the Government differ in politics. Where Government and the Congress agree there is no question of enmity. Suppose the latter say there is "One God," should Government say, "No, two Gods," because Pir Akbar Ali wants them to work one against the other ? Is this the way in which the Pir Sahib wants swaraj in this country ? I am afraid that honourable gentlemen of his type are there, not to help this Government but to deliver sarcastic speeches, for, was Pir Akbar Ali's speech to-day anything but sarcasm ? By such speeches the honourable member is doing no good to this House, to the constituency which has sent him here, and no benefit to the country at large. If he had given any concise ideas his speech would have been of some value. As it is he supports and opposes, opposes and supports in the same breath. It is just like some wiggle-waggle, something like the toy that is sold in bazaars and fairs. The one thing that we need in this country is propaganda in the villages. We want the villages to keep clean ; we want the rural people to know the virtue of cleanliness, to know the object for which they should live. Living in untidy conditions, wallowing in filth and dirt, the Indian

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villages are a shame to ourselves. It is indeed a blot that we should have led our villages to deteriorate to such degrading depths. Any person who cannot keep his dwelling, his surroundings clean has no right to exist. If that is the state of a nation, the sooner the nation dies the better. We have not come into the world to spread disease and filth. If it is not the work of the Government to train its people in cleanly habits that Government has no title to popular support. The object of a Government is not to keep only the jails clean. My honourable friend would like to keep the jails clean but not the houses of human beings. Why is that? I believe he is a visitor of jails and if he sees an unclean jail I am sure he will at once condemn the administration. (*Pir Akbar Ali*: I am not a visitor of jails). I am glad that my honourable friend is not. True, I confess, I have never been inside a village in Ferozepore but I have known enough of villages; I have lived in villages for long; I have lived in places where my honourable friend would not deign to live; I have lived in houses where horses and buffaloes were tied two yards away from me. He does not know more than myself about villages. Simply because he says he is a villager he cannot claim to know much about village conditions more than myself. I know that he is as much a cityman as the Honourable Sir Gokul Chand Narang. (*Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: I am a *pendu*). What good is it to talk in this strain? I have already stated in my previous speeches that this department is being starved, that enough money is not being provided for propaganda. My honourable friend belongs to a sect of great propagandists in India. Can he tell me for a moment whether any one can do any propaganda work without staff, without newspapers, handbills, notices and pamphlets? It is not necessary for this purpose for Lord Rothermere or Mr. Churchill to go from village to village making thumping speeches. (*Honourable Revenue Member*: The Government Press do the printing work for Mr. Brayne and the other departments are co-operating). The point is that you cannot expect any one and every one to do propaganda. The person chosen for it should like that work and should know how to do it best. You cannot force the Honourable Mr. Boyd to start propaganda work because he is not fit for it. Everybody cannot be a propagandist. It is not in the nature of everybody and there are some who are too modest to be propagandists; there are people who do excellent work without their neighbours knowing it. But there are some people who are propagandists by nature, who do little and go about proclaiming to the world that they have done this, they have done that. It is a fundamental difference in human nature. Similarly there are people who though they cannot do propaganda for their own benefit can do excellently for the good of the community. I know that when Mr. Brayne started this work officials regarded him as 'brainless.' They called him brainless because he was a faddist in their opinion. Probably he was doing the same thing in the opinion of my honourable friend, Pir Akbar Ali, as the Congress is doing and, therefore, it was apprehended that he would bring mischief by awakening the masses. But by and by Government and the people came to know that the work which Mr. Brayne was doing could very usefully be utilised both for the Government and the people. It may be as my honourable friend, Chaudhri Afzal Haq, said that Government has come to the conclusion that because the Congress was starting propaganda, Government too could start it. But where is the harm if

Government does it. Government is paid for it and why should it not do such useful work? I see no harm if Government carries on the work provided it is not political propaganda but one which is good for the masses. The motion seeks to urge that enough money is not given for the purpose. I want to draw the attention of the Honourable Finance Member to one fact and that is this. The idea in the country is that Mr. Brayne should not have been appointed to this post individually, that is, for this post exclusively. He should have been appointed a commissioner with the rural reconstruction work tacked on to his work as commissioner. The work in the villages is not such as to entail a man's full time, unless he is given full support in the form of money. If necessary as commissioner Mr. Brayne may be relieved of the commissioner's work in connection with municipalities and some other work. For, the position is this. Some two years ago I think we brought a motion for the abolition or reduction of commissioners. We are now in a great difficulty because while on the one hand we are eager that all commissioners should be abolished or only two should be kept, on the other, we are indirectly helping the appointment of a sixth commissioner. That is really not justified. What we would like is that enough money should be allotted for this purpose, a sum big enough to do some useful work. Otherwise it is all love's labour lost to put a man with Rs. 50,000 a year for work on which he cannot keep engaged whole time. You have to do what was done in Great Britain during the war, what was done by Germany, what is done now by Soviet Russia. There is no use telling us as the Honourable Revenue Member told us that this was not going to be a permanent department. I ask, why should it not be a permanent department till our work is completed and till there is no necessity for further propaganda? Why should not the department be made as pucca as any other department like law and order or revenue. If there is one department which requires help it is this department. If that is not possible and if it is considered that this department should not be permanent there is something wrong in the distribution of work. You can combine the publicity department with rural reconstruction and tack both on to agriculture which has to do propaganda in the villages. There should be some unified control. If the work is spread in three directions and three different departments are connected with it there will be friction. There should be one department and as much money as is necessary should be given to it for printing, for magic lanterns, for wireless operations, for pamphlets, for newspapers and lectures if necessary. These three departments of agriculture, publicity and reconstruction should be co-ordinated so that there may be no overlapping of functions. My honourable friend says that it is not possible for Mr. Brayne to reach all the villages and do effective work. Nobody ever suggested that Mr. Brayne should go to lecture in each village. He cannot do it. There are 30,000 villages and Mr. Brayne, even if he spends 2,000 years, will not be able to visit all the villages. But if Mr. Brayne has sufficient staff, his men will reach the villages. If Mr. Brayne cannot visit, his staff will reach, his pamphlets will reach the rural areas and Mr. Brayne can be confined to his room doing his work. We know how propaganda is done for instance in an enemy's country during war. The head of the department does not stir out but does all his work from his office. With all respect to my honourable friend, Pir Akbar Ali, whose motive I do not doubt but whose speech I cannot understand, I request this House to consider this, if Government is not willing to grant more money whether

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the functions that are now entrusted to Mr. Brayne cannot be usefully handed over to Mr. Brayne as commissioner of any division *minus* some of the duties devolving upon him as commissioner with extra money thus saved laid at his disposal for propaganda work and whether it will not be possible for this work to be co-ordinated with the Publicity and Agriculture Departments.

One thing which is more important than all this is that no sub-committee of this House has any control over this department. I think this department should be tacked on to a standing committee. It is useless to ask such a department to be conducted by a single gentleman who is not understood by all the members. A single brain however great it may be is not enough. He should know the needs and requirements of the villages and it is much better that a non-official body like a standing committee is created or that this subject is tacked on with some existing standing committee like the Industries Standing Committee or the Agriculture or Co-operative Standing Committee, so that consistent support might be given to the rural uplift schemes by members of this House.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : The last speaker addressed one or two remarks to me personally and perhaps I should say something about those remarks. He specially advocated that the Commissioner in charge of rural reconstruction should be merely a divisional commissioner taking this work in addition to his ordinary duties, *minus* part of his other work. I would remind Mr. Sadiq that the appointment of Mr. Brayne to the post of Commissioner of Rural Reconstruction was made after a deputation of the leading zamindars of the province had met His Excellency the Governor and the Members and Ministers of his Government along with one or two senior officers. On that occasion the leading zamindars of the province definitely expressed the desire that some officer—I am not quite sure whether they actually suggested Mr. Brayne but I am sure that he was in their mind—that some officer should be placed on special duty in connection with the work of rural reconstruction. It was actually at the suggestion of the leading zamindars of the province that the idea which was already in the mind of His Excellency the Governor took final shape and this appointment was made.

As to the question whether it is better that Mr. Brayne should work specially as Commissioner of Rural Reconstruction or whether he should conduct his operations as commissioner in charge of a division, I myself have no doubt whatever that he would have to be relieved of so much of his duties as a commissioner that he would no longer be a commissioner of a division, if we were to make sure that he conducted the work of rural reconstruction properly. I have myself been commissioner of the Rawalpindi division for two years and although the Rawalpindi division is not regarded as one of our heaviest divisions, I had a full day's work throughout all the time I was there. The commissioner has his appeals to do, he has got an enormous amount to do in connection with local bodies and that work could not be given over to anybody else except to an officer on special duty, that is to say if you relieve him of a part of his work as commissioner you would have to make another commissioner. I have not the slightest doubt about that. I strongly think that if for the present we are to get a real move on

with the work of rural reconstruction, it is necessary to have an officer on whole time duty in this connection.

There is a bit of news that I received from Mr. Brayne himself yesterday that may be of interest to the House. Mr. Brayne told me that, he had recently been touring in a particular zail in the Montgomery district. As the zaildar deserves very great credit for the condition of affairs which Mr. Brayne revealed to me, I think it is right that I should mention his name. His name is Chiragh Din. This particular zaildar is to a very great extent responsible for what Mr. Brayne describes as a new civilisation. Actually he started the conversation by asking me if I had seen the new civilisation in the Montgomery district on my last tour. I had not, as I was merely passing through the Montgomery district to visit particular activities of the Multan district. But Mr. Brayne tells me that there are several villages in Chaudhri Chiragh Din's zail where he would be very glad indeed to live himself for the conditions there were so ideal, and he attributes the improvement to the fact that people were first induced to let a little light into their houses. When windows were put in and the darkness dispelled they were able to see how dirty they were before and what extremely uncomfortable and unsuitable furniture there was and how extremely little it was. They have now set to work to get furniture which is really suited to their needs and to their comfort. They have built fire-places with chimneys so that the smoke instead of filling their rooms and blinding them and leaving soot over everything, so that their clothes and persons become dirty, the smoke now passes up the chimneys without filling the house and everything is clean and neat and tidy and an entirely new life is opening before these villagers. It was very well worth while putting an officer on whole time duty to achieve a result like this and once that result has been achieved in a few villages, I think there is no doubt that it will spread rapidly and perhaps in a few years we will find the villages of our province really comfortable to live in, villages in which people will grow up with clean bodies and clean mind.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural): As regards the amount of money that has been provided for the commissioner, I think it is quite sufficient and I do not think any more will be needed. But if it were found to be insufficient there would be money forthcoming from the Government of India and that could be utilised for the purpose.

I am surprised to find that the beginning of this movement has been rather mis-stated and the Honourable Revenue Member told us that it was started some ten years ago. May I point out that this movement was started by Mr. Brayne in 1919 when he was deputy commissioner of Gurgaon, and not ten years ago. So it is now full sixteen years since the movement was started by him. I may inform the honourable members that when he started it he worked it with as much zeal as he is doing to-day. At that time a number of officials were against him but he never cared for them and pushed the movement vigorously. He sacrificed not only his own work but that of the tahsildars and the officers who could help him in the Gurgaon district. My friend Pir Akbar Ali said that the moment Mr. Brayne left the Gurgaon district, the movement was gone. No, the movement was continued by his successors and the successors of his successors, because it had been drilled into their ears that the work had to be

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carried on as an experiment. But with what result? We find that after all these seventeen years of rural work, the district remains where it was. Indeed if it has not gone backwards, it remains where it was. What did we do then? We pushed up the sale of the Raja plough. All the tahsildars had, as their duty, to sell these ploughs to the zamindars who were made to purchase them. If any zamindar was not able to purchase one, then *taqavi* was given to him readily and in that way a large number of ploughs was sold.

Similarly, we were doing all that is being done now in the way of cleaning up villages. The villagers were told that it was most imperative that they should clean their villages and that they should dig pits for preserving their manure. Yet if you go to Gurgaon district, you will find that conditions have not improved at all. From all this we ought to learn a lesson. What is wrong with the system? We have been making the experiment for as long as seventeen years and if the experiment has not succeeded, there must be something wrong and we ought to derive a lesson from our past mistakes. The great defect has been that the work has been done by an official agency. Whenever officials start anything new the villagers look upon it with suspicion. They think that there must be some motive behind it and that is why the thing has been started. In my opinion if any success has to be achieved for this movement, then the agents must be mostly unofficial. There must be one official to supervise the activities of the various non-officials, but the working people should be all non-officials. If you employ official agencies, then you will not achieve success. I know in the Gurgaon district when we left a village, the villagers would say : *Bala tat gai*. I say if you employ official agencies, this result will always follow. Not only has this mistake been made, but another mistake has also been made. Agencies have been appointed for the sale of quinine pills and mosquito nets. These agencies do more harm than good to this movement. You should employ right methods. Why should you bother yourself about agencies? If the people are convinced of the efficacy of a certain medicine, they will certainly procure it. Why should you go out of your way and force people to buy quinine and mosquito nets. The villagers think that these agents are given some commission and, therefore, they are pushing the sale of quinine and mosquito nets. There is nothing more valuable than salt. But does anybody ever have an agency for the sale of salt throughout the town? If there is such an agency people will rush to buy the salt. Therefore, all that you should do is to bring home the importance of these things to the villagers. Why should the Government appoint official agencies for the sale of these things? It is enough if the Government does propaganda and stops there.

The movement is very good. There is no doubt about it. Who can deny it? If the villagers can improve their conditions, well and good. But I say that the experiment has not been a success during the last seventeen years. How can you hope that your present efforts will bear fruit? You can spend as much money as you like. As my friend said, even if you spend ten lakhs of rupees, the result will be the same. The agency should be as much unofficial as possible. It will be enough if you appoint just one man at the head. Do not appoint personal assistants and extra assistant commissioners and other Government servants as agents. My honourable friend

(Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit) suggested that graduates should be employed for this work. The workers should be from among the villagers themselves. Do only preaching and teaching by precept, and use no force. If you go and tell them, here is an order from the *Sarkar* that you must remove your manure from the village, that is not the way of making the people realise the necessity of cleanliness. My suggestion is that the agency employed should be unofficial and there ought to be only instruction and teaching and no force should be used and no official pressure should be brought to bear upon the villagers.

Even the preaching should not be done by the officials. For, we know what the effect of these preachings will be. We know what happened during the Great War when the tahsildars were asked to recruit for the army. No doubt these tahsildars preached to the villagers the desirability of enrolling their sons for the army, but the villagers knew the effect of not accepting the advice of the tahsildars. They felt that they had no option but to comply with the suggestions of the tahsildars. To make matters plain, they felt a sort of official pressure. So, I submit that this sort of thing will never do. I concede that rural uplift is a beneficent work and it should be pushed through as much as possible. But it should not be through officials. The villagers should not be forced to do a particular thing because an official wants them to do so. This work of preaching must be done by a non-official. (*An honourable member*: Will you pay these non-officials for their work?) No. I do not, however, mind giving them reward for their meritorious work. But I am not prepared to give them regular pay. The whole argument of mine can be summed up in one sentence, that is, this movement must be pushed through as much as possible, but not through any official agency, but only by teachings and precepts and persuasions of non-officials. With these words I resume my seat.

*At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by the Deputy President).*

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : We have listened to a very interesting debate on a very important subject. The question of rural reconstruction is engaging the attention of the best minds of Indians who want the good of their fellowmen. No less a person than Mahatma Gandhi after giving up all his political work has taken to this all-important subject. It is, therefore, a matter of congratulation that the Government is also taking an interest in the matter and contributing its share to the solution of this important problem of rural uplift. But unfortunately the methods of Government are such that they are not likely to bring a result which will be commensurate with the expenditure involved. The only idea which is common to all, whether official or non-official, whether of the Congress or of the anti-Congress, whether of the Government or of the anti-Government is that the condition of the villagers should be made much better, and their lives made happier. But the question which the Council has now to tackle with is whether the department set up by the Government and the method employed by the Government are such that they would appeal to the representatives of a poor province like the Punjab. The Honourable Finance Member has taken us into his confidence when he told us that the zamindars waited upon His Excellency and desired that this new department might be created and it was

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on the request of the zamindars that this department was created. It must be well-known to all what methods Government adopts when it wants to get a thing done. It shelters itself behind a deputation and here we have the same story repeated.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The honourable member will please not misrepresent facts. He will please consult leading zamindars.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** The zamindars who waited upon His Excellency themselves told me—

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** If the honourable member does not know anything about the matter it is better that he should say so.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** That does not matter in the least. The point is this. This department is not a popular department. Every member has said that it is not doing the right thing in the right way. First of all the instance of Gurgaon was given. We have heard people on both sides state that the work which was done in Gurgaon has not proved satisfactory at all. On the other hand we find that what was done in Gurgaon for some years has now done no good, that all the money that has been spent there has become useless and if my information is correct when the honourable member who is now in charge of this department was stationed there it was found that the district board went into deficit and all the money which would otherwise have been spent more usefully were wasted on this movement. That is a fact which the honourable members coming from Gurgaon would be able to confirm. The plain fact is that a person who draws Rs. 3,000,—whether he be an Indian or a European, I do not make any distinction between the two—who lives in luxury cannot possibly enter into the spirit of the people. Chaudhri Afzal Haq said that we must emulate the spirit of Mr. Brayne. I admit but the spirit is to be judged by action. If a person like Mr. Brayne who draws a large salary addresses a large audience of villagers it will not leave much impression on the minds of the villagers. If, therefore, Government is really sincere in the matter of rural uplift, it must contribute to the funds of Mahatma Gandhi or of persons like him who start similar missionary work. There was a time when the Congress and Mahatma Gandhi on the one side and the Government on the other did work in close co-operation for the relief of Behar earthquake. If so, why should not the same Government now also work in co-operation with the Mahatma? This work of rural uplift can only be carried on by people who know how to live like villagers, who can appreciate their difficulties and who will not shelter themselves behind mosquito net and things of that kind. After all it is an insult to the intelligence of Indians to say that they do not understand the benefits of sanitation and such other things. They do understand. But the question is one of poverty. There is so much poverty in the villages that the people there cannot even afford to own a mosquito net; that they cannot afford to buy quinine and such other things which are necessities of life. To ask such people to live like gentlemen in big quarters is an impossibility. This problem can only be tackled by poor men who can go to the villages and work in the spirit of missionaries. It cannot be undertaken by men who sit on the top and ride motor cars. People are not prepared to attach



much importance to the preachings of such men. Therefore I submit that the department which has been created is a white elephant, and it is going to eat up the resources which are really meant for the uplift of the people.

The Honourable Revenue Member said a short while ago that this department would be required only for a short time and that thereafter it would not be required. He also said that this department was meant to co-ordinate the activities of the Education Department, the Agricultural Department and two or three other departments. After five or six years another member in charge of this department will come forward and say that this department is required to co-ordinate the activities of six or seven other departments. That is not the way of solving the problems of the rural population. Even a matriculate who can go about five or six villages can understand their problems and attempt to solve them much better than a highly placed official who cannot come in close touch with the villagers. There are many unemployed matriculates and graduates. They can be employed to go about the villages and impart education to the villagers. These people can also be employed to render medical help to the rural people. There is the agency of patwaris who can be employed to relieve the distress of the peasants. In this way the work of rural uplift can be carried on better than by an officer drawing very high salary.

There is one thing more that I want to refer to. Once a department comes into existence it never goes out of existence. Sometimes it happens that the officials who are employed in these temporary departments go about and request that the departments may be allowed to continue longer lest they should go out of employment and they and their families should be left destitute. We have ourselves received several visits from people of this sort. If it is a Muhammadan whose interest will suffer he will approach the Muslim members; if he is a Hindu he will approach the Hindu members, if he is an agriculturist he approaches the agriculturist members, and so on. In this way the department is allowed to go on for ever. Some years back the publicity department was created as a temporary measure, and it has now become a permanent department. It is really difficult to understand the attitude of Government, the attitude of officials in respect to these matters. They are entirely out of sympathy with the popular ideas.

What I therefore submit is that I am in entire sympathy with the movement for rural reconstruction. Government and the people can join hands to make the lives of villagers happier and better. Who is there that does not like that people in villages should possess robust health, and that their children should lead clean and healthy lives or that their manure should be properly utilised or that their agriculture should be improved? Everybody wants all these things. The question is only one of method and the agency to work up the scheme. In this respect there is vital difference between us and those who support the Government view. Government will go on adding department after department. There was a time when we used to hear even from Government officials that two commissioners would do for the province. The Retrenchment Committee even recommended that two or three commissioners would do for the whole province, and that there was no need for five commissioners. In spite of

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all these we have now got six commissioners. To-morrow I will not be surprised if a demand is made for the appointment of a seventh commissioner because some work has since turned up necessitating the creation of a seventh post of commissioner. This is what we deplore. Government must change its angle of vision, and it must have sympathy for popular movements and work hand in hand with the popular leaders. After all nobody is out to destroy the Government. Even Mahatma Gandhi is not for destruction of Government as he is supposed to be.

**Mr. P. Marsden :** We work hand in hand with the popular leaders of the Punjab.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** I am very glad to hear that from the Secretary, Transferred Departments. If there is this co-operation then Government can engage very cheap agency for achieving their purpose. Government should never engage a very expensive machinery for this purpose as otherwise the result will be nil and all the money spent will be a waste. The expensive machinery of Government cannot bring before the people those ideals which people living with the villagers can do. That is the only point which I want to place before the House.

**Sardar Arjan Singh (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) :** This subject has been discussed now threadbare. It is a pity that there are views which are diametrically opposed to each other. On the one hand, we hear that much has not been given and that it is a very small beginning, and that the paltry sum that has been placed at the disposal of the Commissioner for Rural Reconstruction would not meet the needs of the situation. On the other hand, we are told that the Rural Reconstruction Commissioner was brought into existence simply to focus opinion and also to pave public opinion, as when once that has been done, that post should be abolished and there is absolutely no further need to go on with the appointment of the Rural Reconstruction Commissioner. Out of these divergent views it is difficult to find out a way and determine as to which view should prevail and which is the saner of the two. But there is absolutely no doubt about one point. All are agreed, whatever their differences might be, that this is a step which did require public opinion to be focussed upon and carefully handled, because the subject is one of very vast importance relating to the sanitary condition of the people living in the countryside. I may not be called a cynic because my view is that the chief or the only defect from which we are suffering is our poverty, to which all our misfortunes can be traced. When I was reading the speech of the Honourable Finance Member of the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly, I found that a large sum of one crore of rupees has been set apart for this purpose to be distributed to the local Governments, and he has not forgotten that this large sum includes the betterment of the rural classes in so far as the production of good crops is concerned, in so far as the betterment of the economic condition of the masses is concerned. He has pointed out that a certain proportion of that sum should be earmarked for bettering the production of agricultural crops.

I am of the view that a whole-time officer for this work is certainly better. It may be only by way of experiment. So far as we have seen,

the Rural Reconstruction Commissioner has done a lot. I am not forgetful of the fact that the chief pivot of the whole work is still the deputy commissioner who will continue to be the pivot because if any co-ordination is to be expected amongst the various departments it is only through the agency of the deputy commissioner that that object can be achieved. The Rural Reconstruction Commissioner should actually be in contact with the deputy commissioner, and it will be up to him to see that all the departments, the Agricultural Department, the Veterinary Department, the Education and other departments join hands and work with this laudable object. Therefore as at present advised I would through you appeal to the House that we must have this Rural Reconstruction Commissioner for some time. But I would invite the attention of the Punjab Government to a very important question suggested by Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. As a matter of fact, it is wrong as suggested by Pandit Nanak Chand that we are spending too much over this department. I do not know whether he was quite serious when he said that this sum was out of all proportion to the needs of the problem. But the question is how, when we get something like 10 or 11 lakhs from the Government of India, to utilise that amount, and before the Government undertakes any scheme or enter into any plan, it must take the House into its confidence, so that the House might give good advice as to how the money should be spent. The Government should take leave of that mentality which is at the root of all the discussions that have been going on from this part of the House. They think that they are the custodians of all political wisdom, and that anybody outside their sphere is either an irresponsible critic or, perhaps worse than that, a political suspect. I think it is time for them to take leave of that mentality and take this House into their confidence and then see what useful advice they can get. It would of course tend to cultivate a spirit of co-operation amongst the rulers and the ruled. With these words I oppose the cut.

**Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave** (Nominated non-official): I have not risen to defend rural reconstruction and Mr. Brayne. That is unnecessary after what Sardar Arjan Singh has said, and I made my attitude quite clear in my speech the other day. I do not intend to follow that line of argument now. But I wish to deal with Pandit Nanak Chand's remarks in the speech he has just made. I have worked for twenty-seven years amongst Indians, and I have never found my criticism of Indian standards and conditions of living resented by right-thinking Indians. That the great mass of Indians have not understood, have not indeed concerned themselves with sanitation is only too true. Our cities bear terrible witness to this fact. That some Indians live well only testifies to the fact that exceptions do not prove the rule. I have found medical men failing to apply the knowledge of sanitation they have acquired during their training even in their own homes, failing to control their women folk, their children and their servants. How can they possibly deal with outside conditions? I am not stabbing them in the back for I told them this at a meeting of the British Medical Association.

Except for people who have travelled across the waters or whose means can command adequate assistance, or whose education has been of an exceptional kind, the standards of living in this country call for great improvement. Filth and squalor and untidiness are characteristic of this

[Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave.]  
great country which might be so beautiful. I have tried to serve Indians by fighting for better conditions and also to serve my own people who are being forced down to live in bazars which are filthy where they must die if something is not done. Our towns are terrible—admit it! admit it! Do not be pig-headed about it and let us all work together for improvement.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** (East and West Central Towns, Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): I need not enter into the controversy whether or not our countrymen understand the principles of hygiene. Some people say that they do understand them; others hold that they do not. But to those who say that our countrymen do understand the principles of hygiene but do not act according to them on account of their poverty, my answer is this. Even if their view point is right why should we not do propaganda in their midst so that these poor people may realise their true position? They may realise the extent of their loss. In reality the disease from which we are suffering is not poverty. It is something more. The real disease from which we are suffering is that we have become content with our poverty. We do not stir up to better our condition. If sufficient propaganda is done amongst the masses and they are awakened to a sense of their loss, a time will soon come when they will be able to ask the Government, nay, put pressure on them, to take immediate steps for their welfare. Under the present circumstances the poor of our country are content with their poverty. There is no hope for them. True, they cannot buy mosquito nets, even if they are told to do so, as they have no money. They cannot purchase quinine; they have not the wherewithal to buy it. But if they are awakened to the sense of their loss they will certainly put pressure on the Government one day that it should enable them to purchase mosquito nets and buy quinine. They will demand that the Government should improve their condition. (*Hear, hear*). Our duty is that if the Government are not spending sufficient money in this line we should ask them to spend more than it is doing at present. It does not follow that because the Government are not prepared to reduce the number of commissioners from 5 to 3 we should be sullen and angry and not ask it to do anything else for our benefit. If the Government have appointed an officer to look to the interest of villagers, let him do his duty. We should help him as far as we can and ask the Government to provide more funds to him. And if we really need retrenchment in the commissioners of divisions, let us bring forward a separate motion for the abolition of commissioners or for the reduction of their number to 3 or 2.

I have some apprehensions on another score. The Honourable Revenue Member has referred to the Congress activities for the rural uplift. He has said, however, that provided the intentions of the Congress and Mahatma Gandhi are good, they will be pleased to witness their achievement of success in this line. But what is necessary in such matters is that the Government should keep its own intentions pure and good, and everything will be all right. They should keep their own conscience clear before questioning other people's *bona fides*. The Government should not enter the sphere of rural reconstruction with a view only to meet an emergency by directing the people's attention to a particular affair. They should put their heart and soul into this work. It will not be proper if they give up the work after sometime

and resume their former attitude of apathy and lethargy. They have done so in the past, and this is why we have our doubts. Twelve or fourteen years ago, when the Congress was constituting panchayats in the villages and doing active propaganda in that direction, the Government started the work of panchayats. A Panchayat Act was passed, and it was enforced and the panchayats were formed all over the province. But when the Government realised that the political horizon had cleared a little, and the work for which the panchayats were really started was finished, it began to ignore them. There were complaints, loud complaints, that the panchayats did not do their work properly, and we have been hearing a good deal about the panchayats in this very House even in the present session. So, the enthusiasm about the panchayats is daily on the decrease. But if the Government has good intentions now and it has no ulterior motives in embarking upon this scheme of rural reconstruction it should welcome the co-operation of other public bodies. It should not spend one or two lakhs of rupees for one or two years and then leave this work to take care of itself. I have every hope that the work of this department will prove highly beneficial to this province.

The fact that there are no visible signs left of the rural reconstruction work done by Mr. Brayne as Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon, should not damp our spirits. The real cause of this is that when an officer who is very enthusiastic about a scheme leaves a district his work is not continued with the same amount of zeal by his successors. So, the interest in the affair decreases; and with a decrease in the interest the whole framework of the scheme topples down. Now, if Mr. Brayne does not get a suitable successor who will take as much interest in reconstruction work as he is taking, the present experiment too will meet with failure. As soon as Mr. Brayne has left, the scheme will die its natural death on account of apathy and lack of interest on the part of his successors and lakhs of rupees which are being spent now on the scheme will be entirely wasted. I ask all those who take interest in rural reconstruction that they should approach the Government with the request that more money should be spent on this department. A sum of one lakh of rupees earmarked now for this purpose is not sufficient. If the Government of the Punjab cannot afford to allot more for this purpose from its own budget, the Government of India may be approached with a request that it should give some money out of its budget. Anyhow, this work must be carried on on a large scale. We should not confine our efforts to the reduction in the number of commissioners only. We should attend to more useful and urgent things. We should unanimously ask the Government that it should supply the Rural Reconstruction Commissioner with adequate funds to carry on his work on the largest possible scale.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I just want to clear up a few misconceptions. It is not the intention of Government to create a new Department of Rural Reconstruction. Indeed the idea is that the Commissioner of Rural Reconstruction should be a co-ordinating authority to bring all the departments, Agriculture, Co-operation, Land Revenue together for service to the village population. His function is to visit districts and to coordinate the work of all the departments. I am quite sure that this House will agree that these activities can be of very great use to the province. (*An honourable member* : No).

[The Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh.]

A great deal has been said as to the need of improving the villages, and I can assure the House that Government is alive to the need of improving the villages to its best possible capacity. Indeed, as some of the members remarked, the work has been carried on for many years past. On the agricultural side, the department has been doing its best to provide the best available seed, on the co-operative side, we are doing our best to promote co-operation in all departments.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** The motion is that more money should be placed at the disposal of Mr. Brayne and not what this department or that has done.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The Government at present has no intention of creating a new department.

**Mr. Deputy President :** Question is--

That the question be now put.

*The motion was carried.*

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : I am very sorry that some of the honourable members have said that the department of rural reconstruction is doing no useful work. On the other hand, it is doing great service to the people and it should be retained at all costs. The Honourable Revenue Member has enumerated the great advantages which are accruing to the people from various Government departments, but I want to point out that if any department is not proving beneficial to the people it should be abolished. The Department of Agriculture has greatly benefited the zamindars. We cannot sufficiently thank it for what it has done for us. But it is only a very short time ago that we came to know of its existence. It was not until our energetic Maulvi Sahib took over charge of Deputy Directorship that we knew of the existence of the department. He sent officials to do propaganda work, and it was after some time that the zamindars knew that a department had been established to work exclusively for their benefit. The officials of the Agricultural Department toured amongst the rural people and acquainted them with improved agricultural implements and the use of good seed. The same is the work that is being done by Mr. Brayne and his lieutenants. The Government should give him more money to spend. All the Governments in the world spend not less than 85 per cent. of their total revenue for the betterment of agricultural conditions. But it is a thousand pities that our Government hardly spends 1 or 2 per cent. of their revenue for the benefit of rural areas. If anything is spent it remains only on papers ; its result is not reflected in the welfare of the people. If all officers were to follow the noble example of Mr. Brayne all our difficulties will end. Everybody knows that he began the work of rural uplift when he was Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon. If every deputy commissioner follows his example we shall not stand in need of establishing a separate department for rural uplift and thus a good deal of money can be spared to be spent elsewhere. We feel that Mr. Brayne has a natural sympathy for us, and his spirit cannot be surpassed by anybody. But other officers should do something at least in this respect. We know that at first even the Government did not make very encouraging remarks about the work done by Mr. Brayne

in the reports but he has been carrying on irrespective of the praise or condemnation of anybody. That ought to be the spirit of all reformers. And now we see that everybody is praising his work. This is the fruit of patience and honesty of purpose.

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair).*

Mr. Brayne is a great benefactor of the zamindars. He has been personally going to every village and mixing with the zamindars. He has been giving them every kind of help and advice. No officer has so far made so much sacrifice for the zamindars and set such a noble example as Mr. Brayne. The life in the villages is very wretched. The village people do not understand what health or cleanliness is, and how they should lead a clean and healthy life. If sufficient money is not given, the condition of the zamindars will not improve. The Minister has very kindly said that other departments will also help this department. It is very gratifying that the Honourable Member for Revenue is devoting sufficient attention to this work and is getting 10 lakhs of rupees from the Government of India, which will be spent on rural reconstruction work. It is desirable to get as much money as possible for this department.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): The motion moved is to draw the attention of the Government that sufficient resources are not being placed at the disposal of Mr. Brayne for the work of rural reconstruction. As has been explained before, we will get a large sum from the Government of India, which will certainly be used for the work of rural reconstruction in the province. And the one lakh that we have provided, I think, is a fairly large sum for the work to be done, but if Mr. Brayne comes forward with any sound scheme which Government thinks to be suitable and beneficent for rural areas, most certainly Government will support his demand. I give this assurance to the honourable member, and I trust he will withdraw his motion (*cheers*).

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Urdu): After the assurance of the Honourable Revenue Member, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

**Mr. President:** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,45,200 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, 1936, in respect of Miscellaneous (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

#### INDUSTRIES.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): I move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,79,500 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Industries.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,79,500 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Industries.

*Weaving Class at Lyallpur.*

**Mian Nurullah** (Lyallpur South, Muhammadan, Rural) : I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the grant be reduced by Rs. 100 with respect to the item of Rs. 16,510—Total Pay of Establishment—Industrial Education.

The object of my cut is to point out the desirability of shifting the weaving classes at Shahdara to the newly established Lyallpur Cloth Mills. The reason is quite simple. If I may draw your attention to page 375 of the Budget Estimates you will find at the bottom an expenditure of over a lakh of rupees for demonstration weaving factories, Shahdara. Last year the budget estimate was over Rs. 1,15,000. It is one thing to establish industries in a province and quite another thing to make them a success and to make your money go as far as possible and to get for each pice you spend as much as human ingenuity can. The motive of this cut is neither to criticise the present system nor the arrangement and the efficiency of the weaving section at Shahdara nor to praise it because I have not got the details of it. I found on going through this budget that we could increase the efficiency of what we spend to three or four times. That can be done like this. The Government has been kind enough to help the cloth industry in the Punjab by helping Lala Shri Ram to set up a very big and up-to-date mill at Lyallpur. It has got a big section for weaving and a big section along with it for everything right from the ginning to the finishing process. Their establishment is always working probably in two or three shifts. They have got a big weaving section with weaving masters of great experience and with all accompaniments. If the Government were to shift the weaving class from Shahdara to Lyallpur and work in conjunction with Lala Shri Ram surely we can train more men and in a better way with more practical knowledge. In fact all the students can take advantage of the whole mill and learn all the processes from start to finish. Therefore I believe that if Lala Shri Ram is approached, he being a philanthropist and good-hearted gentleman will surely offer co-operation and Government with the same amount of money can teach or train four or five times the number of boys making a better use of the money. I have no objection to the weaving section continuing at Shahdara. Another class can be started at Lyallpur at the Mills, and that will certainly help the growth of cotton industry. We do need in this industry men of great experience, men trained in skilled labour. If the class is started there it would be easier to procure such men because in the mills we have trained specialists. Without efficient training in industry, no industry will be able to compete under the present conditions. I, therefore, want to give this little suggestion that this section may be transferred to Lyallpur so that we may have better value for the money we spend.

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<sup>2</sup>To point out the desirability of shifting the weaving class to Lyallpur or establishing new one there.



**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 100 with respect to the item of Rs. 16,510,—Total Pay of Establishment—Industrial Education.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government) : I do not know if the honourable mover of this cut was speaking with any authority from Lala Shri Ram. If he has and Lala Shri Ram has authorised him to make a statement in this House that Lala Shri Ram would be prepared to admit our students, raw youths, who have never been inside a weaving mill before, and would allow them to handle his machinery of various kinds and perhaps spoil as every beginner must spoil part of his yarn and a part of his cloths, then certainly I would be prepared to consider the suggestion that the honourable member has made. But so far as I am aware, owners of mills are very chary of admitting apprentices into their concerns. In England and in other countries the practice is that every apprentice who wants to learn a trade has to pay something to the owner of the concern or the factory before he can be admitted or allowed to handle any part of the machinery inside the factory. It would indeed be very generous on the part of Lala Shri Ram if he admits students free and allows them to learn work in his factory. It would serve no useful purpose to shift the demonstration weaving factory from Shahdara to Lyallpur. Because in the presence of Lala Shri Ram's large mill there it would mean simply carrying coal to Newcastle. The Shahdara demonstration factory has been serving a very useful purpose, and that is that it has been demonstrating to all people interested in weaving how a weaving factory should be run on modern lines. It has also been serving the useful purpose of training supervisors and also daily wage-earners to enable them to work in other weaving factories. I assure my honourable friend that he was really speaking without his book and without any authority whatsoever from Lala Shri Ram. Because, Lala Shri Ram, if I can speak from my personal experience of human nature, will find it extremely difficult to admit forty or fifty young men of all classes and grades of education and skill or absence of skill to enter into his factory and to spoil his work, not only hindering the progress of his work but also spoiling a good deal of his stuff. In any case, as I have said, if the honourable mover can assure me that he is speaking with authority from Lala Shri Ram I shall consider his suggestion very carefully, and even if the demonstration factory cannot be shifted from Shahdara I will avail myself of the opportunity of giving training to a number of other students and people who cannot be admitted at Shahdara but who could be sent to Lyallpur. Government, I am sure, will be grateful to Lala Shri Ram and also to my honourable friend for the suggestion that some students can be admitted there. But I am personally very doubtful.

**Mian Nurullah :** The Honourable Minister seems himself to be very chary and does not seem to know how labour is provided in mills. He ought to have been better aware that in a big mill like the up-to-date mill that Lala Shri Ram has set up in Lyallpur trained labour is needed to a very large extent. It is impossible to get any trained labour in Lyallpur or even in the Punjab at present for the special purpose of cloth making. And, therefore, the Honourable Minister ought to have realised that if Lala Shri Ram could possibly get two or three men from Delhi and another four or five from Ahmedabad or Bombay, he has to take about 80 per cent. of untrained

[ Mian Nurullah. ]

labour, raw hands from Lyallpur or other centres of the Punjab. And I can assure the Honourable Minister from what I know that probably 80 per cent. of the labour that Lala Shri Ram is taking in is quite new, raw hands who do upset his machinery, who do spoil it and make him suffer a loss. I had an opportunity of a private talk with Lala Shri Ram, and I felt that he encouraged me to give this suggestion to Government, and it is for the Government of the Punjab to make a move and ask Lala Shri Ram whether he could afford the facilities for training our raw youths, and if not, what other things he was prepared to do. I spoke on this matter with some confidence that 99 per cent. he will agree to any people coming in and taking training and getting employment under him. It is possible that he, being a shrewd businessman, might like Government to give him some facilities in return. I felt that a sum of one lakh spent in an isolated place like Shahdara can be better utilised if there is co-ordination and co-operation with an established business like that at Lyallpur. I have no serious objection to this weaving section remaining at Shahdara. It is very good if another class is started at Lyallpur. On the assurance that the Honourable Minister has given that he would approach Lala Shri Ram to find out if he would be good enough to extend this facility, I am prepared to withdraw this motion.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I never said that I would approach Lala Shri Ram. What I expect is that the honourable member would approach him and make himself not 99 per cent. sure but cent. per cent. sure ; certainly then we shall find boys who would be willing to avail themselves of the opportunity which would be afforded to them for learning the business at Lyallpur although my information is not exactly what my honourable friend has said. I know—I should not have liked to mention it, but I must now make the position quite clear—that when I went to Lyallpur on the day of the opening ceremony a printed leaflet was handed over to me complaining that the people of Lyallpur had been kept out of the mills and labour had been imported from outside. My honourable friend who is probably interested in the mills must be aware of this, because that leaflet was circulated broadcast to people who had assembled on the day of the opening ceremony. I do not blame Lala Shri Ram for having imported labour because after having spent 15 or 20 lakhs in a concern one would not want it to be monkeyed with by people who do not know anything about the business that they are called upon to do. It is very well to have a sprinkling of new hands, intelligent new hands who might do some little work not requiring much skill along with others, and who might gradually pick up the work. But to have a large class of people in a business concern that is something which I have never heard of.

**Mian Nurullah :** Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

#### *Development of Cottage and other Industries.*

**Khan Bahadur Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmahi** (Non-official, nominated) (*Order*) : I beg to move :

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

*To urge the appointment of a Committee to make five years' programme for the development of village and cottage industries.*

My object in moving this cut is to impress upon the Government the desirability of appointing a committee of non-officials, officials and industrial experts to chalk out a five years' programme for the development of cottage industries in rural areas. The importance and immediate necessity of starting cottage industries in the villages has already been stressed by every section of the House while discussing the supplementary demands for grants a few days ago, and I need not take the time of the House in covering the same ground again. It is a painful fact that the Government has done little to develop the industries of this country. The British nation is renowned for its commercial and industrial acumen and leads the world in this matter. It is a pity that the British Government should have done so little to develop the industrial resources of this great country. No country in the world has more favourable conditions for industrial advancement than India. India has unlimited resources of raw-materials, metals and fuel, labour is cheapest, and inexhaustible market for consuming goods is available, but I am sorry to say that India has been treated as a ground for exploitation by East and West. India has made negligible progress in the field of industries as compared with other advanced countries during the last 50 years. We still have to look for every little thing to Europe and Japan. I cannot describe the condition of our country better than by translating a couplet of that great national poet, Dr. Sir Mohammad Iqbal "There must be some limit to our dependence on foreign countries for our requirements. For how long shall we buy our clothings, handkerchiefs, mufflers and umbrellas from Japan? If our unmindfulness remains as it is we shall have to import Afghans from Kabul to wash our dead bodies and shall depend on Japan for our winding sheets." Shall we depend for ever on Lancashire and Japan for our necessities of life? There can be no two opinions that the wealth and economic position of a country depends more on its industrial progress than anything else. It is wrong to think that a country can depend solely upon its agriculture, for its economic and fiscal stability. The most advanced countries of the world have reached the zenith of their glory only through industrial development. England which does not produce enough to feed its population even for a few days has attained the greatest political and economic power in the world mainly through her industrial advancement. Japan realised this fact and within a short space of time became one of the most powerful nations in the world through her industrial development. America's wealth and political power is chiefly due to its industrial capacity. As long as Russia remained only an agricultural country it could not come in line with other industrial countries of the world in spite of its vast area, large population and enormous resources. It remained a victim of foreign exploitation. When she realised the importance of industrial development she focussed all her energies to develop her industries and made a surprising progress within a short space of time. She can now claim to be one of the powerful nations of the world. If India is to keep pace with other civilized countries, it must launch a strenuous campaign of industrial development without losing any time. The economic condition of the rural population is far from satisfactory. The agriculture has become an almost unproductive occupation owing to world-wide economic depression and serious competition. Unemployment is increasing every day, and if no effort is made to find subsidiary occupations for the agriculturists and employment for the unemployed people in the rural areas the situation will

[ K. B. Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani. ]

become threatening. The political reforms alone cannot bring contentment in the country. The history of the world shows that the causes of discontentment in a country have always been more of economic nature than political. How shall we be able to meet excessive expenditure of the new reforms unless we increase the earning capacity of the tax-payer ? It is high time that all of us should set to work in right earnest and chalk out a programme for the development of cottage industries in the province in order to remove our present distress and to be able to meet the excessive expenditure which the new system of administration will entail. It is a matter of regret that the Honourable Minister incharge of the department, who himself is a great industrialist, has done much less than our expectations for the development of industries in the province. The Industries Department has confined its activities only to the urban areas and has hopelessly ignored the villages. The Honourable Minister told me this morning that there are already a standing committee of this council on industries and the Joint Development Board, and it was unnecessary to appoint another committee as suggested by me. As far as the standing committee on industries is concerned, I think it is a dead body. As far as my knowledge goes, it has seldom held any meeting, and probably is only meant to adorn the official records. The Joint Development Board, too, has done nothing for the development of cottage industries in the rural areas. Its activities are confined only to the towns. If the Honourable Minister can show that these committees have taken the trouble to investigate the possibilities of the development of cottage industries in rural areas and have chalked out a programme of work I shall be satisfied. But if they have done nothing in this direction in the past we cannot depend on them any longer. It is no argument to put forward that the appointment of the committee is not necessary because there already exists a standing committee on industries. A special committee was appointed to investigate the possibilities of introducing primary education in the province while a standing committee on education already existed. I want the appointment of a representative committee of officials and non-officials, from inside and outside this council, to make a thorough investigation regarding the possibilities of starting cottage industries in rural areas and to chalk out a programme of industrial development in the province. It is wrong to blame the finance department for not providing sufficient money for the industrial development. Has the Honourable Minister put forward a definite scheme of cottage industries in rural areas for which money has been refused by the finance department ? When we have made out a programme we can go to the finance department and ask them to provide money for carrying it out. Before I conclude I would appeal to the House to give serious consideration to this problem, and I hope I shall receive full support from all sections of the House for my proposal. I also hope that the Honourable Minister will not oppose my motion for the sake of opposition and will consider my request with sympathy.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

**Mian Nurullah** (Lyallpur South, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): The motion just moved by the previous speaker has my entire sympathy, and if we proceed on the lines suggested by him, we shall be able to remove much of the present distress of the zamindars. In my opinion the real remedy for our troubles lies in the encouragement of industries. If we start cottage industries, the condition of the zamindars will improve, and they will be able to pay their land revenue. It is admitted on all hands that to meet with the serious situation confronting us, it is necessary that besides agriculture, there should be something else for the zamindars to fall back upon in times of need, that is to say, that there must be some subsidiary occupation for the zamindars. I therefore feel that some programme for starting cottage industries should be set up. While stressing upon the need for cottage industry, I would like to say something about the policy of the Government, and in so doing I will urge upon the Government the desirability of starting cottage industries, for, I feel, that with the help of industries we can better the condition of the zamindars and also add to the prosperity of the urban people.

It is needless to say that the prosperity of every profession in the towns, whether it is legal or medical, trade or commerce, depends on the prosperity of the rural population. Therefore it is essential that besides a radical change in the general policy of the Government with regard to the development of industries in the province I would again impress the need of developing cottage industries in the rural areas. These industries when developed will afford the people of the villages opportunities to utilise their spare hours in the best possible manner and to bring into their pockets money and to make themselves prosperous and ultimately to increase the prosperity of the urban population.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang**: The honourable members know what deep sympathy I have with the desire for the improvement of industries. I should be very grateful if my honourable friend and others who follow him indicate clearly what cottage industries and other industries they would like to be specially developed. It will be very helpful if they make themselves more definite.

**Mian Nurullah**: It would be futile for us laymen who have very little material to study this problem to hazard any suggestion, let alone any definite suggestion. It is for this reason that we are asking for the appointment of a committee which should thoroughly go into this question. That committee should go round the villages, see things for themselves and collect statistics and also examine the financial aspects of the problem. If necessary it should invite experts from Japan, Germany and England, and the committee should take them round the villages and show them the conditions of the rural areas. When that committee will have fully investigated this problem with the help of the experts, if necessary, we will then be in a position to advise the Government what industries should be specially developed. But it is necessary to obtain the advice of experts before anything is undertaken to improve the industries and cottage industries, in particular in rural areas. Before I was interrupted I was saying that the zamindars having nothing else to do except to work on their lands altogether waste their leisure hours. To enable them to utilise this time in the

[ Mian Nurullah. ]

production of wealth and enriching the province, it is necessary that cottage industries should be started and developed in the rural areas.

The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government was just now pleased to say that the industrialists and the factory owners were not prepared to allow apprentices to work in their factories gratis because they could not afford to run the risk of losing thousands and lakhs of rupees spent by them on the establishment of these factories by the employment of untrained labour. That is to a great extent true and my experience also points to the same result. I had sent some of the youngmen belonging to the zamindars for training in a mill at Lyallpur, and I found that they were slow to work or at least work in co-operation. On account of their training in a particular atmosphere where they have never seen any factory or mill working, their mentality is very curious. They are not prepared to sweep the ground and to clean the machines with a will and with a heart that would do them credit. To change their mentality and to make them useful workers it is very essential that in their midst cottage industries should be started which will certainly help to create in them love for work. In that case there will be no paucity of trained labour of which we complain so much at present and we shall have any amount of trained labour to work in the important factories in the towns. From this point of view also the development of cottage industries is very important.

From the study of the figures of the budgets that have been placed before the Council during the last so many years it appears that not more than 12 lakhs of rupees have ever been provided for this all-important Department of Industries. The provision was less of course because in some years it did not exceed 7 lakhs and ten lakhs, but it has never been more than 12 lakhs. In other words, for the development of industries not more than .5 per cent. has been given out of the total revenues of about 14 crores. Now this is apparently a very meagre sum to encourage any kind of study about the industries in the country and outside the country. It is too small for any kind of practical demonstration, and with this provision services of no expert worth the name can be made available for those who may like to invest capital for starting some industry. With this provision one cannot think of re-organising the industries that are decaying or reviving those which have become extinct. This provision is too small to enable us to investigate the causes that have led to extinction of those industries which were once in a flourishing condition and which used to produce so much wealth for the country and this province. The Honourable Finance Member should, therefore, see that this provision is increased to meet all these requirements. I need not say that the development of industries will not only make the people rich and prosperous and happy, but it will enable the Government to add to its income because then the people will have the capacity to pay more income-tax and will also be able to pay land revenue and other Government dues easily and at a higher rate. With these words I support the motion moved by my friend and also beg to move the motion that stands in my name and that is as follows :—

\*That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 100.

†To discuss the policy of Government regarding Development of Industries.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 100.

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** (Lahore, Sikh, Rural) (Urdu) : I beg to move—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

Much of the ground has already been covered by the members who have preceded me. The honourable member who has just preceded me made a passing reference to the budget figures and pointed out that very meagre provision has been made for the promotion and development of industries in this province. To quote exact figures, out of the total revenues of 10,86,60,000 only 12 lakhs and some 87 thousand rupees have been provided for the Department of Industries, which means that only one per cent. of the total revenues has been set apart for this department. But, for the Police Department as much as ten per cent. of the total revenues has been provided. No doubt this department is there to maintain law and order, but it should also not be ignored that it squeezes the blood of the people as well. In every criminal case and particularly in cases of murder the police officers extract large amounts of money from the persons concerned. These amounts range from one thousand to two thousands in such cases. Therefore the Police Department is not one of which we should be so much proud and for which we should spend so much at the cost of departments like the Industries Department. I am sure that if cottage and other industries are started and our youngmen are given employment, much of the crime will go down, and we will not have to increase the force of the police as we have to do every now and then.

The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government was pleased to ask us to indicate definitely what cottage industries we want to be specially developed. In reply to that query I am say that weaving of cloth and such other industries can be encouraged with advantage.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** What are those other industries ?

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** There is, for example, silk manufacturing industry which should be encouraged in the province. Then schools can be opened to train our youngmen to manufacture silk socks, sweaters and pull-overs which cost Rs. 9 or Rs. 10 each and for which there is so much demand in these days. In these schools students belonging to the rural population who will have read only up to the eighth class will be admitted and trained because the instructions will be given in Urdu or in some other vernacular of the province. It is no use at present to produce B. A.'s and M. A.'s in large numbers. We know how they have to knock every door to find some employment for themselves. If instead of giving them mere University education we give them some training in some industry, I am sure they will prove very useful members of society. Now they are a menace to society. While on this point I would request the Honourable Minister for Education to compel the University to introduce in the curriculum some such subject as industrial development and to make that subject one of the compulsory subjects.

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<sup>a</sup>To urge the necessity of starting industries in the province.

[ S. Jawahar Singh Dhillon. ]

I need not say much about the development of cottage industries in the rural areas because this subject has almost been exhausted. One thing that I must say in this connection is that these industries will provide opportunities for the zamindars and their wives and children to spend their leisure hours more profitably and to the welfare of all of us. They will not waste their time as they do now sitting under the trees. This is all that I want to say, and I hope that the Government will give due weight to the public opinion on this matter which is growing very strong every day and make sufficient provision for the development of cottage and other industries in the province.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M. on Tuesday, 12th March 1935.*



## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, 12th March, 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### OATH OF OFFICE.

*Mr. F. B. Wace (Registrar, Co-operative Societies) was sworn in.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### JUNGLE ALLOWANCES TO ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS.

**\*4259. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Assistant Executive Engineers in Irrigation Department who are in charge of sub-divisions at headquarters in jungle stations, get a jungle allowance of Rs. 50 a month ;
- (b) if so, why Government does not post them to non-jungle stations ;
- (c) the number of such engineers and the amount that the Government is likely to save on this account ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) The posting of officers is made with due regard to the exigencies of the public service.

(c) The number at present is 24. This is continually changing as transfers are effected and no definite amount can be stated.

#### LAMBARDARS.

**\*4260. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) how many persons have been appointed lambardars in villages in which they bought land recently in the district of Lyallpur ;
- (b) in how many cases they did not belong to the caste living in those villages and came to the villages concerned as strangers ;
- (c) whether it is the policy of Government to prefer a new buyer of land in a village for appointment as a lambardar or one of the old owners in the villages ;
- (d) how many lambardaris have been created and given to persons who do not live in the village concerned in the district of Lyallpur ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** As the honourable member has not specified any period for his enquiry, information since the inception of the settlement operations is given.

- (a) None so far as can be ascertained at present.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Reference is invited to Land Revenue Rules 14 to 19 and paragraphs 812, 813 and 824 of the Land Administration Manual, which contain all the orders of Government on the matter.
- (d) Three.

#### FACILITIES TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS.

**\*4261. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Government is aware that in the Government of Bombay all official business between members of the Council and the Government or the Secretary of the Council is carried on without any postage ;
- (b) whether there are any other facilities provided for the members of other Legislative Councils in India, in their official work ;
- (c) whether the Punjab Government is prepared to negotiate with the Government of India to get these postage facilities ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

**Mian Nurullah :** Is the Government making enquiries ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Yes.

#### OFFICIALS AND ELECTIONS.

**\*4262. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) what steps the Government has taken so far to see that Government officials do not take part in elections to local bodies, to Legislative Council and to Legislative Assembly ;
- (b) if any instructions or circulars have been issued in this connection, whether he will lay a copy on the table with the dates on which they were issued ;
- (c) whether they are in a general form or different for the Assembly, Council, district boards and municipalities ;
- (d) whether the Government sends any fresh circular each time elections are held ;
- (e) against how many officers has action been taken for taking part in any elections ;

- (f) whether the Government is aware that the candidates or others concerned, carry the impression that the Government does not take disciplinary action in such matters against local officials ;
- (g) whether these apply to salaried officials of the Government or others as well, such as the honorary magistrates, honorary inspectors and sub-inspectors of co-operative societies ;
- (h) what steps the Government takes to ensure a fair election if an honorary magistrate or an honorary inspector of co-operative societies stands for election from his own *Naqa* ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** (Chief Secretary) : (a) Government have, from time to time, drawn the attention of its officers and subordinates to the instructions contained in rule 23 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules and warned them that any breach of this Rule would be suitably dealt with.

(b) Four circulars have issued on the subject since the inauguration of the Reforms, copies of which are laid on the table.

(c) The circulars explain themselves.

(d) No.

(e) Government have no information on this point.

(f) No.

(g) The instructions contained in the circulars referred to in (b) above, apply only to salaried Government servants.

(h) No special steps.

**Mian Nurullah** : The answer to part (d) is "No." Are the Government prepared to send such circulars now before the elections ?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** : I cannot give any such undertaking. I do not think it is necessary.

*Copy of a Circular No. 22048 (H.—Gaz.), dated the 2nd August, 1926.*

*Subject.—COUNCIL ELECTIONS.*

GOVERNMENT are advised that in certain departments there is a danger that officials of influence may help in canvassing votes for relatives or friends who intend to contest the local constituencies at the coming elections for the Legislative Assembly and the Punjab Legislative Council.

2. The danger is probably exaggerated, but in any case I am directed to ask that the attention of all Government servants under your administrative control may be invited to the instructions contained in rule 23 (2) of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, which runs as follows :—

"A Government servant, who is a whole time Government servant, may not, by canvassing or otherwise, interfere or use his influence, in any way, in an election to a Legislative Council except that he may record a vote, if he is qualified to do so, and in that case he should, as far as possible, avoid giving any indication, before-hand of the direction in which he intends to vote."

3. Any Government servant found breaking this rule should be suitably dealt with.

*Copy of a Circular No. 24954 (H.—Gaz.), dated 1st October, 1927.*

In continuation of Punjab Government letter No. 22048, dated the 2nd August, 1926, I am directed to invite's reference to revised rule 23 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, republished on pages 576-77 of Part II of the *Punjab Gazette*, dated the 26th August, 1927, and to request that the attention of all Government servants serving under you may be drawn to the revised rule.

2. Copies of the amendment slip will be supplied in due course.

[Mr. F. H. Puckle.]

*Copy of a Circular No. 23716 (H.—Gaz.), dated the 7th August, 1930.*

I AM directed to request that you will invite the attention of all Government servants, employed in your department to rule 23 (2) of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules which prohibits Government servants from canvassing or otherwise interfering in or using their influence in connection with, or taking part in, any election to a Legislative body. A Government servant may record his own vote but must not give any indication of the manner in which he proposes to vote or has voted.

*Copy of a Circular No. 5063-S. (Gaz.), dated the 27th August, 1934.*

I AM directed by the Governor in Council, acting with the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, to request you to be good enough to draw the attention of all Government servants under your control to rule 23 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules whereby a Government servant, who is a whole-time Government servant, is prohibited from interfering or using his influence in any way in elections to Municipal Committees, District Boards and Local Boards, whether by canvassing or otherwise, except that he may record a vote if he is qualified to do so. But even when recording his vote he should, as far as possible, avoid giving any indication beforehand of the direction in which he intends to vote. Any departure whatever from this rule requires the permission of the proper authority and that can only be accorded in circumstances to the extent indicated in sub-rule (4) of the rule.

These rules are to be observed very strictly.

#### REMISSION.

\*4263. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- the total amount of remission given in each district in each harvest from the start of the economic depression, say from 1928 ;
- the total amount of remission during each harvest in each tahsil of the Lyallpur district since 1928 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** If the honourable member is referring to special remissions of land revenue on account of fall in prices, statements giving the required information are laid on the table :—

*Remission of land revenue in the Lyallpur district on account of fall in prices.*

Harvest.	Lyallpur.	AMOUNT REMITTED IN TAHSIL.			Total.
		Samundari.	Toba Tek Singh.	Jaranwala.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Kharij 1930 ..		Not available.			3,80,555
Rabi 1931 ..	3,79,409	3,35,307	3,49,909	3,42,398	14,07,113
Kharij 1931 ..		Not available.			4,73,634
Rabi 1932 ..	2,15,752	1,93,036	1,83,117	2,02,328	7,94,233
Rabi 1933 ..	1,18,646	1,39,451	1,44,101	1,38,335	5,40,533
Kharij 1933 ..	10,981	17,030	4,184	17,701	49,878
Rabi 1934 ..		Not available.			8,15,619
Kharij 1934 ..		Not available.			2,00,000

*Remissions of land revenue on account of fall in prices.—contd.*

Division.	District.	Kharif 1930.	Rabi 1931.	Kharif 1931.	Rabi 1932.	Kharif 1932.	Rabi 1933.	Kharif 1933.	Rabi 1934.	Kharif 1934.
AMBALA	Hissar	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Rohtak	6,261	1,05,833	24,015	3,607	..	..	..	..	..
	Gurgaon	24,096	2,35,228	83,282	31,007	..	..	..	..	..
	Karnal	2,483	2,39,204	1,41,839	70,923	..	..	..	..	..
	Ambala	..	2,10,494	13,140	51,612	..	..	..	..	56,832
	Simla	..	2,25,225	71,414	1,31,895	..	..	..	..	..
Total		32,839	10,18,957	3,33,690	2,88,044	..	..	..	..	56,832
JULLANDHUR	Kangra	..	98,663	19,076	26,978	..	..	..	..	..
	Hoshiarpur	..	2,70,938	61,877	36,851	..	..	..	..	11,429
	Jullundur	..	2,75,905	10,683	37,917	..	..	..	..	..
	Ludhiana	836	1,98,064	2,941	10,340	..	..	..	..	..
	Ferozepore	3,342	3,24,577	9,410	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total	4,178	11,68,147	1,03,987	1,12,086	..	..	..	..	11,429
LAHORE	Lahore	1,453	2,46,456	76,931	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Amritsar	12,865	2,22,476	17,300	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Gurdaspur	4,980	282,965	59,009	8,789	..	..	..	..	..
	Sialkot	4,005	2,42,715	26,025	24,532	..	..	..	..	..
	Gujranwala	93,152	2,35,906	40,114	2,716	..	..	..	..	..
	Sheikhpura	1,13,021	4,24,910	1,23,572	1,45,704	..	54,853	..	1,51,965	..
Total		2,29,477	16,58,428	3,43,551	1,81,741	..	54,853	..	1,51,965	..

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

*Remission of land revenue on account of fall in prices—concd.*

Division.	District.	Kharif 1930.	Rabi 1931.	Kharif 1931.	Rabi 1932.	Kharif 1932.	Rabi 1933.	Kharif 1933.	Rabi 1934.	Kharif 1934.
RAWALPINDI	Gujrat ..	Rs. 42,735	Rs. 3,12,130	Rs. 67,319	Rs. 69,885	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. 30,000	Rs. 52,402	Rs. ..
	Shahpur ..	1,31,440	4,94,999	1,13,102	1,37,943	..	1,55,088	60,133	2,22,021	..
	Jhelum ..	..	1,35,482	25,835	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rawalpindi ..	569	1,04,781	4,450	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Attock ..	1,522	1,22,977	26,832	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Mianwali ..	..	1,07,250	13,015	17,038	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	1,76,266	12,77,619	2,50,353	2,24,866	..	1,55,088	90,133	2,74,423	..
MULTAN	Montgomery ..	1,63,122	4,86,314	1,11,802	1,00,593	..	..	30,000	73,878	4,484
	*Nili Bar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49,876	8,15,619	2,00,000
	Lyallpur ..	3,80,555	14,07,113	4,73,634	7,94,233	..	5,40,533	47,274	5,828	..
	Jhang ..	37,226	2,98,292	1,15,223	61,424	..	5,181	30,000	2,00,392	31,797
	Multan ..	94,902	6,30,233	2,41,766	1,40,042	..	1,87,139	30,000	51,051	12,689
	Muzaffargarh ..	..	1,87,896	35,213	32,384	..	..	..	..	81,614
	Dera Ghazi Khan	..	95,777	54,374	37,610	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	6,75,815	30,05,625	10,32,012	11,66,286	..	7,32,853	1,87,150	11,46,768	3,30,594
	GRAND TOTAL	11,18,575	81,28,776	20,63,593	19,73,823	..	9,42,794	2,77,283	15,73,156	3,98,855

\*Remissions given in the Nili Bar during previous harvests are included in the figures shown against Montgomery and Multan districts.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS.

\*4264. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the effect of consolidation of holdings in each district since the inauguration of the scheme;

(b) whether it is the intention of Government to consolidate holdings in the district of Lyallpur also?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) The general effect of consolidation in all districts in which it has been carried out has been a marked improvement in the economic position of those land-holders whose land has been consolidated. Statistics for the province will be found in the Annual Reports of the Co-operative Department.

(b) No; as the evil of fragmentation is not yet acute in Colony districts.

**Mian Nurullah :** Is the honourable member aware that in Lyallpur there are cases where a lambardar owns one square in three different places quite apart from each other and there are many such cases and their applications for consolidation are refused?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I do not follow what the honourable member means by refusal. But I can assure him that so far as consolidation is concerned, wherever a demand arises, we will do our best to help in consolidation.

ZILLADARS AND NOMINATION TO EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERSHIP.

\*4265. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Chief Secretary to Government's letter No. 5577-Gaz., dated 6th September, 1934, addressed to the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Branch, requires the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Branch, to recommend names for nomination to Extra Assistant Commissionership on register A-II;

(b) whether zilladars who fulfil the conditions laid down in the above letter are also eligible for nomination;

(c) what class of Government servants of the Irrigation Branch can be recommended for such nomination;

(d) whether the above letter or any other instruction of the Government debar the zilladars for nomination to Extra Assistant Commissionership;

(e) whether from 1928 until this year any zilladar has ever been recommended for this post by the Chief Engineer;

(f) whether the Government is prepared to consider the case of zilladars for nomination to Extra Assistant Commissionership, if not, why not; and what rules prohibit them from being nominated for Extra Assistant Commissionership?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle** Chief Secretary : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Members of subordinate services holding ministerial appointments.

(d) Yes.

(e) Government consider it against the public interest to reveal the recommendations of the Chief Engineer.

(f) No. 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. The Punjab Civil Service (Executive Branch) Rules, 1930, do not admit of the recruitment of zilladars on Register A-II.

#### SENDING OF CATTLE TO THE POUND.

**\*4266. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether zilladars and canal overseers are empowered to send cattle which damage canal works to cattle-pound ;

(b) whether there are any orders prohibiting these officers from sending cattle to cattle-pound on their own authority ;

(c) whether the Government knows that mates and " beldars " of the Buildings and Roads Branch are empowered to send cattle to cattle-pound ;

(d) whether Government is prepared to remove the restriction laid on overseers and zilladars regarding this ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) In the Buildings and Roads Branch subordinates are empowered to impound cattle but mates and beldars are not.

(d) This question is under consideration.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

**\*4267. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government is aware that many foreign Governments have stopped the killing of very young sheep, *bheds* and other animals and since then the price of young one of a sheep has gone up abnormally ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the price of grown up sheep is something between Rs. 4 to Rs. 7 while the price of the skin of a very young one has risen to Rs. 8 or Rs. 9 ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the young ones of the sheep and *bhed* are slaughtered as soon as they come to life for the sake of the skin and that in some cases the sheep is slaughtered in order to get the tender skin of the young one ;



- (d) whether the Government is aware that due to this practice the herds of sheep and goats are decreasing and that young ones are rare in any herd ;
- (e) whether this practice has caused scarcity of meat with a rise in price of meat especially in the municipal and notified areas ;
- (f) whether Government is aware that due to scarcity of herds in times to come agriculture in certain tracts is bound to suffer due to absence of useful manure of herds ;
- (g) what action Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) and (b) Government has no information.

(c) Yes. Propaganda is, however, active against this practice.

(d), (e) and (f) Government has no information.

(g) District boards in the Punjab have been empowered to frame regulations for the prevention of the slaughter of lambs under a certain age in the areas subject to their authority.

**Mian Nurullah :** What legal power does exist for these district boards to make those measures effective ? Is there any legal force behind them ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I require notice.

**Mian Nurullah :** With regard to (d), (e) and (f) will he make enquiries and find out if there is any change in prices of meat in *mandis* and villages too.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Yes, I will make enquiries.

#### INDEBTEDNESS BILL.

**\*4268. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the fate of the Indebtedness Bill passed by the Punjab Legislative Council ; at what stage it is and what Government propose to do now in the matter ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The Punjab Relief of Indebtedness Bill has received the assent of the Governor and is awaiting that of the Governor-General.

#### LEASE OF LAND IN TOBA TEK SINGH.

**\*4269. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of *kamins* of Toba Tek Singh in the district of Lyallpur were given land on lease and that like many of the similar lease-holders they were allowed to build their houses in which they now live ;
- (b) whether they have been living for a large number of years and paying the lease money ;

[Mian Nurullah.]

- (c) whether in the month of December they were served with a notice to pull down their houses and vacate the land within seven days because the Government wanted to auction that land ;
- (d) the number of houses, the number of families living in them, the area occupied by them and the approximate market price of that land and the number of years for which it has been under lease ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that certain other lessees were not served with a notice to quit like them in the first instance ;
- (f) the total number of lease-holders and the number served with a notice, and the reasons for this differential treatment ;
- (g) whether it is a fact that even during the last year many plots have been let on lease over which buildings have been or are being made ;
- (h) if so, the urgency of getting that piece of land being vacated for auction ;
- (i) whether it is a fact that some plots in that very area or locality changed hands during the last few years at about 25 rupees a marla ;
- (j) whether Mr. Gill assessed the market value last year at about Rs. 25 a marla and whether all those *kamins* are even now prepared to pay that market rate ;
- (k) whether Government is aware that a much larger adjoining area within the limits of the town is still agricultural land and may be put to any use ;
- (l) whether Government proposes to withdraw the notice and let these *kamins* live in peace there ;
- (m) whether the Financial Commissioner recently visited the area ; if so, whether he will state his views of the whole case ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes, but they were not all *kamins*.

(b) They have been paying Re. 1 per marla per year, but the very great majority have only had the sites for the last 4 years.

(c) Yes, by the committee.

(d) The number of houses and families is 72. Total area is about 15 kanals and the approximate market value is Rs. 100 per marla at the very least.

(e) Yes, but not in the area referred to.

(f) The total number of lease holders including those in other parts of the town is 126, but the lessees of the area in question were served with notices on the termination of the lease.

(g) Yes, in sweepers' Thathi, but they have built *kacha* temporary buildings.

(h) The lessees in question built *pucca* buildings in contravention of the orders of Government, and a term of their lease deeds is that they vacate the site when asked to.

(i) Yes, but only in one case.

(j) Yes.

(k) Yes.

(l) The matter is under consideration.

(m) Yes. The Financial Commissioner is consulting the local officers.

**Mian Nurullah :** In answer to (i) it is said that some plots were sold at Rs. 25 per marla. Then what is the justification for saying that the market value in regard to others is Rs. 100 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** You do not judge the market value from the sale of one marla. We have to take the present market value as a whole.

**Mian Nurullah :** In answer to (f) the Honourable Member has admitted that there was differential treatment and some lease-holders were not given notice. If so, what is the reason for this differential treatment ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I cannot say off hand ; but it may be a different area, though in the same town.

**Mian Nurullah :** All these are lease holders and they should have been given notice at one and the same time ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I shall make enquiries.

#### ROADS.

**\*4270. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state when the Government intends to make the roads between—

(i) Toba and Kamalia

(ii) Toba and Jhang

(iii) Toba and Shorkot Road

(iv) Toba and Gojra, and

(v) Toba and Sandianwala

*pucca*, if at all ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (i) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the reply given to part (b) of question No. 1084<sup>1</sup>.

(ii)—(v) These roads are District Board roads, and Government are informed that there is no likelihood of the Board being able to afford metalling them in the near future.

**\*4271. Cancelled.**

## MUSLIMS AS GOVERNMENT ADVOCATES.

**\*4272. Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the number of Muslims who have held the post of Government Advocate in the Punjab from 1900 upto date, and if no Muslim has held the post, how it is that Muslims have been uniformly excluded from it ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** 1st part.—Three.

2nd part.—Does not arise.

## SUPERINTENDENTS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES.

**\*4273. Thakur Pancham Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) the names of all the Superintendents in the Deputy Commissioners' offices in the Punjab, together with the *bona fide* period of service put in by them ;
- (b) what action the Government propose to take to retire the Superintendents who have attained the age of 55 in order to help unemployment ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No useful purpose would be served by collecting the information asked for.

(b) None.

## POLITICAL PRISONERS.

**\*4274. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of political prisoners in the Punjab jails at the end of the year 1934 ;
- (b) whether Government intends to remit the unexpired portion of these prisoners in view of the present calm atmosphere in the Punjab ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** If the honourable member will kindly say what he means by political prisoners I will try to answer his question.

## DETENUS.

**\*4275. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of detenus in the Punjab jails at the end of the year 1934 ;
- (b) whether Government proposes to release these detenus in view of the present calm atmosphere of the Punjab ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Three.

(b) The decision does not lie with this Government as they are all Bengal detenus.

## CONSPIRACY PRISONERS.

**\*4276. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of conspiracy prisoners of 1914-15 who were in the Punjab jails at the end of the year 1934 ;
- (b) whether Government proposes to release these prisoners as they have undergone a long period of imprisonment ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Two, of whom one has since been released.

- (b) Government are not in a position to make any statement.

## NOTIFIED AREA COMMITTEE, OKARA.

**\*4277. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the total population of Okara, communitywise ;
- (b) how many members have been nominated by the Government on the Notified Area Committee, Okara ;
- (c) whether any Hindu member has been nominated since 1930 ;
- (d) if so, what is his name ;
- (e) if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Hindus 5,218, Muhammadans 3,666, Sikhs 1,604, Christians 171, Parsis 2, and others 51, Total 10,712.

- (b) Seven, including the three *ex-officio* members.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Lala Kirpa Ram Budhwar was nominated, but he resigned in July 1930. He was replaced by Chaudhri Sobha Singh on the supposition that the latter was a Hindu.
- (e) Does not arise.

## NOTIFIED AREA COMMITTEE, OKARA.

**\*4278. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Hindus of Okara made a representation to the Government in January, 1935, that Sardar Sobha Singh, sitting member of the Notified Area Committee, Okara, was a Sikh and not a representative of Hindus ;
- (b) if so, what action the Government intends to take to safeguard the interests of the Hindus of Okara ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) As the Notified Area of Okara is shortly to be converted into a municipality Government do not propose to take any action.

#### MUNICIPALITY FOR OKARA.

**\*4279. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the probable time by which Okara town is to be granted a second class municipality ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Steps will be taken to convert the Notified Area into a municipality as soon as proposals for the electoral rules and wards of the proposed municipality are received from the Commissioner, who has recently been reminded.

#### HAVELI PROJECT.

**\*4280. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) at what stage the Haveli project is ;
- (b) whether there is any prospect of the scheme being taken in hand ; if so, when ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) The Punjab Government has under consideration at present the water supplies required for a successful Haveli Project, and whether such supplies are available in the river. The decision either to construct or abandon the project must for the present remain in abeyance until a final solution to the above problem is achieved.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF CANAL WATER.

**\*4281. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some gardens at Bhiwani received no water during the months of September, October, November and December, 1934 ;
- (b) if so, the reasons why some garden owners received water while others received no water ;
- (c) if so, whether they propose to remit the *abiana* charged for canal water supply ;
- (d) the principles on which the *warabandi* of Bhiwani gardens was framed in July, 1934 ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that there is no uniform proportion of hours in the distribution ;
- (f) if so, the reasons thereof ;

- (g) the reasons of the low and irregular supply of water at the Bhiwani tail of the Western Jumna Canal ;
- (h) whether it is a fact that all the three outlets, viz., (i) the Water Works, (ii) the Railway Water Course, and (iii) the City Water Course, are opened at one and the same time ;
- (i) whether it is a fact that some of the gardens have suffered very heavily owing to total non-supply in the closing months of 1984 and very low supply throughout the year ;
- (j) if so, how they propose to remedy this grievance ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Not as far as is known. The question relates to internal distribution carried out by the shareholders.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The *wahrbandi* was framed in July 1984 by the Executive Engineer under Section 68, Canal Act, on a demand from shareholders and was approved by the majority present when it was announced by the Executive Engineer on July 4th, 1984. The principles were—

(1) Gardens in existence prior to 1929 were given *wahrs* according to twice their actual area. Non-garden areas and gardens established during 1929 and later were treated alike and given *wahr* according to actual area. This is in accordance with the I. M. O. Article 8-38, paragraph 4.

(2) The *wahrbandi* was calculated for a 10 day period.

(3) Each garden received its *wahr* on 3 fixed days each month and at fixed hours.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The Bhiwani Tail has received excellent supplies whenever water was available in the Western Jumna Canal.

(h) No, except when excess supplies are passed to the tail to feed the water-works and Railway tanks.

(i) No.

(j) Does not arise.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

*Statement of Discharges of Municipal Watercourse, Bhiwani, September to December 1934.*

Date of month.	DISCHARGE OF WATERCOURSE.				REMARKS.
	September.	October.	November.	December.	
1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	The full supply discharge of the municipal watercourse is 1·13 cusecs.
2	Nil.	2·0	Nil.	Nil.	
3	Nil.	2·0	Nil.	Nil.	
4	Nil.	1·8	Nil.	Nil.	
5	Nil.	2·28	Nil.	Nil.	
6	Nil.	2·8	1·0	Nil.	
7	Nil.	2·95	Nil.	Nil.	
8	Nil.	2·8	Nil.	Nil.	
9	Nil.	1·8	Nil.	Nil.	
10	Nil.	1·6	Nil.	Nil.	
11	3·4	2·28	Nil.	Nil.	
12	3·1	2·28	Nil.	Nil.	
13	1·55	2·80	Nil.	Nil.	
14	1·4	2·80	Nil.	Nil.	
15	1·55	2·80	Nil.	1·8	
16	1·70	2·8	1·2	2·0	
17	1·70	2·7	0·8	2·0	
18	1·55	2·28	0·4	2·14	
19	4·0	1·9	0·4	2·28	
20	3·1	1·0	1·55	1·07	
21	2·8	1·14	2·8	0·9	
22	3·4	0·6	1·0	1·0	
23	4·0	0·4	Nil.	2·28	
24	3·1	0·7	Nil.	Nil.	
25	3·1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
26	3·1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
27	3·1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
28	3·1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
29	0·8	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
30	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
31	..	Nil.	..	Nil.	

## LAW COLLEGE.

**\*4282. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to the reply to part (a) of starred question No. 3592<sup>1</sup>, dated the 21st February, 1935, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state in respect of the one Hindu gentleman and the eight Muslim gentlemen on the teaching staff of the University Law College, Lahore, who are shown in the said answer as "agriculturists," whether they are *statutory agriculturists* or not?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## LAW COLLEGE.

**\*4283. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to the reply to part (a) of starred question No. 3592<sup>1</sup>, dated the 21st of February, 1935, and the inadequacy of Muslim representation on the teaching



staff of the Law College exhibited therein, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state what steps are being taken to increase the number of Muslims on the teaching staff so as to secure an adequate representation on the teaching staff for the Muslim community?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### ASSISTANT LEGAL REMEMBRANCERS.

**\*4284. Chaudhri Muahmmad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the total number of appointments of Assistant Legal Remembrancers from 1900 upto date and the total number of Muslim appointments among them?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Sixteen of whom four have been Muslims.

#### LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

**\*4285. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the date on which the Ludhiana Municipal Committee passed its revised budget for 1984-85 ;
- (b) the date on which it was received in the Deputy Commissioner's office ;
- (c) the date on which the Deputy Commissioner forwarded this budget to the Commissioner ;
- (d) the date on which it was returned unsanctioned by the Commissioner to the Deputy Commissioner ;
- (e) the date on which the budget was received back from the Deputy Commissioner by the Municipal Committee, and the date on which the Committee reconsidered and repassed it ;
- (f) whether the Committee has received back this budget duly sanctioned up till now ; if not, why not ;
- (g) whether he is aware that in the absence of the sanctioned budget, contractors' bills and various other payments cannot be made, and all the works are held up, and that the Municipal Committee is being put to a good deal of inconvenience ;
- (h) whether he will lay on the table—
  - (i) a copy of the covering letter containing objections and proposals on the budget forwarded by the Deputy Commissioner to the Commissioner ;
  - (ii) a copy of the Commissioner's objections and proposals on the budget returned to the Municipal Committee for adjusting it in the light of his proposals ;
  - (iii) a copy of the resolution and explanation under which the Committee repassed the budget ;

[ Mian Nurullah. ]

- (iv) a copy of the resolution recently passed by the Committee requesting the Commissioner to return the budget duly sanctioned ;
- (i) whether the Government intend to issue instructions to the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner asking them to expedite the disposal of the budget, and to state reasons responsible for this considerable delay ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) 23rd October, 1934.

(b) 31st October, 1934.

(c) 17th November, 1934.

(d) 17th December, 1934.

(e) The budget was received back by the Municipal Committee on the 21st December, 1934. It was reconsidered and repassed by the Committee on the 12th January, 1935.

(f) The budget was received back by the Deputy Commissioner on the 2nd March, 1935, and is being returned to the Committee for further consideration.

(g) Yes.

(h) The required copies are laid on the table.

(i) Government is satisfied that the Committee itself is responsible for the delay. It failed to submit the revised budget in time so as to reach the Commissioner's office by the end of October. It did not provide for two urgent schemes in connection with water supply. It made provision for items which were not considered by the local officers to be necessary, and it did not take prompt action to decide whether the suggestions made by the Commissioner should or should not be adopted. The Commissioner has, however, been asked to sanction immediately the revised budget for the present financial year.

*Copy of a letter No. 2265, dated the 17th of November, 1934, from the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, to the Commissioner, Jullundur Division.*

*Subject :—REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE OF LUDHIANA FOR THE YEAR 1934-35.*

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 2734-D. C., dated the 25th of May, 1934, returning, duly sanctioned, one copy of the budget estimate of the Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, for the year 1934-35, I have the honour to forward herewith, in triplicate, the revised budget estimate of the Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, for the year 1934-35, passed by the Committee by resolution No. 731, dated the 23rd of October, 1934, copy attached.

2. The necessity for revising the original budget has been explained by the Executive Officer in his letter No. 595-E.D., dated the 30th of October, 1934, a copy of which is also enclosed herewith.

As required by your letter No. 2222, dated the 19th of April, 1932, the revised budget should have been submitted by the Municipal Committee earlier so as to reach your office punctually by the end of October. The Executive Officer explains the delay in its submission to be due to the Head Clerk who used to prepare budgets having fallen ill, which upset the office and the revised budget had to be prepared by a new hand.

3. The revised budget compares with the sanctioned budget estimates as follows :—

Revised.	Rs.	Original.	Rs.
Actual opening balance on 1st April, 1934 .. ..	1,10,226	Estimated opening balance on 1st of April, 1934 .. ..	78,169
Income .. ..	3,69,193	Income .. ..	3,46,715
Total .. ..	4,79,419	Total .. ..	4,24,884
Expenditure .. ..	4,67,131	Expenditure .. ..	3,50,578
Closing balance .. ..	12,288	Closing balance .. ..	74,306

The closing balance of Rs. 12,288 is exclusive of Rs. 19,900 invested in Post Office Cash Certificates and Treasury bonds.

4 (a) Statements explaining differences in the sanctioned and the revised budget estimates are enclosed herewith.

(b) The figures given in paragraph 3 above show that the estimated income has been raised by Rs. 22,478, while the expenditure shows an increase of Rs. 1,16,553. The increase in income is mainly under the following heads of the budget :—

	Rs.	
I. A. General .. ..	2,367	A grant of Rs. 2,000 is expected from the District Board for the clock of the Clock Tower. Besides, the actual amount of interest on investments will exceed by Rs. 367.
C. Income from Municipal property.	1,706	Based on actual amount of auction money and <i>tehbazari</i> income.
IV. Public Health, F.—Conser- vancy.	16,823	The committee expect a grant-in-aid of Rs. 16,720 from Government in connection with their conser- vancy scheme, hence enhanced provision.
VII. Municipal Works .. ..	750	Due to the Government grant of Rs. 300 received for maintenance of Civil Lines roads.

(c) The increase in expenditure is chiefly under the following heads :—

	Increase.
	Rs.
1. General Departments .. ..	55,553
3. Medical .. ..	1,680
4. Public Health .. ..	39,916
5. Water Supply .. ..	3,083
7. Municipal Works .. ..	16,808
8. Reserve for unforeseen charges .. ..	250

due to the following provisions :—

- Rs. 40,000 earmarked for a fixed deposit.
- Rs. 6,500 for the clock of Clock Tower.
- Rs. 1,000 for the installation of a radio.
- Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of a weigh bridge.
- Rs. 500 for a tube-well in the committee's garden and provision for new bullocks to replace the old ones.
- Rs. 7,356 for the purchase of fire extinguishing apparatus.
- Rs. 3,236 provisions made for the—
  - payment of arrears of bills for grant-in-aid to the hospital of Dr. Dame Edith Brown—Rs. 1,400;
  - payment of enhanced grant of Rs. 150 a month to the Women's Christian Medical College, Ludhiana—Rs. 1,800.
  - enhanced pay of the third dispenser at Rs. 25, instead of Rs. 22, a month—Rs. 36.

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8. Rs. 500 for purchases of books for library.
9. Rs. 100 for purchasing a weighing scale for children.
10. Rs. 440 for the appointment of a temporary vaccination moharrir and the purchase of lymph.
11. Rs. 1,000 for the extension of "Ferguson Infectious Diseases Hospital" and for the purchase of material for anti-malaria campaign.
12. Rs. 37,382 for carrying out Conservancy Scheme.
13. Rs. 1,240 for original works shown in the statement.
14. Rs. 120 for payment of allowance for the destruction of dogs.
15. Rs. 3,078 for Trial Boring of Wells, allowance for hot weather and 2 extra keymen for hot weather.
16. Rs. 958 for provident fund for old employees for old service, for road barrier and purchase of tracing cloth.
17. Rs. 15,850 for municipal roads.
18. Rs. 250 to meet extraordinary and unforeseen charges.

(d) The closing balance of the committee has fallen from Rs. 1,10,226 (excluding Rs. 19,000), invested in Post Office Cash Certificates and treasury bonds) to Rs. 12,288, showing a decrease of Rs. 97,938. The actual decrease amounts to Rs. 57,938 only as Rs. 40,000, which it is proposed to deposit as a fixed deposit, would really be a part of the closing balance.

5. The Committee have not provided for the following two urgent schemes, which require immediate execution :—

	<i>Estimated cost. Rs.</i>	
(1) 1st Independent Tube Well to supply water to Northern Service Reservoir.	24,143	<i>Vide</i> endorsement No. 4753, dated the 19th of October, 1934, from the Superintending Engineer to your address.
(2) 2nd Independent Tube Well to supply water to Southern Service Reservoir.	22,234	<i>Vide</i> endorsement No. 5190, dated the 1st of November, 1934, from the Superintending Engineer, Public Health Circle, Punjab, to your address.
Total	46,377	

With a view to provide for these and to frame a reasonably well balanced budget, I would recommend that the revised budget may be sanctioned on the condition that the following items are retrenched from the expenditure side of the budget and every possible saving is made in other directions; and also that the amount earmarked for fixed deposits is not so deposited till funds are provided for the two urgent schemes :—

- (1) Rs. 1,000 .. Provided for the installation of a radio.  
This is entirely unnecessary, at present.
- (2) Rs. 3,000 .. Provided for the purchase of a weigh bridge.  
This can be postponed to next year without any detriment.
- (3) Rs. 500 .. Provided for a tube well in the Committee's garden and new bullocks.  
Not necessary just now.
- (4) Rs. 7,356 .. Provided for a fire brigade.  
Not necessary just now.
- (5) Rs. 500 .. Provided for purchase of books for library.  
Not at all necessary.
- (6) Rs. 1,800 .. Provided for payment of grant-in-aid to the Memorial Hospital at an enhanced rate of Rs. 500 instead of Rs. 350 a month. This is not at all necessary. This should be possible only when after providing for the current expenditure a saving is made.
- (7) Rs. 440 .. Provided for one temporary vaccination moharrir and for the purchase of lymph.  
Not necessary unless an unexpected epidemic breaks, but it could be arranged if an emergency arises.
- (8) Rs. 275 .. Out of Rs. 1,000 provided for the extension of "Ferguson Infectious Diseases Hospital."

6. An amount of Rs. 20,000 to cover the minimum balance has already been deposited by the Committee in Post Office Cash Certificates and Treasury Bonds and the closing balance of Rs. 12,288 is in addition thereto.

7. It appears from the Executive Officer's endorsement on the budget that relevant extracts from the revised budget estimate have been duly sent to the departments concerned.

*Copy of a letter No. U. XII-20/7216-D. C., dated the 17th December, 1934, from the Commissioner, Jullundur Division, to the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.*

I have the honour to return the revised budget estimate of the municipal committee of Ludhiana, for the year 1934-35, received under cover of your letter No. 2265, dated the 17th November, 1934, and to request you kindly to suggest to the municipal committee the desirability of making provision for—

	Cost.
	Rs.
(1) 1st Independent Tube Well to supply Water to the Northern Reservoir .. .. .	24,143
(2) 2nd Independent Tube Well to supply water to the Southern Service Reservoir .. .. .	22,234

and to eliminate the provision for the eight items mentioned by you.

(2) Please also ask the committee to reconsider the budget estimate immediately on receipt and to return it duly amended without delay.

*Copy of resolution No. 916, passed at an adjourned special meeting of the Ludhiana Municipal Committee, held on the 12th of January, 1935, in the Town Hall.*

Read Commissioner's letter No. U.-XII.-20/7216-D. C., dated 17th December, 1934, received through the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, under No. 9657, dated 21st December, 1934, returning the Revised Budget for the year 1934-35 and requesting to suggest to the committee the desirability of making provisions for—

	Rs.
(1) First Independent Tube well to supply water to the Northern Service Reservoir.	24,143
(2) Second Independent Tube well to supply water to the Southern Service Reservoir.	22,234

and to eliminate the provisions of 8 items suggested by the Deputy Commissioner with office report that those items are as below :—

- (1) Rs. 1,000 provided for the installation of Radio.
- (2) Rs. 3,000 for weigh bridge.
- (3) Rs. 500 for the tube-well in the Municipal Gardens.
- (4) Rs. 7,356 for Fire Brigade.
- (5) Rs. 500 for the purchase of Library books.
- (6) Rs. 1,300 grant-in-aid for Memorial Hospital.
- (7) Rs. 440 for temporary Vaccination Mokarrir and purchase of vaccine lymph.
- (8) Rs. 275 for the extension of Ferguson Infectious Diseases Hospital.

With proposal of L. Tilak Ram seconded by Khwaja Muhammad Azam that in reply to Commissioner's letter No. U.-XII.-20/7216-D. C., received through the Deputy Commissioner under No. 9657, dated 21st December, 1934, this be written :—

That a sum of Rs. 46,377 for the two tube wells shall be provided in the budget for 1935-36 and for this purpose application for half the grant has been made. If this sum be provided in the current year's budget, i.e., for 1934-35, the committee will neither be able to get grant-in-aid from the Government in so short a period nor will be able to spend it. The committee, therefore, requests that permission to provide the above amount in the next year's budget be given. The committee also realises this need.

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(2) The learned Commissioner has suggested that 8 items be eliminated from the expenditure side. The committee agrees to eliminate items Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 8, i.e., provisions for Radio, Weigh Bridge, Tube-wells for the Municipal Gardens and the amount for the extension of Ferguson Infectious Diseases Hospital and further requests that the remaining items 4, 5, 6 and 7, i.e., provision for Fire Engine, purchase of books for the Library, grant-in-aid for the Memorial Hospital and the provision for one Temporary Vaccination Moharrir, and the purchase of lymph be allowed to remain as they are, because :—

- (1) *Item No. 4.*—The provision is not for Fire Brigade but in reality for the Fire Engine for the supply of which an order has already been placed and Rs. 3,000 have been advanced. The engine is shortly expected. The Committee will have to make payment on its receipt. Therefore provision for this amount is absolutely necessary.
- (2) *Item No. 5.*—The committee has got only one Library which is quite insufficient for such a big town. Books, etc., for such Library are essential. Besides a very small sum has been provided for this purpose. The committee wishes that this amount should also remain intact.
- (3) *Item No. 6.*—The committee considers it its moral duty to help an institution like the Memorial Hospital from which not only the residents of this town but the whole of the province derive immense help. Keeping this fact in view the rate of grant has been enhanced. The Committee also agrees with the letter of Dr. E. M. Brown addressed to the Commissioner, Jullundur division, on the 1st of January, 1935. The Committee, therefore, requests that this provision should be allowed to remain in the current year's budget.
- (4) *Item No. 7.*—Sum of Rs. 440, has been provided for temporary Vaccination Moharrir and the purchase of vaccine lymph because the outbreak of infectious diseases is always apprehended. This paltry sum should also be sanctioned.

Resolved that the proposal of Lala Tilak Ram is agreed to unanimously.

*Copy of resolution No. 1005, passed at an adjourned special meeting of the Ludhiana Municipal Committee, held on the 12th of February, 1935, in the Town Hall.*

In continuation of resolution No. 962, dated the 28th January, 1935, read office report that payment as ordered by the committee cannot be made as the Revised Budget has not been received back duly sanctioned so far. With order of the President to place it before the Committee.

Resolved that a telegram be sent to the Deputy Commissioner stating therein that all works and bills are being withheld for want of budget's receipt. This is causing a great agitation in the town. The sanctioned Revised Budget may kindly be returned soon.

Telegram be shown to the President before despatch.

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

### INDUSTRIES.

*Development of cottage and other industries.*

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the demand for grant for industries.

*Cottage Industries.*

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural)  
(Urdu) : I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

<sup>2</sup>To urge the necessity of introducing cottage industries in the country.

Before I proceed to express my views on the subject I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to one important matter and that is that it is customary with the Government to nominate the head of a department as a member of the Council at least for that day on which his department or the activities of his department are to come under discussion. But we find that the Head of the Department of Industries has not been nominated although his department and matters relating to his department are under discussion for the last two days. In fact, contrary to general practice, he has never been nominated as a member of the Council on any such occasion. It would have been better if he had been here to have first hand information of the views of the members and to reply to the debate with regard to his department.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member should confine his remarks to the motion under consideration.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Anyhow for the last few years a good deal of hue and cry has been raised in connection with the demand for the development of the country's industry. No doubt since the Honourable Minister assumed charge of his office, some work has been done in developing Local Self-Government, and it is high time now that he should take the development of industries in hand. Honourable members have also been trying to draw the attention of the Government to this great need of the country by moving cuts and resolutions. We have done all that was in our power to strengthen the hands of the Honourable Minister in this behalf. We have always unanimously supported the Honourable Minister whenever any question regarding industrial development of the country arose. We did it in order that by this support the Honourable Minister might push through his schemes of industrial development if he had any. The Honourable Minister was lucky in getting such unanimous support.

So far as the position of the zamindars with regard to the development of industries is concerned I would say that it urgently demands serious attention. The zamindars, especially at present, are very hard pressed on account of the slump in the market. It is very necessary to subsidize the zamindars by effecting an increase in their income by starting cottage industries in rural areas. The rural uplift also means the same thing, that is, increasing the income of the zamindars so that they may be able to live according to a particular standard of living, with due regard to sanitation and cleanliness. Sanitation cannot improve so long as the financial position of the rural masses does not improve. The first and foremost thing which is required is the development of industry so that the zamindars may be relieved of indigency which is the root cause of all the insanitary environments of the zamindars. I was one of the first to raise the question of rural uplift. I have been blamed for this, but I might explain that what I meant was that the zamindars' condition might improve and they might be able to earn more and thus be able to ameliorate their conditions.

Yesterday the Honourable Minister asked honourable members to suggest some methods by which cottage industries could be improved. He also asked us to suggest those industries which can be started in villages. I confess my ignorance in this respect. Honourable members who know something about it will suggest the means by which cottage industries can be

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improved. I am unable even to suggest what industries ought to be introduced in the villages and what would flourish. To suggest methods by which cottage industries can be introduced in the villages is a technical question and a layman like myself will not be able to say much on it. The methods by which cottage industries can be introduced and popularised in rural areas depend upon first starting research in this connection. The Honourable Minister should not only himself consider this question but should also secure expert advice about it. Let him call experts from other places if they are not available in this province and then let them tell him what industries can be introduced in the villages profitably.

Sometime back I happened to meet a few delegates from Japan who had come here in connection with the cotton conference. I enquired of them as to how in Japan the cottage industries were developed. They told me that in Japan 60 per cent. of the population was agricultural and that it depended upon agriculture mainly. The average holding in Japan consists of 3 acres. Agriculture is subsidised by cottage industries, and the cottage industries are developed by supplying all the villages with electric current. The Government has in each industrial centre installed a small plant from which all the houses in the villages are supplied with current to work machines. The zamindars have only to put the switch on and the machine works. They can leave it and go to their fields to look after their agricultural work, and if in their absence (supposing the machine is for preparing socks), a thread breaks the machine will stop working. On their return from the fields some one would by a knot join the broken ends of the thread and again the switch would be on to work the machine. Moreover, raw material is also supplied by the State and again when articles are prepared co-operative agency takes them away from the houses. The zamindars have not to waste their time in any way. The payments are also made on the spot. The work of collecting the manufactured articles from the houses is done by the co-operative societies. Compared to this, what is being done here? A poor weaver prepares a few yards of cloth and then carries it on his back to the city where he wanders in all the streets offering to sell his cloth but no one cares even to look at it. There is no arrangement for marketing these articles. So long as societies are not started for supplying raw material and also to make arrangements for marketing the finished products there can be no hope of development of any industry.

The one excuse of the Ministers has always been that there is no money in the country for undertaking the development of cottage industries. Whenever any question of introducing cottage industries in the villages arise the Minister in charge is too ready to answer that that is an impossible thing for there is no money with the Government to do it. The Minister always says that the Finance Department does not grant any funds for this work for they have no extra funds with them. On the other hand whenever members approach the Finance Department they are told that the department is willing to grant funds but no one makes a demand for them, by submitting before them a scheme for the introduction of cottage industries. The Minister in charge has been using this phrase as an excuse. If I am wrong I hope he will correct me by telling us whether at any time he has submitted any scheme to the Finance Department. Will he tell us about



any such scheme and also acquaint us with the reasons why the Finance Department refused to sanction it ?

I would like to request the Honourable Minister to devote all his attention to the development of cottage industries. He has done something for local bodies I admit, but let him also do something for the cottage industries for they are more needed than anything else. Let him call experts and consult them to prepare a programme for the introduction of industries in rural areas. I also understand that the central government have sanctioned some money for rural reconstruction work in the provinces. I request the Government to spend a part of this amount on industry, secure the advice of experts in this behalf and prepare some programme for starting cottage industries in the villages. In this connection I would like to make one suggestion and it is that if experts are not forthcoming from anywhere let the Government constitute a delegation consisting of some three or four men to tour other countries. Let these members of the delegation be businessmen and technical men. Let them go to Japan, China or some other countries where cottage industries are flourishing and let them prepare a report, embodying the methods by which work in this behalf is being done in other countries.

The honourable mover in his speech said that there should be a committee to consider all matters relating to cottage industries. I may tell him that a standing committee of this House already exists and there is no need for any other committee being constituted. The honourable member is of the opinion that that committee has never met. I am a member of that standing committee and I can say that this committee has been holding its meetings. Whenever any important matter has come up before this Council the Honourable Minister has made it a point to call the meeting of the Standing Committee. The Joint Development Board is there under the presidency of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture for the last so many years and is doing useful work. The learned Minister for Agriculture has produced valuable literature on this subject and the honourable members who have had the opportunity to study his reports know it very well how much interest he takes in these matters. The honourable mover complained that there was not a sufficient number of persons of rural interest amongst the members of the Standing Committee for Industries. This is not a fact. If he goes through the personnel of the Executive Committee on Industries he will know that the majority of them are men of rural interest. I, for one, do not think that both these committees are defunct. They are living and working. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture always holds consultation with the members of these committees on most vital questions. There are as many as twenty sub-committees which attend to the industrial affairs. But I am sorry to note that we have no expert opinion at our disposal. All members of these committees are laymen. If a special committee is appointed to consider all important industrial questions much good will result from it. If experts are not available in this country, they may be imported from other countries. But we cannot remain for long deprived of the advantages which an expert advice can give us. I know there is no money with us. But I cannot help repeating this long-standing complaint. I am sure if the Honourable Minister were to chalk out a programme for the appointment

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of a committee of experts my party and myself will certainly support his proposal and help him in getting money from the Finance Department.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang:** What is your opinion about exhibitions? Should Government run them or a private agency?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah:** That is another matter to which I should like to refer. I have had to do with exhibitions during the last two years. I firmly believe that exhibitions go a long way to develop the industries of a country. Our exhibition was also an offshoot of the programme chalked out by the Development Board. Every civilized country of the world has set up trade museums where the specimens of its products are exhibited. Japan has set up her trade museums in other countries too. For instance, she has one of her trade museums in Calcutta and the other is in Bombay. It is in the interest of our indigenous industry that trade museums and exhibitions should be set up here too where the industrial products of our country may be exhibited on a large scale. This is a necessity which all civilized countries of the world have felt. I take this opportunity of drawing the attention of this Council and the Government to it.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang:** Do you want Government to run them?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah:** Yes.

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

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East, Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

The object of my motion is of a more restricted character. The motion that was made by the honourable member, Sardar Habib Ullah related to the province as a whole. This motion is in terms restricted to rural areas. So far as the urban areas are concerned perhaps something is being done although I should welcome if more could be undertaken by the Honourable Minister for Industries. But so far as rural areas are concerned nothing whatsoever has so far been done and it is absolutely essential that some source of livelihood should be provided to rural population in addition to their usual profession of agriculture. Agriculture, generally speaking, is not a very profitable profession and under the altered circumstances it is very necessary that rural population should have some means open to them for supplementing their agricultural incomes. With this specific object I have given notice of this motion.

I will not take the time of the Council in making a long speech. I would just make a few humble suggestions which I think would be best suited to the needs of rural people.

I will just enumerate the items without adding a single word in explanation of them.

<sup>1</sup>To urge development of cottage industries in rural areas.

Rope-making is a thing which can be very easily attempted with fairly good results in rural areas.

Certain forms of weaving such as *nicar*-making, *durree*-making and sock-making.

Basket-making, this again is a work which can be easily done by almost anybody without any particular skill and if attempts are made to make this work popular in rural areas the rural population will have something to fall back upon in addition to agriculture.

Sericulture can be introduced in some of the sub-montane districts.

Poultry farming may be introduced in districts where people have no objection to it.

These are certain of the cottage industries. The use of the word cottage may not be quite so happy as Raja Sahib would like to make it. But the object is that certain industries which can be easily resorted to by rural population should be introduced in rural areas.

Making of butter, rural population makes ghee but ghee does not fetch the same price as butter does although most probably the yield of butter from the same quantity of milk will be larger than the yield of ghee.

Cheese-making may also be encouraged.

Bee-keeping may be introduced, particularly, in sub-montane districts.

Tailoring.

Dyeing.

Calico-printing.

Enamelling on a modest scale and of a humbler type may also be tried. Carpentry and pottery also will not be amiss.

If sufficient attention is given to these or to some of them according to local circumstances I think the rural population will have something by which they can augment their income. But, as has already been pointed out by my honourable friend, Sardar Habib Ullah, unless arrangements are made for the marketing of these things they can never prove profitable. A man cannot make half-a-dozen articles and go to Delhi to sell them himself. In certain cases it may not be possible for a man residing in rural areas to get raw materials at sufficiently cheap prices. Where it is necessary to do so, raw material should be supplied through co-operative stores or societies of that character, and as soon as raw material is turned into manufactured articles these articles may be taken over by co-operative societies for marketing, and may be disposed of in places where markets can be found for them. It is very easy to find a market for things like baskets and ropes. I think any quantities of them can be sold in Delhi and in other big towns at a fairly good price. In many cases, I think it will be found that an ordinary agriculturist will be able to get more money out of these things than out of agriculture.

I have given this list of items in the hope that the Honourable Minister will pay proper attention to these items. Of course they cannot appeal to him as anything very ambitious but ambitious things are not meant for rural areas.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh** (Multan Division and Sheikhupura, Sikh, Rural) (*Urdu*): I move—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

I have attentively heard the speeches of the honourable members who have preceded me. They have expressed the view that the progress of our country is bound up with its industrial development. I have stood up to invite still closer attention to this problem. My able friend, Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah has compared our condition with that of Japan and has told us that there every village has electric installation. When the cultivators return from their farms they switch on the current and their industrial machines begin to work. Then he also invited the attention of the Council to the Development Board set up by our revered friend the Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh and has acquainted us with some of the ambitious schemes carried on by that Board. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram, our worthy friend, has made his own proposals. But the question of questions is: where is the money to come to implement these proposals and to carry out the schemes chalked out by the Development Board? We make all sorts of ambitious schemes but we have no money with us. This reminds me of the Punjabi proverb:

سونا اڑیاں تے۔ نئے سفے شیش - جھان دے

As far as I can remember, and I have heard the speeches attentively enough, I have not heard from the lips of any honourable member as to wherefrom the money will come. After all money is the most important thing. If a person has to build a house he has first to purchase a piece of land, then he has to employ skilled labourers and then he has to provide building material and all these things have to be bought. (*Interruption*) Yes, the labour of the labourers has to be paid for. Therefore, everything depends upon how we get funds to carry out our schemes. One honourable member pointed out yesterday that the Government had set apart only 12 lakhs of rupees for the industrial development of this country. Now this sum is not sufficient to meet the requirements of this gigantic task. But if you refer to page 363 of the Detailed Budget Estimates you find that even much less than that sum has been provided for this purpose. We find that the paltry sum of Rs. 42,000 has been reserved for development of industry.

A moment ago the Honourable Minister himself asked Sardar Habib Ullah about exhibitions. When we turn to page 366 of the budget, we find that the sum fixed for Industrial Exhibitions and Demonstrations at local fairs in the Punjab is only Rs. 1,500. With such a scandalously small amount of money, how can you expect that these exhibitions would prove useful and successful. When I look at these things I am reminded of the story of Nihang Singh, who once upon a time wished that—

دودھ دا دھوے کڈو، کھڈو دا دھوے مٹھا۔ اُنکلا منگہ پھیر کے چھک ایئے

<sup>1</sup>To draw the attention of the Government towards the greater industrial development of the province.

he should get a big bowl of milk and a liberal supply of sugar to add to it from somewhere. Having got both these things he would gladly mix sugar with milk with the aid and assistance of his big finger and would quaff that bowl of milk to its last drop. Somebody present enquired from that Nihang Singh as to what he was in possession of out of the three pre-requisites. The reply was only one thing, that is to say his big finger with which to mix sugar and milk. I mean to say that we have practically no funds for this purpose. This sum of Rs. 1,500 is very small indeed. It is the foremost duty of the Council to lay stress on this point that the funds that have been allotted for industrial purposes should be increased. The Honourable Minister cannot do anything if the money is not at his disposal and he does not get the necessary help. If he is given sufficient funds, if the Council is prepared to give him sufficient funds, he will be able to do a good deal. We can force the Finance Department to give him the money, and if the Finance Secretary is not willing to give money we shall tell him that he himself has come from England, the home of industry. England has a wonderful empire to-day and it has acquired all these colonies and lands on the strength of industry and has built up a mighty empire. Why does he want that India, our country, should not advance industrially?

Necessity is the mother of invention. If we put before him a scheme and demand money it is because a need has now arisen for this purpose. When there was an economic depression and the prices had fallen heavily, reduction and retrenchment was made everywhere and every step was taken to effect economy. The canal department saved a good deal of money in order to balance the budget. If we are in earnest and honestly desire to do something towards developing our industry, some way can certainly be found out. I would strongly appeal to the Government to give up all thoughts of ambitious schemes. This is not the time for preparing or considering ambitious schemes. Our greatest need at the moment is that we should find out some means by which we may augment our income. I would respectfully assure the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government that the Sikh members of this House are ready to give him every kind of help and will be always willing to extend their co-operation to him in this matter.

About a year and-a-half ago I went to England. I happened to see there many exhibitions. There are two kinds of exhibitions, one kind is that which is held in big cities, such as exhibitions which are held every year in Olympia London. One such exhibition covered a large area and the exhibits remained permanently inside the exhibition. There was a big show of motor cars. Whether they are made in Wales or in Scotland, they can all be seen there. All progress regarding their speed, ease, utility, comfort, etc., can be seen and studied there. One can see and study all these things in one hour only. Goods worth thousands of rupees are sold there on the spot and then they compare how many orders were booked last year and how many they have booked this year. When there is a greater sale as compared with the sale of the previous year they feel very proud and their pride is quite justifiable and I think it suits them. Then I saw the exhibition of radio sets. When the exhibitors show any improvements upon their previous apparatuses and prove they have made a progress.

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they are given prizes by way of encouragement. In fact, they do not stand in need of any prizes. They sell their goods on such a large scale that their sale itself is their sufficient prize and encouragement. Then I saw an exhibition of bicycles. So much about the cities. Exhibitions are held in the countryside also. Prizes are given to the owners of best cows and other animals. Last year I happened to see a cattle fair in our province but nothing of the kind as I have described was to be found there. It has never occurred to us here that if a certain farmer produces first class wheat or a very large quantity of wheat from one field he should be given a prize. In England animals of good breed which are properly kept and fed, are given prizes. It is publicly announced that the egg of the hen of so and so is heavier than other eggs. This cultivates in those people a spirit of healthy rivalry and they try to emulate one another. Yesterday the Honourable Minister said that some sort of industrial work has been done in towns but not in villages. However, I would say that nothing has been done anywhere. If a machine is set up here and a machine is set up there and some work is done in a haphazard way, it is entirely useless. The industrial activities should be started on a very large scale. There are so many things which we can manufacture in this country. Why do you not manufacture the glasses and frames of spectacles, watches, clocks, fountain pens, fine socks and stockings. All these things can be prepared here but I regret to say that almost nothing is made here. Everything comes from foreign countries. I invite the attention of the Honourable Minister to the speech which he delivered on this subject years ago when he was not holding the present office. He was a great champion of the cause of industries at that time. When he was sitting on these benches he said a good deal about this matter and about industrial development and he even said that these fans which come from outside must be manufactured here. If he was so zealous about this work at that time and could talk so much about industry, what has happened to him that he is not able to demonstrate his zeal in action when he is in power? He should force the Government, force the members of the cabinet to sanction more funds for industrial development. Mr. Manohar Lal remarked in his speech the other day that our Government is living from hand to mouth. As long as we do not devise some means to supplement our income we shall remain terribly handicapped, and will not be able to make any progress. We should try for general industrial development. To start a few schools at Ludhiana and other places, does not show that we are doing anything to improve the industrial condition of our country. What should we do with Ludhiana alone? Shall we put it over our head or under our feet? If similar schools are run all over the country, that would mean something. In European countries there are many farms where poultry work is carried on, pigs are reared, and cows are kept as subsidiary industries. If our Government also starts such industries on their farms, it will be very useful. People cannot attempt these things themselves. The Government should give them a lead and show how it is to be done. For those who cannot stand on their own legs, it is the duty of Government to show the way.

I do not want to dilate upon this subject any more but I would strongly urge that Government must find out means to augment the funds allotted for industrial development, otherwise our condition will be as the Punjabi

saying goes—

نہائی کی کچھ۔ اچھ زیکی کچھ

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries) : It is indeed very refreshing to find that leaders of agricultural party are taking interest in the industrial development of their province. It is a very happy sign and I congratulate the members of this House and especially the leaders of the agricultural interests for bestowing an amount of attention on this important subject which it really deserves.

Not only at the time of the discussion of the supplementary demands but in the discussion of this budget voice has been raised from every quarter of the House, even from the most conservative—and if you would pardon me for saying, even from the most backward—districts that the salvation of the agricultural population of this country lies in the industrial development of this country. It has been asserted and most rightly that the only hope for relief of the agriculturists lies in turning his raw produce into manufactured product at his very door, or at any rate in his own province. This is true for obvious reasons, not only because it is necessary to find subsidiary occupations for people engaged in agriculture at times when they are not occupied in agriculture but also to find employment for our increasing population which can no longer make their both ends meet by

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following the profession of agriculture alone or by following any of the subsidiary occupations. The problem is really an economic one and when we ask the Government to devote more attention towards this matter it is not out of any desire for any national advancement, but from the sheer necessity of having to find bread for what I may say the starving millions. Therefore when this cry is raised it is time that the Government should do something effective to meet the demands.

The most noticeable feature in the budget has been that as the demand for greater industrial expansion grows the sum for the development of industries allotted by the Punjab Government decreases. The very first page of the report of the Department of Industries issued by the Ministry of Local Self-Government points out that in the year 1933-34 the expenditure was nearly six lakhs less than it was in 1929-30. That shows the amount of response that the Punjab Government has evinced towards the increasing popular demand expressed both inside and outside this House for greater expenditure of money on industries. It is really a very lamentable feature that people cry for industrial development and yet the Punjab Government is content with simply carrying on whatever was handed over to it by its predecessors of the pre-reform constitution. With respect to the actual budget for the Industries Department, pointed attention has been drawn to the fact that there are certain necessary services which have to be performed by every Government such as inspection of factories, running of industrial schools and so on. Further, the Director of Industries exists with a number of clerks and assistants and their salaries must be provided for in the budget. After deducting the amount for these purposes the net

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amount left for the actual development of industries is only Rs. 42,000. How can industries develop with this meagre provision? No research can be carried out, no survey can be made and no information can be supplied to people who wish to establish industries with their own resources. This is the state of affairs in the Punjab which is really very deplorable. I hope that the Punjab Government during the next two or three years of its existence will do something to undo the effect of the neglect of which it has been guilty in the past. I found as a member of the Retrenchment Committee that this paltry sum of nine lakhs devoted to the industries of the province, i.e., the total budget for industries which included the expenditure on the inspector of factories and running of the weaving factories and industrial schools was far less than even the increase which had occurred in the travelling allowance alone of the police department over a number of years. This is certainly a step-motherly treatment which the Industries Department has received at the hands of Government. It may be that this want of attention on the part of Government to the industrial progress of the province is due to the lack of industrial mentality and to the unfortunate and mistaken belief which was held by some of our agriculturists that there was a conflict between agricultural and industrial development in the province. I am very glad that that unfortunate impression has been dispelled by the repeated demands by the agriculturists themselves that their salvation lies in the greater attention being devoted to the industrial advance of this province.

The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government invited the members of the House to offer concrete suggestions for the development of industries. The first question I would ask the Honourable Minister is, what has been done by him during the past four years? From a gentleman of his position, ability, patriotism and character one would have expected a great advance in the industrial condition of the province. It may be that there may have been difficulties in the way of achieving his ideals, but all the same he should explain to the House why his own views have not been given effect to. We certainly cannot excuse him for neglect in this most important task of national development. I certainly appreciate the new change which has been made in the curriculum of industrial schools. Formerly general education only used to be given to the students and now some schools are specialising in particular industries. That is indeed a step in the right direction and I am very glad to find from a perusal of the Report that serious efforts have been taken to improve the industrial education although the result achieved is not as much as it ought to have been.

I would like to make one suggestion to the Honourable Minister, and if he is successful in this, I would feel satisfied. I would suggest to the Punjab Government to use all its influence with the Indian Government to give complete protection to Punjab manufacture in any case, in industries which do not compete with British industries. I can very well understand, our Government, being a subordinate Government not being enthusiastic in giving protection against British industries, nor is it necessary, for our present and immediate needs, in my opinion to antagonise the great British interests. But what I find is, that our industries are being ruined by unfair



competition with Japan, Germany and other countries. (*Hear, hear*). Is there any reason why the Indian Government should not give us that protection that we want against Japan, against Germany and even against the United States of America? (*An honourable member: Ottawa*). The Ottawa agreement, so far as it protects the interests of British commerce, without doing any injury to Indian trade, need not worry us at all. As a practical man, I see that there is scope enough in this country for the British trade as well as Indian industry. We may let the British specialise in certain industries. There are a good number of industries in which the British do not compete with us at all. Is there any reason why both the British and the Indian Government should not do all that is in their power to ensure that Indians are helped to produce those articles which come from other countries? I would, therefore, suggest to the Honourable Minister that he should induce the Punjab Government to make strong representation to the Government of India on this point.

The second suggestion I would make to him is that he should after making such a representation try to make an investigation as to what industries in this province can be set up in which we compete with Japan and other countries. Raw material is in abundance in our province which we can profitably use even at competitive prices. After making such an investigation let the Government start pioneer factories and having made them a success pass them on to private enterprise. This was what was done in Japan. Let the Government take up every alternate year one or two industries and make them a success and then pass them on to private enterprise. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh suggested half-a-dozen industries. The Government can take them up. It may be glass making or making of electric fans or anything else. Let the Government undertake the responsibility for pioneer industries. But I find that Government is not willing, or at any rate enthusiastic to give money for setting up pioneer factories. Let it at any rate do what every civilised country does, that is, let it at least make a survey of the raw products of this province and their potentialities. Let them appoint industrial surveyors who will make a survey of the raw products and their potentialities and let the result be published by the Punjab Government. It may be that some industrialists may be able to take up that matter and find capital for developing that industry, even without any assistance from the Government.

Another matter to which I wish to draw the attention of Government is that in 1921-22 the Punjab Government published inland trade statistics which showed the movements of articles which went out of the province and the articles that came into the province. The stoppage of printing of those statistics is a great handicap to industrialists. They are now deprived of the information which those statistics used to give. I think it was in 1927 that the late Mr. Owen Roberts brought this matter to the notice of the Punjab Government in the course of the budget debate and the then Minister for Industries assured him that he would consider the matter favourably. But nothing has so far been done. No doubt the Director of Commercial Intelligence of the Government of India publishes such statistics, but those figures are confined to movements of agricultural produce and only a few items of industries. Without such information it is absolutely impossible for any person who wants to start industries in

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If he does not know as to what the demand for a thing in the province is and how that demand is being met, how can he start industries? Supposing as has been suggested by Chaudhri Chhotu Ram there are facilities for development of basket industry in Hoshiarpur but if the statistics show that the demand for baskets is only 50,000 and the supply is already 60,000, it will be no use for any one to start the industry of basket making, whatever the raw material in the Hoshiarpur district. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to restart the publication of these inland trade statistics which would show as to what goes out of the province and what comes into the province so that the industrialists may know what industry they can take up with profit and what they should not touch. For want of this information the industrialists are suffering and the Government should not grudge the small expense for the restarting of this publication.

Next, there was an unemployment committee in 1927. It made some recommendations. What action has the Government taken on these recommendations with a view to provide industrial careers for the educated youngmen? Does the Government propose to take any action even now on this report? Again, I urge upon the Government to set up an agency to ascertain the number of educated unemployed and publish the figures every year. That agency should also give advice to the educated unemployed as to the industries and other works which they should undertake. But the chief thing again is money. Where is it to come from? I see that the Punjab Government has effected economies in certain directions and has found some money. Why does not the Government spend that money on the development of industries? Again I learn that some money is expected from the Government of India, say about 20 lakhs for rural welfare. Let us not spend that money merely in improving the sanitation of the villages. If you want to spend that money, spend it in the economic uplift of the villager. If you improve his position economically, I think his sanitation will also improve. (Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: They are dying of starvation). This reminds me of the lines from Ghalib:

تنگدستی اگر نه ہو غالب تفرستی ہزار نعمت ہے۔

What is the use of sanitation if people are starving? Therefore, the chief problem is to find money and I hope that the money received from the Government of India will be devoted to the industrial development of this province, to producing more wealth and to improving the condition of the people.

Another matter to which attention was invited by Sardar Buta Singh is about the marketing of the produce of the cottage industries. The Government of India has recently done something about the marketing of agricultural produce. But what has the Punjab Government done or what does it propose to do for the marketing of the produce of our cottage industries? These people are not in a position to advertise like the big importers from outside. Something should, therefore, be done to market the produce of these small industries.

Finally I would draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to the urgent necessity of doing something for developing the industries of this province, if not with the hope of achieving anything substantially, at any rate with the object of allaying the great discontent which undoubtedly exists about this matter in this province. No Government can afford to ignore the strong feelings which exists in the country about this point.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): In the first place I do not believe that anything worth the name has been done by the Government to promote industries in the province by which the inhabitants of the Punjab may have gained anything. But even if we believe that something has really been done, it has been done only for the people of the cities or big towns. Nothing so far has been done to provide additional occupation for the zamindars in order to enable the latter to earn anything in addition to their income from lands. So far as the promotion of cottage industries is concerned even the little finger has not been raised in that direction. I challenge the Government to name one such industry that may have been started or promoted in any rural area or to tell me if any industrial school has been opened in any such locality. I know that some industrial schools have been opened, but all of them are located in cities or in big towns. The result of it has been that village life which remained intact since the time of Manu till the advent and even after the advent of British Raj, has been altogether upset and dislocated. There is no doubt that outside competition is to a very large extent responsible for this dislocation, but the policy of the Government of the country is in no small measure responsible for bringing about the ruin of the villagers. Because of the opening of industrial schools and other similar institutions in the cities and big towns the people of the towns have taken to weaving of cloth and other similar minor industries and consequently the weaver classes in the villages have been thrown out of employment. This has been admitted by the Government in its annual reports and this was also admitted by the Honourable Minister in answer to a question put by me last year in which it was stated that nearly five lakhs of weavers have been deprived of that profession in which they and their forefathers were engaged. If there is still any doubt about it, it can be seen by any one if he is prepared to take the trouble of going round the villages to see things for himself. I may say once again that the policy which the Government has been pursuing consistently for all these years in regard to this matter has been the cause of destroying the peace and happiness of the villagers. It is the result of that policy combined with the outside competition that we find the villagers so poor and so helpless. It is time that immediate steps are taken to restore the previous position and to bring once again peace and happiness to the villagers.

This is so far as the development of industries in the villages are concerned. Let me now say a few words with regard to the development of industries as a whole. I shall not go very far to prove that inspite of very big promises and assurances very little has been done in the matter of promotion of industries in the province. It was in 1925 that Sir Jogendra Singh assumed charge of this department of Industries in addition to some other departments of the Government. I have his speech before me which

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he made in that year and in which he held out so many promises and assured us that he would do this and achieve that to bring prosperity to the province by the promotion of industries.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I remained in charge of the department only for a year and I can say that in that short period I was able to do a lot in this direction as the records will show.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** May be it is true. But taking the progress that has been made so far as a whole I am inclined to say that we stand where we started. No progress worth the name has been made in this direction. That is the general impression and if that is wrong I would like to know how many experts from countries which are industrially advanced have been invited here to advise us as to which of the industries can be started here, with advantage and similar other matters connected with the promotion of industries. I would also like to know if any experts have been called here, how far their advice has been acted upon and what benefit has been derived from their advice. I would also like to know how many conferences have been held in order to seek the co-operation of people in this matter of developing industries. I am sure that one reply to all these questions is in the negative. Nothing of the sort has been done and if that is so the impression of the people is certainly correct. However, I shall be pleased to hear if Government has anything to say to refute this charge although I am sure that it will be well nigh impossible for the Government to satisfy the public on this point.

I shall now strike a different note. It is my conviction that it is not so much the question of adequate or inadequate provision for the promotion of industries which stands in the way of our progress as the present policy of the Government. If the Government had been really desirous of developing the industries of the province, I see no reason why the end could not have been achieved even if it had not sufficient money to financially help the industries. When men like Sir Ganga Ram could donate as much as 55 lakhs for charitable purposes, can it be believed that a large number of men would not have been forthcoming to offer 7 or 10 or even 12 lakhs each for this cause even if they had been told that the money so offered would not be returned to them? I am sure that it is not for lack of money that the industries in the province have not been developed. It is the lack of sympathy on the part of the Government which stands in the way of this progress. And those who persist in saying that it is the want of funds that has retarded the progress deceive themselves and also the credulous and unsophisticated people of the province. Those who take up this attitude are weak and have not the interest of the country at heart. The House will be aware that the people of this province have been able to spend as much as 15 crores on machinery alone for sugar industry when they saw that there was some scope to invest their capital profitably. Similarly a huge amount of money was spent on match industry when Government relaxed its attitude a little although we find that now most of this money was wasted and that too because the Government again withdrew its support finding that it had made a mistake in encouraging these industries. Any way it is clear that there is no lack of money for the purpose if only the people know that the money so spent will bring a return to them.

But when there is no hope of such a return, as there is none in the present circumstances and in the face of the present policy of the Government, you cannot expect any reasonable man to come forward and spend his money only to find that it is wasted. There is no dearth of labour or organisation either, but what is wanted is a change in the present policy of the Government and as soon as that is done, it will be an easy job to develop the industries in the province. The industrial development of this country does not depend upon a grant of 9 or 10 lakhs. If it had depended upon funds by this time the industries would have been in a flourishing condition. Even individuals can contribute such sums for the introduction of industries. The revered father of Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram left a legacy of 50 lakhs for the industrial development. Men who can encourage industrial development by contributing from their own pockets can be found. Hence the question is not one of funds. But the Government is not interested in the introduction of any industry in this country. The Honourable Minister is reading a book and this shows that he himself is convinced of the impotency of any speech-making to urge the authorities to undertake the work of starting cottage industries. He knows that neither he, nor we can do anything in this behalf and, therefore, he indulges in reading a book. If the Honourable Minister is in a position to do something then schemes for the promotion of industries in this country would be forthcoming. Even a layman like myself can furnish a scheme which would be in no way inferior to those which would be suggested by experts. After all we are men who have got lot of experience of our country and we know what are its needs. We can suggest methods by which betterment of this country can be effected. The thing which is wanting is not brains and funds but a change in the policy of the Government. The Honourable Minister had said that brains and funds are required. No doubt they are required but they would be forthcoming in abundance. We will not be required to go far to search for them. But the thing which is not forthcoming is a change in the point of view of the Government. Hence I am at a loss to understand whether to oppose this motion or to support it. With these words I resume my seat.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh, Urban) :** When all countries in the world are making stupendous efforts to grapple with the economic depression the Government in this province as well as the Central Government seem to be sitting silent as unconcerned and indifferent spectators. So long as the Government demands continue to be met by the peasantry and so long as the peace of the country is not disturbed, the Government thinks that all is going well in the state of Denmark. Little do they think that the demand of Government has been met in the past by the peasantry from the loans advanced by money-lenders at exorbitant rates of interest which loans the money-lenders do not hope to get back and for the last three or four years that demand has been met by the sale of distress gold. The result is the country is becoming poorer every day. The volume of trade which is an indication of the prosperity or poverty of the country has been dwindling. Thirty years ago, the volume of trade in India was twice that of Canada and thrice that of Japan. But to-day Canada which is only three per cent. of the population of India has a volume of trade 15 per cent. in excess of India. It is undoubtedly a sad commentary on the

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British rule in India on the rule by a nation which undoubtedly claims to be the leading industrial nation in the world. Other countries are trying to fight this economic depression by policies, which lead to the restriction of imports and the expansion of exports. Restriction of imports is mainly achieved by the development of industries. If industries are developed and things required by people for consumption are manufactured in the country, imports are naturally restricted and the country becomes richer. With increasing development of agriculture we can produce all the commodities that are required by other countries and thereby increase our exports. But unfortunately in this country the policy of the Government has not been directed to achieving that end. I admit that development of industry depends mainly on the policy of the Central Government, on the tariff and commercial policy of that Government, over which the provincial governments have but little control. But it is a matter for regret that our Government have done very little towards expansion of our trade and towards the development of our industries. The main requisites of industrial development are not lacking in this province or India as a whole. The chief requisites are materials, money, men and markets. There is no other country in the world which satisfies all these conditions except this country. You have Japan which has built a tremendous trade during the last few years, but has no raw materials. It has had to import all the raw materials from us or from the United States of America and still it has developed industries of the greatest magnitude and has become the leading nation in the industrial world. But we have got all the raw produce that is required for manufacturing purposes. We are not lacking in money, as Chaudhri Afzal Haq has pointed out, for, only recently, with little concessions shown towards sugar industry by means of protective tariff, 15 crores came forward for investment in that industry. As regard markets, we know that all the countries are dumping their goods here. If we could only manufacture for the consumption of our people, our country would be richer.

The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government invited some suggestions with regard to cottage industries. I would like to name a few industries which could very well be developed with Government aid. These industries are manufacture of agricultural implements, surgical instruments, carpets, blankets, food products, fruit canning, fruit preservation, furniture works, toys, stationery, inkpots, pencils paints, inks, soap making, electric goods, glass works; buttons, dairying, etc. The list can never be exhaustive. The only thing is this that you require a committee of experts and of non-official businessmen and industrialists who should go into this question carefully and thoroughly. Unless you have got a committee or a council of that kind which should continue to explore the avenues of industrial development, you cannot make any headway in this direction. It is, therefore, necessary for the Government to set up an economic council or develop that Joint Development Board which is the protégé of Sir Jogendra Singh. If such a council or board is given some powers to formulate policies and to find ways and means for developing the industries of the province, I am sure that something useful would be done. With regard to Government aid, in other countries that aid has taken four or five different forms. In the first instance, Governments in other countries have participated

directly in the development of industries. In Japan, Government has set up model factories in silk, cotton, wool and iron and steel. By setting up model factories the Government have shown the way to industrialists, to build up factories on those lines. The second form that Government aid has taken in Japan is the supply of credit at low rates of interest. As a matter of fact it has been stated that the banking system in Japan is made subservient to the industrial progress of the country. Unfortunately, here the rate of interest is so high that it is proving a stumbling block to industrial development. Unless Government takes some steps to get the interest reduced, it will not be possible for many people to invest money in industrial concerns. (Hear, hear). The third form that Government aid has taken in Japan is to give contributions or subsidies to industries. It will be interesting to know that under the Sugar Act of 1922, in Japan a subsidy of 1,50,000 yens annually was given to sugar industry besides young cane was supplied free of charge to the producers and other facilities were given. In the budget of 1929-30 as much as 31 million yens were given as Government contribution to promote industry. It will also be of interest to know that in the United States of America as much as 22 crores is being spent on industrial research. Compare this with the miserable figure of Rs. 16,000 that this province is providing for industrial research.

**Mr. F. H. Puckle :** How much is 31 million yen in rupees?

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** That will come to about 25 millions rupees. The rate of exchange is, I believe, about 120 yen per Rs. 100. I was stating that as compared with other countries we are spending far too little on industrial development or industrial research. Unless the Government comes forward with a bold policy of industrial development it will not be possible to grapple with the economic depression by any means. The suggestions that I would like to make with regard to Government aid in this province are (1) loans to industries should be advanced at a low rate of interest or Government should guarantee a minimum rate of return on industrial investments; (2) direct subsidies or concessions in the form of cheap power should be given by Government and model factories should be set up; (3) commercial and industrial museums and exhibitions should be undertaken and set up by Government; (4) for collection of information and industrial statistics Government ought to set up some sort of bureau; (5) establishment of industrial and business research institutes; and (6) lastly Government should encourage the use of Indian or Punjab made goods. Unless some sort of propaganda is carried on for the use of indigenous goods you cannot help industries to the same extent as you would wish to help them. Even in industrially advanced countries like England we hear the cry of "Buy British." There is no reason why this Government especially when its Industries Department is a transferred subject should not start an industrial cry of "Buy Punjab" or "Buy Indian goods." Wherever the Government can, it ought to help indigenous goods and indigenous industries. I fully realise that it does not entirely rest with the Government of this province to help the industrial development of the country and it has not got sufficient means at its disposal even if it wished to do so. Now that a crore of rupees has been set apart for the uplift of rural classes it is in the fitness of things that whatever share falls to the Punjab Government, if not all, at any rate a major portion of it, should be set apart

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for the development of cottage or village industries. You cannot spend this money in a more useful way than by spending it on the development of industries which will increase the purchasing power of the people and which will add to their happiness and prosperity. (Cheers).

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General): I have listened with very great interest to the speeches that have been made on the subject of industrial development. Some of my friends have dealt with questions which are more suitable for discussion in the central legislature. The difficulty which Punjab shares with other provinces is a difficulty which can best be dealt with by the central legislature and the Government of India. I do not think that a separate representation from our province is necessary. Government of India ought to be cognisant of those difficulties which have repeatedly been brought to their notice. I, therefore, confine myself only to the subjects which have been dealt with by some of my honourable friends on the opposite bench, honourable members of the Unionist Party. I am very glad to observe that it has been realised by a large number of members that belong to the Unionist Party that the salvation of the agriculturist is dependent upon industrial development. We must establish factories to consume and to utilise the raw produce of the agriculturist. The larger the number of factories which make use of the raw materials the higher the price which the agriculturist gets for his raw material. I am sure that the price of sugarcane has risen with the opening of sugar factories and the price of sheep and the price of oilseeds will rise when more factories are opened which make use of the produce which come from oil seeds and which come from sheep and cattle. The idea that the economic interests of the urban population are different from or are in conflict with the economic interests of the rural population will before long be abandoned and there are already signs of that idea being abandoned. Every member of the Unionist Party has laid stress upon the necessity of industrial development and that is, in my opinion, a happy sign. I was in general agreement with the various suggestions which were made by my honourable friend, Sardar Habib Ullah. He said that it was a problem which needed investigation as to what cottage industries were suited for the Punjab. Reference was made by some speakers yesterday that the agriculturist finds his time hanging heavy on his hands and there are periods in which he has no occupation or finds nothing to do. I do not think this can be predicated of the zamindar who owns irrigated land. Perhaps in barani areas owing to the scarcity of crops, owing to the smaller area which can be brought under cultivation and the smaller number of crops which can be grown there may be idleness. But there is no idleness in nahri tracts. At least any time taken from agricultural pursuits is detrimental to the agriculturists in those tracts. There are certainly some occupations, certain cottage industries which do not demand a good deal of time of the agriculturist and they can be introduced in nahri areas with advantage. Of course there are some industries dependent on agriculture which cannot be called cottage industries but which can be developed and which can be created to implement the income derived from agriculture. Dairy farming, poultry farming, sheep farming, bee rearing and all industries of this kind are certainly dependent upon agriculture and closely connected



with agriculture. I do not think that by any stretch of language they can be described as cottage industries. Weaving is a very long-drawn process and if men occupy themselves in weaving they will do so in a way which will ultimately prove to be detrimental to agriculture. My own experience tells me that where zamindars have taken to cart driving, or giving bullock carts on hire, they neglect their proper work connected with agriculture. Amongst my own tenants I have generally discouraged this practice of cart-driving. I find that those who take to it are not good producers of agricultural commodities. (*An honourable member*: But they should be much better off.) It may be that they are better off but because of the neglect of agriculture they suffer for it in the long run. Rope-making has been suggested by the Leader of the Unionist Party but I do not think it will be a very profitable business. I personally think that the making of jams and of crystallised fruit if that can be taught to the agriculturists will be more profitable. Then there are some industries dependent upon dairy farming. For instance, if we can teach the art of confectionery to agriculturists it may prove profitable as it can be done without devoting much time, without taking away the time needed for agricultural work. Rural reconstruction needs and is dependent upon economic and intellectual uplift. Unless people can afford to pay for what sanitation requires or what hygiene dictates they will not conform to the rules of hygiene or sanitation. In order to bring about that economic uplift not only introduction of cottage industries is necessary but also development of industries in general. So far as finances are concerned, so far as the outlay of capital for this purpose is required there will be difficulty and the Honourable Finance Member will probably raise many objections before he will sanction any scheme which necessitates larger expenditure. But we have in prospect some money coming from the Government of India. I think the best use that can be made of it is to utilise a substantial portion of it for the development of industries. Industries may be supposed to be something only intended for the advancement of the urban population. But now after the speeches that have been made on the subject in this House to-day I believe there will be no difficulty in convincing Government that even rural uplift depends upon industrial advancement.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** (Amritsar city, Muhammdan, Urban): We have heard so much and we have been hearing so much about industrial development. But one is sorry that the Government has never acted upon our advice. We have respectfully asked year after year, I think for the last eight or ten years in every budget discussion, that Government should help the growth of our industries. It is indeed a pity that Government has always ignored this very important line of work in which they are in a better position to help than anyone else. When the Honourable Member sitting opposite to me became a Minister we were all glad for one thing at least because we thought that he being an industrialist would help industries but I never thought that the industries of the Punjab during his term of office would remain where they were five years ago. It was very easy for him to help the industries being himself an industrialist, and we thought he would be able to influence the Punjab Government to develop the industries. But alas, we have been disappointed. We see

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that all agricultural countries have implemented their wealth by industries. Even a great country like Canada had to develop its industries. The United States of America was most backward industrially sixty years ago, but now it has forged ahead and is one of the richest countries in the world. Same is the case with Australia. It has a population of only six million and an area not bigger than that of India, and yet we find that it has developed its industries greatly. I have myself seen that country putting up new industries. Unfortunately ours is the only country where progress has been so poor, in fact it is worse than any country in Europe and Asia. My friend Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh has given a list of industries which can be started. Even that list is not complete. There are over hundreds of big and small industries which can be started. Take for example, *khal* (oilseed) cake. We send it to Italy, where they squeeze crude oil out of it. It is so little compressed in this country that it is exported to Italy where they again extract about 5 or 6 per cent. of oil and what remains is utilised either as fodder or for manuring the soil. You can see there is no end to the number of industries we can develop in this country. Take shoe-making. We import shoes worth lakhs and lakhs of rupees from Czecho-slovakia, America and other countries. Even Agra and Cawnpur have developed this industry considerably. It does not require much technical knowledge. What Agra and Cawnpur can do, surely we can do. Take the wooden toys at Hoshiarpur. Why cannot we give some encouragement to Hoshiarpur people and start making toys in quantities large enough for the whole of India? Similarly, take knives and forks which are produced in Wazirbad. It is time that this industry is helped. Unfortunately there is no expert in metallurgy in the province. We should be able to produce these things as good as Germany or Japan, but we need some technical help. In fact we should be able to produce better forks and knives than those produced in Japan if we had some expert metallurgist to advise the workers. Take cloth. Japan is selling jacquard cloth in India at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  annas a yard. Its production is so cheap because Japan has jacquard looms and most of the artificial cloth can only be sold if it has flower designs. I have been urging for so long that time has come to start jacquard looms in large numbers. The produce of these looms in the province is very little. (*An honourable member*: We have many.) We have about half a dozen in Amritsar, but they are not organised. We want machinists who know how to cut cards, we want Government to appoint designers and painters. Unless all these men are there it is impossible for the men in the city to improve their wares. There must be some one who can make designs for the *julahas*, for without designs they cannot do anything. You must therefore do all you can to organise this trade for a few years. A city like Amritsar may have 20,000 looms, but to no good, for, there is not a single card cutting machinist, there is not one expert dyer, not one who can paint designs for them. In Japan, America and Germany everything is well organised. You must remember that Government has to come to the rescue of these *julahas*.

Germany took about 100 million pounds from France as indemnity for the Franco-German War. With that money Germany started industries.

They placed a high tariff wall and with that money they gave help to the industries. Here let an industrialist go to a banker and he is asked to give 9 to 10 per cent. interest. How can you expect an industrialist even to make 5 per cent. profit when he has to pay as much as 9 or 10 per cent. interest on loan? How can an industrialist here compete with Japan where they have to pay only 3 per cent. interest? How can he compete with France where the interest is only 2½ per cent.? An industrialist cannot borrow at 9 or 10 per cent. and then make a profit of 5 per cent. There is no industry which can flourish without Government help. If Government does not want to help, it should tell us not to discuss this matter here any more. That would be much better than our wasting so much time of the members. Let the Honourable Minister come forward and say that he cannot do anything because the Finance Member would not give him money for industries. Let him inform the Council if any member of Government has opposed his scheme of industrial progress. Is it the Revenue Member who has started his *shirarat*?—(laughter). Who is the man who is blocking our way? Let us know who it is who does not want to help our industries. Let us know why it is that the industries are not being developed by Government. It is a matter of life and death for us. Where the question of national prosperity is concerned, it would not do to say that the Finance Department had not given any money. Let him stand up and say that so and so has opposed him, otherwise the Council will eventually hold the Honourable Minister responsible. Let him not keep sitting like a deaf, dumb, mute and blind man, let him stand up and say that he will turn to the proper course which is for the good of the country. I want Government to help us in this matter, because I know there are hundreds of industries which can be started which can bring prosperity to the country. Unless you look after a field well it will not go on giving a crop. Unless you manure the wealth of this country, by the help of industries, how can you go on enjoying its crops? Every year we import so many things from foreign countries. What do we export from this poor province which once was rich but is now bled white. We must muster up courage enough to force the Government to start industries. I do not agree with Raja Sahib when he says that the agriculturists do not believe in industries. I have been urging for so long that industries and agriculture are very much inter-connected, that agriculture is wedded to industries and that we cannot be prosperous without our industries.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** But you are yourself a permanent urban citizen.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** "It does not make any difference, for more than three-fourths of the rural population lives in urban areas, majority of them permanently. Towns in India are an overflow of rural areas and there is no animosity between urban and rural interests. They should both work hand in hand. Agriculture must be protected, and the cultivator must be protected. But after we have done that, we should help the urban area heart and soul, because to say that there is enmity between the urban and the rural interests is the worst folly which any one can commit, as three-fourths of residents of urban areas are agriculturists.

I put forward a scheme about five years ago. I requested the Honourable Minister to guarantee three per cent. interest and reserve 3 lakhs of rupees for

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helping industries and for giving guarantee of interest to industrialists, who come forward to start industries. If Government gave only three lakhs of rupees, a very successful scheme of industrial development can be evolved. Let the industrial scheme be examined by the Industries Department and if it is found that it can be paying, Government should guarantee 3 per cent. interest. No fool in the world will try to start an industry where it is not expected to make at least more than 3 per cent. profit. If anybody earns 3 per cent. profit, then Government would not pay. Where the concern earns 6 per cent. profit, Government should not give anything. But where an industrial concern earns 2 or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., then Government should make the profit up to 3 per cent. In that case Government will have to pay only  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., in fact probably we may have not to pay at all as in my opinion all industries will be self-supporting. Let me make myself clear. Supposing industrial schemes are started with a capital of one crore of rupees, and supposing after a year's working they have only earned 2 per cent., then Government would give the concerns one lakh of rupees in order to make their profit 3 per cent. People will have in that case contributed to the extent of one crore of rupees. An investment in the Punjab of one crore means at least fifteen factories employing thousands of workers. It will be guaranteeing work for so many people and it will be guaranteeing prosperity. Even if Government has to pay one lakh of rupees—which is certainly not much—it will not be losing much because it will give employment. When you examine the scheme and find that it promises to be paying, then give it the guarantee up to 3 per cent., giving a maximum guarantee of 3 lakhs of rupees in case its profits are not quite three per cent., and make up the deficit. In that case the public will have confidence because they will know that Government is at the back of the concern. I am sure that there is very little chance of Government losing money, because with confidence in the concern people will be able to lend money at cheap rate of interest to such concerns.

With a guarantee of a little sum of three lakhs we can start industries to the tune of one crore of rupees, and I am sure it will be a success. No industry will suffer and no managing director will think of doing mischief when there is the knowledge that Government is at the back of the industry and will not permit anybody to do any mischief. We have already spent 7 crores or rather I may say we have blasted that sum on the hydro-electric scheme. (*An honourable member*: No, it was not altogether badly spent.) I am glad to have that information. The Government has already spent a large amount on that enterprise. If they spend three lakhs more, more industries can be started in the province. The other day the Finance Member said that the Department of Rural Reconstruction was created as a result of our representation to Government. Now we represent to Government for this small sum as a beginning for helping our industries. But here the Government is not prepared to meet our request. After all it is not anybody's money that we want. We do not want that this money should come from the pensions or pay of officials. In fact unless industries are started and our national income augmented, there is bound to be effect on the pay and pensions of officials. We do not want that this money should come from outside. It is only our own money that we want for helping us in our industrial enterprises. Give us three lakhs and leave it

in the hands of a strong body who after examining the prospects of all industries may be able to advise the Government as to the best and most profitable factories which will receive Government guarantee. We see so many labour saving machines imported from Japan. We import cheap grass-choppers from abroad. Why should we not manufacture these machines ourselves? If we manufacture these machines we can sell them more cheaply to our agriculturists. Besides there are many other agricultural implements which we can produce ourselves and in this way we can both help the poor peasants and also provide employment for the unemployed. There are a good many labour saving machines which we can easily produce to the interest of us all. There is that ice-breaking machine. There are forty or fifty thousand people in this province who sell ice. To them an ice-cutting machine will be very helpful and it will find a ready market among these syrup dealers. Why should not the Government help starting the manufacture of this machine. The Government has only to offer guarantee to a company and we can sell lakhs of ice-crushers in the Punjab and outside. If one goes to Anarkali one will find thousands of various things selling in the shops there which are imported from abroad but which can easily be made in our province. What is the position in Amritsar? Formerly 1,000 carpet looms used to work there and now there are hardly 15 or 20. (*An honourable member* : What is the reason?) The reason is to be found in the Government's exchange policy. The Government has fixed the exchange at 1s. 6d. and the result is that we cannot compete with China, we cannot compete with Persia and we cannot compete even with a country like Turkey. The result of this exchange policy is the absolute ruin of our industries and throwing out of several thousands of people out of work in Amritsar alone. There is the glass industry. A gentleman from this province went to Czechoslovakia to learn that industry and when he came back to start that industry in this province he had no assistance and the poor man had to go back and start the industry in Czechoslovakia. If it had been any other country, he would have been financially assisted and encouraged to start the industry in his own country. Why should other countries be allowed to take away the little bread from the mouths of our starving millions? Why should we not start those industries ourselves which will not only enrich the province, but also provide work for the unemployed, chiefly when lakhs of people are out of work here.

In this connection I am reminded of the rate of interest charged by our banks. They charge as much as 9 per cent. on loans for industries. How can the poor industry which is hardly able to make 5 or 6 per cent. give an interest of 9 per cent. Certainly they cannot afford to pay such a high rate of interest. What the Government should do is to fix a maximum rate of interest which these banks can charge and punish all those banks which charge more than that rate or ask them to leave the province. We abuse the poor banyas and the jews of Russia and Germany. But what about our own banks? The funniest thing here is that Government directs the local bodies to invest their money with the Imperial Bank of India which after all pays only 2½ per cent. interest on these deposits. If the money of all these local bodies are pooled together they can be safely utilised for helping the industries and both the industrialists and the local bodies will be benefited.

[Sh. Muhammad Sadiq.]

Why should we not follow other countries in respect of drawing up a scheme of development of industries. We see that in Russia they drew up what is known as five years' plan and they have succeeded. The wonderful part of it is that backward Russia is now manufacturing its own machines and exporting to other countries. It is even manufacturing cloth and sending the same to England, selling coal to Newcastle as it were. They are selling cloth to India and Persia also. They are manufacturing aeroplanes, they are manufacturing tractors and they are in fact manufacturing everything on the face of the earth for their needs. Russia, it must be remembered, had no money at the end of the war all its wealth having been blown up by the war. On the other hand we had plenty of money in India even after the war. Yet we have not utilised our resources to our best advantage. I do not say that Government is intentionally avoiding helping industries, but it seems that it is only not interested in them. Our Government is interested only in correspondence with the deputy commissioners and commissioners and passing orders against political meetings and things of that sort. They have not got any nation building schemes. If the Government is not able by themselves to do anything for industries, let them entrust the business to a body which is really interested in the development of industries. (*An honourable member*: How often will the honourable member repeat this point)? Till the Government answers "yes" or "no." (*laughter*). The Government has not yet come forward to say, "yes, we are ready to help you to start industries." There is only one more year for the present Government after which new constitution will come into existence. I am anxious that this one year should not be wasted. I therefore appeal to him to give whatever help he can to promote the industries of the province. I am sure the Honourable Minister is interested in the industrial progress of the province and I therefore expect to have an interesting reply from him to this debate.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural): It is now fifteen years since the present constitution came into existence whereby the Ministers were made responsible to this Council. When we look behind to see the work done during these fifteen years so far as the industrial progress is concerned, we do not see anything very bright or brilliant done so far. Unfortunately, I was not in this Council when the Honourable Minister now in charge of this department was sitting on the opposition benches. However, I understand that he was then a big gun and the greatest advocate of nation building problems. When he took charge of this portfolio, naturally we expected big things from him. But this great question of industries on which we can build the economic welfare of this country does not seem to have progressed very far during his regime. Perhaps I may only be repeating what other members of the house have said, but when we think of Russia and Japan and such other countries which were more or less in the same position in which we were fifty years ago and have since then achieved such great things we cannot help coming to the conclusion that what has been done by us in this direction, is not creditable at all. We fully appreciate the position of our ministers and the difficulties in their way but if they would come forward with their difficulties before this House, we would perhaps very much appreciate their position. Unless they disclose their difficulties to us and express their

inability to advance the national cause, I do not see how they can claim sympathy or appreciation from these benches. Since the discussion of the budget started we have heard several speeches from the official benches and time and again they claim that a great deal has been done. The other day when one of our honourable ministers was expatiating on the work that had been done in his department (*The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: Who is that Minister?) I purposely did not want to mention it; it may be your worthy self, but I would not commit myself—he was mentioning the work done in his department. I was really wondering what a small imagination we had. I was thinking of that small frog in a well who thought he was very big and he asked another frog whether he was not very big. He said: “no the buffalo is bigger than you.” He tried to expand himself and asked if he was not as big as a buffalo. “No.” He still expanded and expanded till he burst. Perhaps the Honourable Minister is doing very much for us and for his country. I would only request him to stimulate his imagination and find that the world is doing much greater things than he is doing. I am afraid we cannot be satisfied with what he has done and we expect much more from him and I hope he will come up to our expectations.

Yesterday when some of the members were moving the cut motions on industries, the Honourable Minister again and again challenged them to suggest some industries. Perhaps some of the honourable members could not suggest them immediately. But I would request the Government to organise a sub-committee for that very purpose and it is for that committee to find out how to develop industries in this province and find ways and means. (*The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: I was not challenging; I was merely seeking advice. I never intended it to be a challenge and I do not think they have taken it like that.) I understood it like that and the honourable members could not give any instances. (*The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang*: They have given some.) Perhaps the Honourable Minister is satisfied that to-day quite a long list has been given to him by so many speakers. So I would not like to repeat them. No doubt we are primarily an agricultural province and our chief object so far has been to develop and encourage that particular industry. But at this time we find that agriculture alone does not pay. Therefore, it is not a question of acquiring wealth but it is one of finding out some subsidiary industries which would enable people to make their both ends meet. The other day a very high official went to Lyallpur and heard complaints from people that land revenue was very high and the people could not pay it out of the income of their produce. Naturally the question was put to one of them as to how they have been able to pay their revenue so far. There were two replies to this question, borrowing and theft. Some people actually commit theft as a necessity. By developing industries and by adding more to the income of the peasant classes, we will not only be helping the people but helping the Government as well, as they will enable the people to pay the revenues easily and more money will be saved by decreasing the work of the courts and in an indirect way improve the morals of the province as a whole.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): I will not take much time of the Council because a good deal has been said on the subject. But I will only quote one or two instances in which other countries have taken advantage of the moving times. The

[K. B. Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan.]

Honourable Minister for Industries or Local Self-Government asked the honourable members of this House to give him some suggestions on the subject. Several suggestions have been made to him. But I would like to ask him through you as to what he has done during the last five years. Has he submitted any scheme to Government which has been refused by it? There is no doubt that no money is forthcoming and as I said in my speech on the general discussion of the budget, only doles are given to these ministries. But would he tell us whether he has submitted any well-thought out scheme to the Government which has been refused? Government simply gives these small amounts because they know that these Ministers have not the capacity to suggest anything useful. That is one reason why they are simply carrying on and these departments are simply an eye-wash to the people to be told that reforms have been given to them. Where there is a will there is a way. If the Government wanted that something should be done, then there is absolutely no reason why something in the matter should not have been done during the last 14 or 15 years. I quote the instance of Germany. It is not a sort of a fable or fiction but it is an instance from a book written by Dillor, *Ourselves and Germany*, where it is given that the whole toys trade of Europe was in the hands of Italians and some three or four German Engineers went there as coolies and spent some years learning the secrets of the toys trade in Italy and returned to their own country and revealed those secrets to the German Government, and with the help of Government subsidies, built up that trade. After producing those toys they began to sell them at a very low rate, if they were selling at Rs. 2 in Italy, they sold them for Annas 8. We have a great amount of raw materials going to waste. Take for instance cotton which is being sold at Rs. 10 a maund. It goes out and comes back in the shape of muslin which sells at Rs. 20 a *than*. In the days when our country was full of these calicoes and other fine cloths, this industry was killed because when European people came to know the secrets of this trade, these were declared prohibited articles and anybody who purchased Indian cloth or calico was imprisoned. Cannot the Government do something in our country in this direction? Unfortunately there is neither the will nor the way. Times are moving very fast and the Government or the Ministers are not keeping pace with them. No time-saving machinery or implements have been invented in this country. Perhaps honourable members will be surprised to know that for ploughing one acre of land properly and satisfactorily, a zamindar has to travel 50 miles with the help of the ordinary plough, while with the help of a Raja plough he will be able to do that work with three or four ploughings. But the Raja plough is beyond the financial powers of the zamindars. It costs about Rs. 35 and an ordinary zamindar whose annual income is about Rs. 54 cannot afford it. It is not his only business to supply revenue to Government but he has to look after his own family and also his cattle. With this paltry sum it is impossible for him even to live. He is being starved. I do not think there is any need to speak more because the whole of yesterday and to-day up till now, have been taken up by this subject. Everything that has to be said on this subject has been said.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural):  
The problem that is being debated at this time is very vital for the best



interests of the Punjab. As a matter of fact, if we could tackle this problem properly and honestly, we would really be conferring a great benefit not only on the people of this province but on the people of India as a whole. I want to tackle this subject from rather a more general and broader point of view than has been expressed so far. It has been said and some experts have prepared estimates, that the income in India through industries *per capita* is Rs. 12, while in the United Kingdom it is over Rs. 400 and in America over Rs. 700. It is also a truism to say that a country which is mainly agricultural must always remain a poor country, an undeveloped country where its resources will be taxed to the utmost and its people cannot be happy under modern conditions. Now, if we look at this province we will find that we have got all the essentials for making the province an industrial province. What are the essentials for industrial development of a country? First of all we know that capital is an essential factor in the development of industries. We now find that capital in the Punjab is no longer shy. People are prepared to invest their money freely and openly in any kind of trade or industry which may be placed under an honest directorate. As a matter of fact, we know that whenever there was an honest company, people have come forward with their money and placed it at the disposal of the company promoters in order to earn some sort of income from their capital which formerly lay unused. Unfortunately, in this province, there have been people who have not properly discharged the confidence that was placed in them, they have not properly respected that confidence and the results in these cases have been disappointing. But the fact is there that whenever there was floated a company, and some sort of guarantee was given that the people's money would be safe, people have really placed that money at their disposal. Then take raw material. As a matter of fact, raw material is produced in such abundance in this province that it has to be exported outside this province and to other countries. The third thing which is essential is cheap labour. Labour is extremely cheap in India and as a matter of fact, one of the secrets of success of Japan is that there labour is much cheaper compared to America and England and, therefore, Japan with its cheap labour is able to stand the competition in other countries and are beating other people in this race of industrialization. Then we have got a very large number of experts who have taken training in other countries in various industries but unfortunately they find no employment. Then the next thing—and this is the most important thing—is that we have got our markets which are at our door. Other countries go out to seek markets, England goes to find markets, outside her own shores, America has to go outside to find markets, Germany has to find markets, but here is India a large continent with 35 crores of population which is a market for all the world excepting for the products of its own people. The tendency of the modern countries to-day is that by levying high tariffs, the country should be made self-sufficient. India must take a leaf out of the book of these modern countries which are now trying to make their own countries self-sufficient. Thus we have got all the essentials which are necessary for making the country and the province an essentially industrial province, but we must recognize that there are certain obstacles and we must, therefore, carefully examine those obstacles. It is a very good thing that for the first time we find a large number of amendments being moved by the honourable members who sit on the opposite benches. It is a very healthy sign of the times, but unfortunately our past has been

[ Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit. ]

such that we cannot congratulate ourselves. There has been a lack of joint action on the part of this Council in grappling this problem in a proper way (*hear, hear*). The communal attitude and the difficulties created by the Land Alienation Act have stood in the way of tackling these problems (*laughter*). In the very first Legislative Council a Bill was brought by the Honourable Minister and it was defeated by the votes of the honourable members who represent agricultural interests. They were not prepared to modify the Act in this way that if any person requires land for industrial purposes the Punjab Land Alienation Act should not apply. That was a thing which was done in the first Legislative Council and we must honestly and sincerely realize our short-comings and difficulties.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Is it on that account that no progress has been made in industrialization of the country ?

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** Then again, we find that when the proper choice of men comes before the Council or the Ministers always some sort of dispute or quarrel is raised that the man belonging to this community or to that caste should be chosen and so on and so forth. You must remember that if you are to progress industrially, you shall have to go not only to agriculturists or non-agriculturists, but you shall have to go to Germans, Japanese, to men from the United States of America and you shall have to employ foreigners if you want to improve your industrial condition in this province. Therefore we must take a broad view of things and apportion the blame to ourselves also where that blame is due. The third obstacle in the way of industrial development is the lack of sympathy on the part of Government. It has been really a novel idea even amongst modern countries that governments are responsible for more than the mere maintenance of law and order. Socialistic ideas which are now influencing governments in Europe and America are of recent growth and the states are now realizing that they are the representatives of the people and, therefore, they must lead all these movements which are for the prosperity of the people and, therefore, we find that in Germany, in Italy, in England and other countries of Europe the State has taken the leading part in guiding the people towards industrialism. If the State is doing so to-day in Germany, in France, in the United Kingdom and if the State to-day leads the industrial awakening in Japan, there is no reason why it should not be done here. As a matter of fact, the subjects and the States are one and the States in the countries I have named realize that they owe their existence and their prosperity to the prosperity of the people. If the people are not prosperous and efficient the States are bound to suffer. So this inroad of socialistic ideas which is a recent growth in Europe has not touched the Government of the Punjab and the Government of India. As a matter of fact, that is a thing of which the Government must take a note, that if it wants to live, if it wants to be popular and if it wants that the people should live in safety and happiness then it must take a lead in these matters and it would be benefiting itself. So far as the Punjab is concerned, its financial fabric is tottering. Land cannot possibly support the heavy expenses of the Government. The revenue that is derived from land revenue, water rates, court fees or excise would hardly be sufficient for the new democratic system of Government which is going to be introduced here. Therefore this province must be industrialized

in the interests of Government itself. The Government, therefore, should take a lead in this matter. The fourth difficulty is the lack of joint action on the part of Ministers. It is no use blaming this man or that, but we find unfortunately that on no occasion have the Ministers jointly undertaken to think out these problems and give a lead to the people of this province. This is most unfortunate but this is due to various causes.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Which is wrong.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** If it is wrong, the Council has not been taken into confidence and the Ministers are working behind purdah and that purdah is thick as thickness can be. During the thirteen or fourteen years I have not seen the Ministers working jointly for the good of the people of this province. There has been a sad lack of joint action on the part of the Ministers, otherwise I cannot possibly imagine that if the three Ministers had joined hands and made a joint demand on the reserved departments, the reserved departments would not have yielded to the demand of the Ministers. I go further, the Ministers should have threatened the Government with their resignation, if the reserved department was not prepared to listen to the demand of the people in this respect. Unfortunately, and I should be frank here, the Ministers are occupied with their own affairs though they are highly paid. They have so many worries of their own that their time and brains cannot be set free for the service of the province. The result is that they cannot properly study the problem and find out proper solution for the problem.

After stating these difficulties let me give some suggestions which were asked for by the Honourable Minister. First of all, the Ministry should invite all the people who know anything about the subject to a conference. That conference must be held and every scope should be given to the people to give expression to their opinions with regard to these matters. The second thing which the Government should do should be to make a survey of the resources and raw materials of the country. These things must be carried out by the Government at once. If they are not carried out at once, it would be the fault of the Government and not of the people. The third thing which the Government should do is that it should give to the people 200 or 300 schemes so that they might take up according to their means. I may state here that there are three kinds of industries, industries which require large capital and which can only be undertaken by men who have got lakhs at their disposal or by companies which can command large amount of money. These schemes have been floated and in more instances than one they have succeeded. But there are industries which require not lakhs but thousands and these I would call middle industries. Schemes with regard to this can be given to the people and they can take them up according to their means. The third and the last are those which require very little capital and which are called cottage industries. So many suggestions have been made with regard to these cottage industries that I would not dwell upon them any further. But there is one thing which I must submit that the schemes should be prepared and published for the people so that they should take them up according to their means and adopt them so far as their means permit. But at the same time what I must insist on is that there must be in some cases subsidies by the Government to people who have no money of their own but can offer proper securities. Unfortunately the attitude of

[ Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit. ]

Government on this point has been most discouraging. There was a time when a good amount of money was provided by the Government, but this amount has been reduced from year to year. I find that last year about Rs. 80,000 only were available for this purpose and no more than that. For a province like the Punjab equal to the United Kingdom only Rs. 80,000 to be distributed to the people by way of help to industries is ridiculous indeed. This is a sad state of affairs. Ministers have come and Ministers have gone, but the industrial grants have gone lower and lower in this respect. I quite agree with the honourable members who have preceded me when they state that so far what has been done is nothing more than a mere eye-wash. In democratic countries where Government is responsible to the people such a thing will not be tolerated and the people will call to account their Ministers, but unfortunately divided as we are we cannot possibly call our Ministers to account. This is really a very regrettable thing that our Government should fail to follow modern countries. Therefore I would request the House that it must generally insist upon the Ministers to co-ordinate their activities in order to improve the industries of this province. If you

5 P.M.

will permit me to say so, the blame mainly lies with us that we have neglected our duty as representatives of the people. Speeches have been made times out of number insisting upon the Minister to do this and to do that but when the actual putting of pressure on the Government comes then we fail to act together. We have suffered on account of lack of concerted action. You will now find that there is going to be a grant which the Government of India is going to make of a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs. It is up to the Council to insist that the Government shall spend this grant in a particular manner. The amount must be spent in such a way that one rupee will give its full value, that it must not be treated as one anna or one pice. It is the hard-earned money of the poor people of the province. It must not be spent in running large departments with people drawing high salaries with high-sounding names bringing no benefit to the people or very little benefit to them. The problem must be tackled in all earnestness and in all seriousness. There are thousands of young men wandering about from place to place in this province who do not find bread to eat. There are hundreds of people living in rural areas, strong, able-bodied, not as the honourable member Dr. (Mrs.) Shave will have us believe, with weak physique, but robust and quite strong, remarkably fit for work but unable to find work. You must remember that idleness demoralises a nation. It has demoralised the Punjabis. The Punjabis cannot think independently, they have become intellectually so weak, morally so degraded that poverty does not pinch them. They die of starvation and yet they cannot call upon their Government to do their duty towards them. I say poverty demoralises a people; it makes people lose their self-respect and the time has arrived when Government and the people must join hands together for the uplift of the province. We must remember that if the Government wants to be popular with the people of the Punjab it must behave towards the people as other Governments do elsewhere, as the British Government acts towards its own people. High tariff walls are raised in one day if the nation demands it; Governments are turned out and new Governments are formed when the voice of the people is raised in favour of such a change. Governments stay there mainly because they satisfy the desires and aspirations of the people.

And, therefore, it is no use saying, "We must go on slowly and slowly." If we go slowly and slowly as we have gone on in the past, when our average income from industries is barely Rs. 12 while in America it is above Rs. 700, in the United Kingdom, Rs. 400, we must wait for centuries and then our people here would fall a prey to disease, to depression, to moral degradation, moral demoralization. These are the things from which we must protect our people here and now. (*Cheers*).

**Rai Sahib Lala Labh Chand Mehra** (Nominated, non-official) (*Urdu*). I congratulate the honourable members generally and the movers of these cuts particularly for the interest which they have exhibited for the industrial development of the country. We knew that industrial development was urgently needed but we did not give serious attention to this question previously. We knew that the zamindars were having a miserable time on account of the fall of prices of agricultural produce, but we tried to ameliorate their condition by taking steps in the wrong direction. We tried to give them relief by making it easy for them to repudiate their just debts which step can never be of any material help to them as while it does in no way increase their income it restricts and harms their existing credit.

**Mr. President :** Will the honourable member please speak to the motion now before the House ?

**Rai Sahib Lala Labh Chand Mehra :** I am coming directly to it, I was comparing the different methods so far adopted by this House for ameliorating the condition of agriculturists, with the motion now proposed. I am glad, that honourable members have now realised that the real way of helping the zamindars is by introducing cottage industries. Not only the betterment of the condition of rural areas but also the betterment of the whole country depends upon the development of industries. It is very necessary that the financial condition of the zamindars should be made sound as upon them all the country depends. All the professions depend upon agriculture. The zamindars are at present in the grip of financial stringency and the result is that all the other professions are also faring badly. There is unemployment everywhere in the country. In the cities the condition is worst. There are so many educated youngmen in the cities without any employment. All this trouble at present is due to economic slump. This is a law of economics that if supply is more than the demand the price falls. There is no hope of improvement in prices in the near future. It has been claimed that we are increasing the yields. I say that at present even if we may succeed in increasing the quantity of our produce it would be of no help, for we would not be able to dispose it of profitably. It would not fetch its proper price. Hence the need is for the development of industries and this is the real necessity of the country. For the last so many years honourable members have been wasting their efforts on demanding increased representation of agriculturists in services. They forget that total number of appointments under the Punjab Government is only 45,000. This means that only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  persons per thousand are in Government service. If you discard all standards of ability, suitability and efficiency and give all services to agriculturists, even then you will be able to supply Government services only to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  persons per thousand. The remaining 997 $\frac{1}{2}$  would be without employment. (*Interruption*). If the number of agriculturists in the country is half of the total population and the services are reserved for agriculturists

[R. S. L. Labh Chand Mehra.]

only, even then only five per thousand agriculturists will get Government employment. (Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Let these 5 in a thousand have employment). Very well, but will it materially help the masses? These five would be friends or relations of influential and rich members of the Council. The poor will not be able to secure any services. Reverting to the original point the real remedy lies in the development of industries. The Honourable Minister enquired what industry could be developed. I was surprised to see him put this question. If he will excuse me I would like to say that it is a question of eyes and no eyes. If one were to use his eyes he would find the answer to this question. First thing that is served on the table in the morning is porridge. It is made of oats. Oats are sold here at 20 or 25 seers for a rupee, but the imported oats are sold at one or two pounds for a rupee. If we could prepare or pack them in the country it would mean employment for some. Then there is barley. A tin of barley containing about 2 pounds is sold for a rupee. If we could prepare these from our own country-grown barley we would be giving work to a few more. I do not think this work requires a big and expensive machinery or great skill. In the whole country the use of barley in summer is increasing. In big hotels a great quantity is daily consumed. (Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan : Why not use lassi?) I would not ask those people who are specially fond of lassi (curd milk) to quench their thirst with barley water. I deal in tea but I myself am a drinker of milk. If anybody likes lassi he is welcome to consume his favourite article of beverage. I am not speaking here in the capacity of an advertising agent of barley or oats dealers. I simply want to bring it to the notice of honourable members that we should produce all these things in our own country instead of importing them from abroad. If you go to Anarkali Bazar or Commercial Buildings or send from the Customs Office for a list of the things imported you will find that foreign countries are sending so many things to our market. You will find that Japan is dumping our market with all sort of goods. Why not try to manufacture locally whatever we can? Japan is taking away much money from our pockets in exchange for goods that are practically of no real use to us. I am not one of those who would say that the Government has not done anything for the development of the industries in this country. I want only to point out that much remains to be done yet. We are not totally satisfied with what has already been done in this connection. People continue to be as poor as they were before. The Government has not found out fresh avenues of income for them. The financial depression in recent years has made their financial position still worse. We should create such circumstances that we may cease to look for everything we require towards Japan and other foreign countries. Somebody had quoted this verse before and I think this appropriately depicts our condition :—

وہ ننگ وطن ہم ہیں کہ در کر بھی عدم کو  
منہ دھانچے ہوئے جاتے ہیں غیروں کے ہنسنے

There was a time when rich people bought winding sheets made in Benares and those who were comparatively poor used red winding sheets manufactured in Bengal. But now Japan is exporting winding sheets of all sorts. Even the quilts (*razdis*) reach here ready made stitched and tailored:

and our poor tailors have no chance of earning anything by even stitching them here.

It is said that our greatest difficulty is that we have no money for industrial development. But I feel money can be found if we wish it. We are providing money for many such things which are not as important as industrial development. So much is being said about rural reconstruction, better housing, better hygiene, and teaching use of mosquito nets and so on, but real rural reconstruction cannot be done without there being sufficient funds at the disposal of the people. For instance, a hungry man with half a dozen starving children round him cannot even think of a mosquito net. He would think of bread to fill his belly and those of his children rather than hear of the use of mosquito nets. I see that the Government has set apart a sum of thirty thousand rupees per annum to be given as Jubilee scholarships to students. I proposed that this sum should be reserved for industrial scholarships. I do not mind if these scholarships are given for improvement or research of village or cottage industries only. If the economic position of villages improves urban people are sure to benefit. (*Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar*: Urban people will rob the village people). If the villagers are prosperous other people will share their prosperity. Do not be so narrow-minded as to prefer remaining poor so that others may not be able to partake your wealth. You should be glad that other people have opportunity of earning their livelihood through your good grace. Government of India has set apart a crore of rupees for rural reconstruction which too should be spent for this purpose. It is gratifying to note that this sum has come or is expected to come into our hands at a time when the whole House is united, in the opinion that the real welfare of the zamindar lies in industrial development. If the financial position of the agriculturists improve he will appreciate the necessity of clean houses and clean streets. He will understand everything of his own accord. For instance, who taught the zamindars the use of neck-ties and collars? It was post-war boom period which opened their eyes and they began to put on plumed turbans of finest muslin. Similarly if the zamindars' resources increase they will understand all principles of hygiene, and the scheme of rural reconstruction will be an accomplished fact. With these words I support the motions before the House.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** : I beg to move—

That the question be now put.

*The motion was carried.*

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government) : Let me first congratulate the House on the widened outlook and changed attitude that they have displayed to-day so far as industries are concerned. In 1925 when I was sitting somewhere over there I moved a similar cut when my honourable friend Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram was sitting somewhere here. The position has been reversed and my only comfort is that I have not been made so uncomfortable as perhaps I made the Honourable Minister at that time when I moved my cut. It has been very kind of the members to have spoken in a spirit, of enthusiasm no doubt but at least, of moderation and whole-hearted courtesy and I assure them that I am entirely at one with them. All my sympathies are with them. I endorse, barring certain wide statements,

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all the sound things that they have said in the course of this debate. I fully realise that the prosperity of the province as of any other country depends on the development of industry. I also admit that all that was possible or all that has been done in other countries has not been done in this province or in any other province of India. It should not be understood that the Punjab Government has been more lax than the governments of other provinces. On the whole, I think all that could be done for the development of industry has not been done in any part of this country and the criticism, therefore, to a very great extent is well deserved and well founded. It is, however, necessary to take into consideration the difficulties that every government, particularly in this country has to face. It is not lack of sympathy, it is not lack of desire to help that is responsible for the comparatively poor state of industry in this province. (*An honourable member*: Did you say this in 1925?) I did. I was reading the speech just now. I said, I do not deny that something is being done but not much. In fact I could quote the words. I was never unfair. I might have been harsh and strong, perhaps unnecessarily strong but I was never unfair, I never tried to be unfair, I always tried to be fair.

The position that has to be considered is a very peculiar one and I particularly have been rather unfortunate, because at the time I got this portfolio, the Punjab was passing through the throes of financial stringency. Everything had to be cut down. A retrenchment committee had to be appointed and even expenditure, which on the face of it appeared to be necessary, had to be cut down and the principle adopted by the Government, by the Finance Department particularly, was, is it a stark necessity? And anything which did not fall within the definition of a stark necessity had to be sacrificed, and those who sat on the Retrenchment Committee will be fully aware of the various cuts which they proposed in the expenditure and which have since then been accepted by Government. So that this important fact should always be kept in view—what the state of finances was during the last four or five years. All these gentlemen sitting on this side had to do without 10 per cent. of their salaries for some time and then without 5 per cent. of their salaries. That was a standing proof of the fact that the finances of the province as those of other provinces in the country were in a bad way and every one was required to make a sacrifice and naturally development departments had to proceed at a much lower pace. Although I do not want to enter into comparisons, if you compare the history of the Punjab for the last fifteen years, five years with another five years and then with another five years in respect of industrial effort, you will find that even during these days of acute financial stringency something was attempted and something was done, and the Industries Department has not sat idle during the last four or five years. What is necessary for the development of industry? Let us consider for a moment. The first thing necessary for the development of industry is industrial training,—assuming that the raw material is there and we have plenty of it,—special knowledge and technical information and training and experience to take charge of industry are necessary. What is the condition of the Punjab? Every day we hear perhaps ten times, while the Council is sitting, that the Punjab is an agricultural province, sometimes 99 per



cent., sometimes 80 per cent. and sometimes 66 per cent. are alleged to live by agriculture and occupied with agriculture. This means that so far as this province is concerned, there is a very marked absence of industrial bias. And there is a serious lack of technical knowledge. That was realised by the Government and when I came to occupy my present position, I found that the money which was being spent on imparting technical instruction was not bringing its full value. I inspected a number of industrial schools, of which there are over 20 in the province, and I found that the training which was being given there—though it was better than no training at all—was really not the kind of training which could produce people who could take charge of industries and who could be relied upon to succeed in industry. A little of carpentry, a little of blacksmithy and a little of this and a little of that did really very little good. It was found that the training which was being given at a cost of several lakhs was not the best that could be given. We held conferences. The Inspector of Industrial Schools, the Director of Industries, the Secretary in charge of Industries and the Standing Committee on Industries, all were consulted, with the result that the whole nature of technical instruction in the industrial schools was changed, and a new policy was introduced that every school should specialise in one thing or another, so that if a boy spends four or five years at a particular industrial school he should, when he leaves it, be in a position to handle that trade successfully and if he has a capital of his own he should be in a position to set up that particular business and if he has no capital of his own, capitalists should be waiting at the door of his house with offers of employment to him, and it was very necessary that confidence should be inspired among the capitalists who wanted to employ expert labour the training for which these boys received in these industrial schools. That process was chalked out and that process is still proceeding. A number of schools have already been specialised. It was not a question of starting new schools. We had a different system. We could not turn out all the boys and all the teachers at once. They had gradually to make room for new classes, and the result is that now about half-a-dozen schools have already been specialised. The result would be that in another five years or so most of these gentlemen who are talking of a programme would have about 2,000 people who will have been trained in different trades, and who will be in a position to take charge of different industries and who will be relied upon to make these industries a success. This is the first item in the programme which was taken up during my time. I do not claim the whole credit, but I have taken my little humble part in this transformation to which I look forward with hope and trust as producing good results.

What is the next thing? Supposing you have raw material and you have expert knowledge. You must have capital. Without capital you cannot set up any industry. You cannot make bricks without straw. Some people want to make bricks not only without straw but they want to make them even without clay which is an impossibility. You must have expert knowledge; you must have raw material and you must have capital. How is that capital to be collected? Where is that capital to come from? That is a very serious question. Unfortunately, in this country capital is very shy. For centuries for political reasons and for reasons of absence of peace and sense of security people have been given to bury their wealth. Whoever had a little money had to bury it under:

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ground. (*Interruption*). Very well, that form has since been changed. I shall tell the House what form it has now taken. Capital being shy people formerly used to bury their money underground or used to convert it into jewellery and used their wives and other female members of their families as their walking chests. Now a different form of burying money has been adopted. People now prefer to deposit their money in banks at an extremely low rate of interest and are not prepared to run any risk of subscribing for the benefit of industries. (*Interruption*). In fact I have been reading my earlier speeches and I have derived very great benefit from the speech that I delivered in this House ten years ago. What happens now is that money goes into banks. Now, take the Imperial Bank which was referred to by the honourable member from Amritsar (Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq). By its very constitution the Imperial Bank cannot lend money against block. It cannot lend money on the security of immovable property. It can lend only if the security is liquid. This means that people must start an industry, purchase the necessary machinery, erect the necessary buildings and set the whole factory going. Then they must raise money which will serve as margin money. When that has been done and when they have manufactured certain quantity of their produce they can deposit it in the godowns of the Imperial Bank and raise a loan on that deposit. That is the procedure that is adopted in the Imperial Bank as also in other similar banks. I am speaking from considerable experience of this and I am not merely making a wild statement. I may also state that the industrialists are grateful to the Imperial Bank even for this. By the very constitution, the Imperial Bank is debarred from giving any other assistance. Therefore, we cannot build an industry with the Imperial Bank's money. We cannot build a factory, we cannot purchase machinery with loans raised from the bank.

Now, take the case of other banks which have different constitutions and are incorporated under the Indian Companies Act. In the first place, their resources, are not so vast as the sources of the Imperial Bank or some other European banks. They have their limitations and even they are afraid of investing their money in block because in that way money will get blocked up. In 1913, the House may know, that all the banks in the Punjab, almost all with the exception of the Punjab National Bank, the Punjab and Sind Bank and perhaps one or two other banks, all these banks tumbled down like a house of cards. Why? Because the depositors wanted their money back from these banks and their deposits were for short terms. The money of these banks had been invested in some cases in block with the result that when withdrawals began as a result of the panic caused by the failure of the People's Bank in 1913 there was no ready money with the banks to pay their depositors and although their assets were greater than their liabilities they had to close their doors. Since then particularly, and to a certain extent even before that, these banks were naturally shy and rightly so to lend money for the building up of industries, because they are afraid of similar state of affairs recurring again. It is, therefore, necessary that an industrial mentality should be created among the capitalist classes as a whole; and as patriotic members of the community they should be prepared to run risks within reasonable limits in the cause of industrial progress.

(*An honourable member* : What about the progress of sugar industry ?) I shall tell the House how that industry progressed. It progressed because Government came to its rescue. I shall be coming to that presently. This is the proper place to refer to the activities of Government in this respect. I concede that Government must come to the aid of any industry and must share its risks to a reasonable extent. This is what is done in other countries. In this respect the record of the Punjab Government is not blank or black. Now, take the case of the sugar industry at Sonapat. Government did sympathise with that movement and actually contributed Rs. 1,50,000 in cash and incurred a further liability of Rs. 50,000. Thus, it incurred a total liability of two lakhs, of which it paid Rs. 1,50,000 in cash like other shareholders. If the result has been unfortunate, it is not the fault of the Government. It shows at least that when Government is convinced, whether rightly or wrongly, that a certain scheme is a sound one and that it deserves some assistance, Government does within reasonable limits come to the help of that scheme. I remember a committee sat perhaps twenty times and for several months on this question of sugar investigation in the Punjab. A gentleman used to come from Pusa and all the experts available from far and near were invited by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and they held many meetings and discussed this question with the result that they advised that an experiment might be tried with one sugar mill at Sonapat. Now, that has not proved a success. (*An honourable member* : Why ?) It is due to misfortunes over which nobody had really any control. Take for instance, this year when it was expected that the Sonapat factory would do better. This year, at least 70 per cent. of the cane—I am relying on information given to me by an officer of the Department of Agriculture—70 per cent. of sugar-cane became diseased, and whereas ordinarily it should have yielded from 9 to 10 per cent. or at least 8 to 9 per cent. sugar, I understand that the yield has not been more than 5 per cent. The managing director of the sugar factory at Sonapat came to see me yesterday and I am basing my remarks on the information that he gave me. The zamindars, no doubt, have benefited all the same, because they would not themselves have got any *gur* out of this sugar-cane. Even as fodder it would have been useless, because it was diseased. The only use to which that cane could have been put was to burn it to ward off the cold of the winter and use the ashes as manure. (*An honourable member* : What was the percentage last year ?) Last year too it was not very much. It was I think a little over 7 per cent.

Now again, take another instance, the hydro-electric scheme. That was one of the biggest experiments that the Punjab Government tried and which no other Government in India could have ever tried. The Punjab Government rightly or wrongly was told that it would benefit the province if this project was taken in hand. The Punjab Government accepted the advice and spent about seven crores of rupees on this scheme. It may not have come up to expectations of some of its critics, yet so far as the attitude of Government is concerned it furnishes an excellent proof of its sympathetic mentality. Once it was convinced that it would do good to the province it risked the money and it is now hoped that though it was a very large and risky experiment it might still prove a financial success, particularly when the second and third stages are added on to it. The

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cost would then be very much reduced and there would be greater consumption and the rates would probably be lower and then the whole scheme might prove a success. Honourable members would probably remember that on a previous occasion while referring to this I used an illustration from the Merchant of Venice from the remarks of one of its characters Bassanio. When he wanted some money in order to retrieve his friend's fortune he said, 'We shoot an arrow and lose it. We shoot another in the same direction and very often we recover both.' Therefore, if we spend some more money over this hydro-electric scheme for the completion of the second and third stages we may still make it a success, much greater than what was originally expected.

Then, what is necessary is business honesty. I speak with confidence and not purely as mere empty moralist preaching truisms to the House. We have to develop business morality and honesty in our dealings before we can make industry a success. Many industries in this country have gone to wreck and ruin (*An honourable member*: In other countries). Yes in other countries—they have no monopoly of honesty but it is only a question of degree—because people have not been up to the mark in business morality. That also comes by training. Then, I was surprised when I heard a remark from my honourable friend over there who had forgotten Iqbal's verse but he remembered a portion when he said that even for a winding sheet at the last stage we had to look to Lancashire (*An honourable member*: Japan) or Japan. I think the honourable member from Amritsar recited a verse to that effect. That is certainly true to a great extent and Sardar Buta Singh was perfectly justified in referring to a speech of mine in which I had dilated on our unfortunate and miserable condition so far as the necessities of life were concerned, and particularly the necessities of a luxurious life. We had to depend on everything foreign. But here again I think I shall be failing in my duty and not doing justice to the subject if I do not draw my honourable friend's attention to what is already being done. The country is not so backward as my honourable friend seems to think. It is not necessary to depend on Japan or on Lancashire for a winding sheet. We can supply almost all the things now without depending upon Japan or on other foreign countries. It is only a little patriotism that is required. Are you showing that amount of patriotism? (*An honourable member*: We are ready). I bless you and God bless you. (*Interruption*). I would not cross-examine the honourable member, because so far as my tie and collar are concerned, I am also a sinner though in everything else I assure you I am wearing what has been produced in my own country. I do my utmost to use what is made in this country. (*An honourable member*: What about the glasses?) They are not articles of dress. I was referring to articles of dress. It is not that I have been trying to be a *swadeshi* since Mahatma Gandhi's time, but I have been so long before Gandhi was politically born. I do not mean to say that I never sin in this respect or never offend. I have to, for certain reasons, but on the whole I can claim credit that as far as I can help, I try to supply my needs, so far at least as wearing apparel is concerned, from my own country and if we are all to do this, it will give such a tremendous impetus to our industries that will surprise you all. You will not then come squealing and complaining against Government: "Government does nothing."

You will be doing much more than Government can ever be able to do. It is no use going in for fine things and saying, "this muslin is not fine for my turban, this cloth is not fit for my suit" and so on. Accustom yourself to rougher things. (*Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq*: Give us better things.) Out of these rougher things will come better things. I did not expect that you would employ that argument. Begin with rough things and then people will be encouraged to produce better things, finer things, superior things, to suit even the most delicate tastes. If Emperors like Akbar and Asoka were satisfied with things produced in this country, I think Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq can also be satisfied. Some gentlemen complained that there was not sufficient information available which would enable them to find out where they could get our country-made things. I think here also it is their own fault. We in the Industries Department can supply any kind of information that is reasonably available. We have got full information regarding what is being produced in our country, in our province and in other provinces. Mr. Mukand Lal Puri asked why not make a survey? Why not have industrial surveyors? He probably either did not know or just forgot that we have got industrial surveyors and they have made an industrial survey of the province and have collected all the information that is necessary with respect to the industries which are going on in this province. That information is available to every one who may like to have it (*An honourable member*: For what it is worth). Yes, of course, for what it is worth. My honourable friend does not mean that we should employ an officer on Rs. 3,000 a month to give information that *phulkaris* are made in a certain place, that enamel work is done in Multan and so on. The Industries Department is collecting information and also spreading information wherever it is required.

A great emphasis was laid on the necessity of industries in the villages. There also my friends have my full sympathy. I just want to draw their attention to what the Industries Department has so far done for industries in rural areas. It seems that there is a considerable amount of lack of knowledge on that point. We have at present for boys 23 Government industrial schools in addition to metal works and wood working institutes, Government Hosiery Institute at Ludhiana, Central Weaving Institute at Amritsar, Dyeing Institute at Shahdra, Government Technical School and Arts and Crafts Depot at Lahore, Government Demonstration Weaving Factory at Shahdra and Tanning Institute at Jullundur. We have also five institutions on our grant-in-aid list. All our schools are situated in towns. The school at Rewari, however, is situated in the rural part of the locality and attracts more rural than urban boys. The school at Kulu attracts almost all boys from rural parts of the sub-division. We have adult weaving classes for weavers in six of our schools and most of these people come from rural areas, besides classes for artisans in the weaving factory and some of our institutes. During the year ending 31st March, 1934, the numbers of artisans, agriculturists, and others in the Government industrial schools and institutes were as under:—Artisans, 921; Agriculturists, 553; others, 897 (*An honourable member*: what a great number). Find employment even for these. Set up some factories and give them employment and then the number would increase. (*Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq*: If I were the Minister . . . .) Yes; you will not have to wait long. We are here only for a short time.

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In addition to the above, we have two peripatetic demonstration parties, viz., (1) Travelling Weaving Demonstration Party at Haiderabad in Mianwali district, and (2) Government Wool Spinning and Weaving Demonstration Party at Hissar. (*An honourable member*: Are you satisfied?) I am not satisfied with anything. There is room for progress. There is no *ne plus ultra* for me. The party which is at present located at Haiderabad in the Mianwali district started functioning in August, 1934, with a view to demonstrating the use of improved appliances and up-to-date methods in handloom weaving to cottage workers, particularly in the production of woollen goods for which raw materials are available in abundance. Demonstrations are at present being given in wool spinning and in the production of tweeds, blankets, *lohis*, etc., besides dyeing with fast colours. The party at Hissar started work in March last to instruct people in that district where famine conditions are liable to appear in years of drought, in the utilisation of wool which is available there in large quantities. Instruction is given by means of regular classes with a course of 9 months' duration, which comprises spinning of yarn and manufacture of blankets and tweeds and milling and finishing by hand. Both these parties are quite popular and are doing useful work. And it may also be mentioned that the Government Industrial School at Lyallpur has recently started the manufacture of agricultural implements in order to meet the needs of the agricultural community in rural areas. This is exactly what Sardar Ujjal Singh has suggested and it will be seen that we have anticipated him, in order to meet the needs of the agricultural community in rural areas. Again practical demonstrations are arranged in the working of up-to-date tools and appliances, hosiery machines and dyeing of fast colours at various local fairs, festivals and exhibitions visited by agriculturists and persons belonging to rural areas. The Textile Inspector of the Department, who possesses, I believe, British qualifications, tours round the centres where handloom weaving is carried on with a view to advise the handloom weaver in the use of improved appliances. He goes on to important centres of villages, places like Jalalpur. (*An honourable member*: Does he teach them in one visit?) He makes suggestions for improvement. The Arts and Crafts Depôt exists at Lahore to help art and craft workers which include workers in rural areas, in the production of articles of artistic value and such designs as would meet the demands of the present day market. With a view to develop the tanning industry of the province which is one of the industries suited to rural areas on scientific lines, a Village Tanning Demonstration Party was started in 1928 to educate the village tanner in up-to-date methods of tanning at his very door. This party gave demonstrations in the districts of Sialkot, Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, Hissar, Jhelum, Ambala and Karnal. While working in the Ambala and Karnal districts, the party arranged special demonstrations for members of criminal tribes who are reported to have benefited considerably from this training. From the 1st of April, 1934, a central tanning institute has been located at Jullundur. It still continues to give training to *chamars* who would be drawn mainly from rural areas, besides a certain number of educated persons. An investigation was undertaken by the Industries Department into the possibilities of hemp fibre. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram was referring to rope making and that is also being taken in hand. You sell your hide for Rs. 8,

while when it is tanned it fetches from Rs. 15 to Rs. 30. That is the difference that training makes and the country can realise millions from this. My honourable friend from Amritsar and Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah know something about the hide trade and they would bear witness to the fact that hides worth millions are exported from India at a cost which is only about one-fifth or one-sixth of what they would have fetched if they were tanned in this country. (*Interruption*). We are helping them.

6 P.M.

There is no use saying that. You go to Jullundur where we have put up a tanning institute and you will find 54 people from various districts assembled there to learn. After every six months there is another batch of 54 people who will have learnt. Then in three or four years, you will see that every village will have a trained expert and will add to the wealth of the people. Honourable members seem to have been thinking as if I have only to move a magic wand and the Punjab will be converted into Lancashire or Japan, or Czechoslovakia or some other industrially developed country like Germany. The Government is not a *jadugarni*.

*At this stage the Council adjourned till 2 P. M. on Thursday, 14th March, 1935.<sup>1</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup>The meeting of the Council fixed for Thursday, 14th March, 1935, was cancelled and the Council met again on Monday, 18th March, 1935, under the orders of Mr. President.

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## **PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

**5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

*Monday, 18th March 1935.*

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### **STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**

**MAULVI BARKAT ULLAH.**

**\*4286. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Maulvi Barkat Ullah, an Ahrar worker, was served with a notice in 1934 not to take part in Kapurthala agitation and not to leave his village Bajaha, tahsil Nakodar, district Jullundur ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that he was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment for disobeying the notice ;
- (c) whether Government is aware that there is all quiet in Kapurthala State, and the said Maulvi after his release has been working in Qadian, Gurdaspur district ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the said Maulvi was again served with a notice at Qadian to go back to his village and not leave it until further orders ;
- (e) the reasons why Maulvi Barkat Ullah has again been served with a notice ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No ; on the 18th of February, 1935, Maulvi Barkat Ullah was informed by the Gurdaspur Police that the order of restriction was still in force.

(e) Maulvi Barkat Ullah has not been served with a fresh notice.

**AZIZ AHMAD KHAN DAUDZAI.**

**\*4287. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Aziz Ahmad Khan Daudzai, Secretary, Majlis Ahrar, Jullundur, has been served with a notice to leave Jullundur at once ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the said Aziz Ahmad Khan was served with this notice on account of taking part in Kapurthala agitation ;

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- (c) whether Government is aware that there is quiet in Kapurthala State and the Kapurthala State prisoners are even released ;
- (d) whether the notice against the said Aziz Ahmad Khan still stands ;
- (e) if so, whether Government proposes to withdraw the externment orders against Aziz Ahmad Khan ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No. The notice was cancelled on 30th January, 1935.

(e) Does not arise.

#### WALI MUHAMMAD CANAL.

**\*4288. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) for how many days the Wali Muhammad Canal in Multan district was flowing in the year 1934 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the supply of water in this canal has been decreasing since the working of Panchnad Canal Project ;
- (c) if so, what action the Government intends to take to make up for the loss due to shortage of water to the owners of land on that canal ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The Wali Muhammad Canal remained in flow for 81 days in 1934, i.e., from 12th June, 1934, to 1st September, 1934.

(b) Perhaps the honourable member is here referring to the Triple Canals Project. If so, will he please see Government's reply to part (a) of question No. \*2423<sup>1</sup> asked by him in March, 1933. If reference to the Panjnad Canal is intended, the existence of the Panjnad Weir may be expected to have a beneficial effect on the Wali Muhammad Canal by tending to raise the water level in the river up-stream.

(c) The Haveli Project is under consideration, and if it is taken up the supply of water on the Wali Muhammad Canal will improve.

#### CROP VALUES.

**\*4289. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the percentage of cropping of various crops in each of the circles in the district of Lyallpur and Sheikhpura (area under settlement at present) during the last settlement ;
- (b) the percentage of cropping in different circles that will form the basis of the present settlement ;

- (c) the average yields of each crop taken during the last settlement and the yields that will be now taken as the basis in each circle ;
- (d) the commutation prices of the main crops taken at the last settlement in each circle and commutation prices (artificial maximum) that will be taken as the basis of this settlement ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the commutation prices mentioned in the recently published *communiqué* are the averages for the last 20 years ;
- (f) whether these are the average of the averages in each circle ; if not, whether the Government will give some detail as to how they have been arrived at ;
- (g) whether these are the daily averages of the periods of the year mentioned in the *communiqué* ; if so, of which mandis, zamindars or sahukars ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :**

(a) The percentage of cropping for Mr. Penny's settlement is given below :—

Crop.	Gugera Branch, Circles I and II.	Gugera Branch, Circle III.	Extensions.	Proprietary villages.	Jhang Branch, Circles.
Sugarcane ..	3	2	1	..	3
Cotton ..	10	5	13	14	8
Maize ..	5	3	2	1	4
Fodder ..	15	15	25	27	..
Wheat ..	42	36	40	41	44
Gram ..	8	18	4	5	8
Oilseeds ..	10	11	9	4	9
					Toria and other oilseeds.

For Rakh Branch Circle, reference is invited to paragraph 117 of Mr. Dobson's Final Settlement Report.

(b) The information is not yet available.

(c) For the last settlement reference is invited to paragraph 46 of Mr. Penny's Final Settlement Report. For the current settlement the yields have not yet been approved. The honourable member should await the publication of the Settlement Officer's abstract under rule 19 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929.

(d) For the last settlement reference is invited to paragraph 47 of Mr. Penny's Final Settlement Report. For the current settlement the Settlement Officer's proposals were published by him in the abstract issued recently under rule 15 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

(g) The information is given in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Settlement Officer's abstract issued recently under rule 15 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules.

## CROP VALUES.

**\*4290. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the details of how cartage is deducted while fixing the market value of the produce ;
- (b) whether the scale of cartage is different for each crop ;
- (c) whether it is based on weight, volume or price in each crop ;
- (d) whether distance has any effect on this ; whether cartage will be the same for a village situated 2 miles from the mandi and another 20 miles away in the same circle ;
- (e) what bearing the distance of a chak has on rates ;
- (f) whether the disadvantage of distance is made up in any way ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** No detailed rules have been prescribed, but the factors referred to in the question are considered when fixing the scale of cartage.

## CROP VALUES.

**\*4291. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what period was adopted for calculating commutation prices in the district of Montgomery in the last settlement ;
- (b) whether it is the same period as in the case of Lyallpur ; if not, why not ; if so, why there should be any difference in the average prices ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Thirteen years.

(b) No. Rule 4 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929, lays down that the prices to be adopted in the net assets estimate shall be the average prices which are likely to be obtained for their crops by agriculturists during the coming settlement. The period of settlement of the Lower Bari Doab Colony is for 10 years only, while the period of settlement for the Lyallpur district will be for 40 years. The honourable member will readily understand that agricultural prices are likely to reach a higher level during a period of 40 years than during a period of 13 years. Under the sliding scale system of assessment which was introduced into the settlement of the Lower Bari Doab Colony, and is to be introduced into the Lyallpur Settlement, the prices assumed will have no effect on the amount of land revenue to be collected, unless the general level of prices is at least as high as those assumed. The prices assumed in regard to both settlements are justified by the rules. Had the Settlement Officer of Lyallpur proposed low prices for the assessment of that district, the result would have been to expose Government at some future time to unnecessary loss, if the actual level of prices in any year during the period of settlement were in excess of those assumed. It may be observed that, subject to a maximum, the sliding scale system ensures that the demand is in accordance with current prices ; and it, therefore, eliminates one of the most difficult problems of the old system, namely, the accurate forecast of future prices.

## CROP VALUES.

**\*4292. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) if it is a fact that the average of last twenty years has been taken without excluding the exceptional boom period due to the Great War in connection with the settlement of Lyallpur district ;
- (b) what the average prices would be for the last twenty years after excluding the period of the Great War ;
- (c) whether the rules provide that famine or scarcity years, i.e., years of exceptional prices, should be excluded, while determining the average ; if so, why the Government does not exclude the War period ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes. As the honourable member is no doubt aware, the demand resulting from the commutation prices proposed by the Settlement Officer, Lyallpur, will not be realized unless the general level of prices is equal to, or in excess of, that given by the commutation prices.

(b) These prices may be ascertained by reference to the statistics published from time to time in the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

(c) There is no provision in the rules for the exclusion of the war period, but only for the exclusion of prices prevailing in years of famine and severe scarcity. The prices assessed are justified by the rules.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Are only famine prices to be excluded or prices that prevailed during other extraordinary days also ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Only famine prices.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** What are the reasons ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** These are the rules.

**Khan Bahadur Zaman Mehdi Khan :** When the reasons for excluding famine prices are that these are extraordinary prices, why are not prices prevalent during war days also excluded ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** High prices need not be due to famine or scarcity.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4293. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the total figure of net assets for each circle during the last settlement of Lyallpur district ;
- (b) the amount of necessary deductions as required by the law under each head ;
- (c) the net total figure of each circle and the percentage share of Government under the law ;
- (d) the amount of revenue due to Government in each circle ;
- (e) the amount actually realised during each year of last settlement ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The information, according to Mr. Penny's settlement, is given below :—

		Rs.
Jhang Branch, Circles I, II and III	..	80,75,886
Gugera Branch, Circle I	.. ..	94,58,329
Gugera Branch, Circle II	.. ..	54,08,526
Gugera Branch, Circle III	.. ..	Not worked out, because Circle II rates were applied.
Extensions Circle	.. ..	20,10,672
Proprietary villages Circle	.. ..	4,15,876
For Rakh Branch Circle Mr. Dobson's figure was	.. ..	49,68,551.

(b) The question is not clear. No deductions are made from the net assets.

(c) The net total figure for each circle has been given in reply to part (a). At the time the Lyallpur district was settled the share of Government under the law was 50 per cent.

(d) The information is given in paragraph 50 of Mr. Penny's final settlement report and for Rakh Branch in paragraph 197 of Mr. Dobson's final settlement report.

(e) The information is given below :—

Year.	COLLECTIONS.		
	Fixed.	Fluctuating.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1921-22	13,543	62,61,596	62,75,139
1922-23	14,819	70,93,767	71,08,586
1923-24	29,882	74,43,531	74,73,413
1924-25	30,208	73,72,274	74,02,482
1925-26		Figures not available.	
1926-27	31,881	78,16,043	78,47,924
1927-28	78,499	64,36,763	65,15,262
1928-29	78,180	77,93,711	78,71,891
1929-30	78,662	78,62,959	79,41,621
1930-31	80,983	57,37,395	58,18,378
1931-32	82,715	58,03,120	58,85,835
1932-33	82,417	55,76,470	56,58,887
1933-34	84,609	63,17,640	64,02,249

The honourable member of course is aware that the assessment is fluctuating and that no fixed demand was determined at settlement.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4294. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the total of net assets as it works out in each circle with the percentage of cropping, yield and prices now being taken in connection with the settlement of Lyallpur district ;
- (b) the total of deductions necessary under each head under the rules of 1929 ;
- (c) the gross total due to the Government, if the standard of assessment were to remain the same as it was during the last settlement and according to the standard that was fixed in 1928 ;
- (d) the total Government demand as it works out to be with actual prices of the years of 1928 to 1934 in Lyallpur district ;
- (e) the actual remissions given in the Lyallpur district during the years 1928 to 1934 ;
- (f) the prices of each crop taken for (d) during the years 1928 to 1934 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) The information is not available. The honourable member should await the Settlement Officer's abstract under rule 19 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929.

(c), (d) and (f) The information is not available.

(e) The actual remissions allowed in the Lyallpur district owing to the fall in prices are given below :—

<i>Harvest.</i>					<i>Amount re- mitted.</i>
					<i>Rs.</i>
<i>Kharif</i> 1930	..	..	..	..	3,80,555
<i>Rabi</i> 1931	..	..	..	..	14,07,118
<i>Kharif</i> 1931	..	..	..	..	4,73,634
<i>Rabi</i> 1932	..	..	..	..	7,94,233
<i>Rabi</i> 1933	..	..	..	..	5,40,533
<i>Kharif</i> 1933	..	..	..	..	49,876
<i>Rabi</i> 1934	..	..	..	..	8,15,619

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4295. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of cotton is put at annas 184 a maund, for the purposes of the new settlement of Lyallpur district ;
- (b) how that has been worked out ;
- (c) whether that rate is assumed for American or desi, or both ;
- (d) if both, in what ratio they are assumed to be sown in the area ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Attention of the honourable member is invited to rule 4 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929.

(c) Both.

(d) The areas were assumed to be equal.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4296. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there has been any change in the circles after the last settlement of Lyallpur district ; if so, what ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that tahsils will in future be the circles ; if so, how the Government proposes to give relief to very poor tracts in a tahsil ;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the settlement officers during the last settlement stated that circle No. III-G.B., and circle No. III-J.B. were very poor tracts as compared to circle No. II-G.B. and circle No. II-J.B. ; if so, what justification there is to yoke them together in one circle now ;
- (d) whether the zamindars had already raised objection to that ; if so, what action Government has taken on that objection ;
- (e) if no action is taken what Government proposes to do to mitigate the great injustice done to the previous circle No. III-G.B. and circle No. III-J.B. ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Unlike submontane and other districts of the province, where assessment circles are based on homogeneity, variety of climate, rainfall and other clearly defined physical features, the whole of the Lyallpur district is as uniform as any assessment circle elsewhere. Assessment circles in this district even in the past settlements were delimited in accordance with the date of colonisation and not in accordance with economic features. In this connection, the attention of the honourable member is invited to paragraph 2 of the Settlement Report of 1915 in which it is clearly stated that if homogeneity were the criterion, the entire colony could have been made a single circle because in all material features—soil, rainfall, climate, cultivation—circles differ no more here than estates in a circle elsewhere. Since, however, a unit of assessment based on some fundamental principle was desirable, a principle was discovered in the evolution of the canal system and with it the scheme of colonization. In other words, priority of foundation was the only basis upon which colony chaks were organised into circles.

(d) Yes.

(c) and (e) The system of assessment of individual chaks and of squares inside a chak is done by classification of squares according to economic considerations. This system of differentiation will enable the Settlement Officer to make adequate allowance for inferiority of soil, etc., without the creation of small assessment circles.



## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4297. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the yields in the various circles in the last settlement of Lyallpur district for each of the crops in each circle ;
- (b) the yields that will now be taken as the basis in each circle ;
- (c) if there is any difference, the reasons for it and under which sub-head of rule 5 of 1929 it comes and to what extent ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The honourable member is referred to paragraph 46 of Mr. Penny's Final Settlement Report of the Jhang and Gugera Branch Circles of the Lyallpur district.

(b) The honourable member should await the publication of the Settlement Officer's abstract under Rule 19 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929. Yields have not yet been finally approved.

(c) Does not arise.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4298. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) for the purposes of the new settlement of Lyallpur district, how many experimental cuttings were arranged ;
- (b) the details of the methods mentioned in (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of rule 5 of 1929 ;
- (c) how many observations were taken by the revenue officer ;
- (d) the information gathered from trustworthy persons with their number ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) 106 in kharif 1933.  
113 in rabi 1934.  
110 in kharif 1934.

Total .. 329

(b), (c) and (d) Actual cutting of wheat and toria was supervised by settlement tahsildars and naib-tahsildars, in addition to which the Settlement Officer and the Extra Assistant Settlement Officers have made personal observations in over 500 villages. Trustworthy persons were consulted, including zaildars, lambardars, sufedposhes and numerous other large and small zamindars whose number it is not possible to specify. Accounts of estates scrutinized comprised those of Nawab Colonel Sir Umar Hayat, Colonel Bruce and Mr. Branford. The yields assumed in the Sheikhpura, Gujranwala and Jhang districts and Lower Bari Doab Colony were also consulted in this connection.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4299. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) the details obtained under rule 5 (d) and (e) of 1929 for the purpose of the present settlement of the Lyallpur district ;
- (b) whether the Department of Agriculture keeps any other record of the yields than their own farms ; if so, what ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The honourable member is referred to the answer to question No. \*4298 (above).

(b) Crop experiments are conducted by the Department of Agriculture in accordance with the detailed instructions comprised in Financial Commissioners' Standing Order No. 9-A.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4300. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the areas according to the last settlement in each circle of the Lyallpur district according to the classification mentioned in rule 2 of 1929 ;
- (b) the areas according to the classification mentioned above in each of the proposed circles in the new settlement ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) Statements A and B (attached) give as much of the required information as is readily available. For Gugera Branch Circle No. III detailed entries have not been made in statement A, because at the last settlement no statistics were collected for this circle and no statements were prepared for it.

## A.

Statement showing areas of the various circles in the Lyallpur district according to the classification mentioned in Rule 2 of 1929 at last settlement. The entries include also Government lands.

Name of circle.	Period of settle- ment.	AREA IN ACRES.											Grand total.
		CULTIVATED.							UNCULTIVATED.				
		Nahri.	Jhalari- Nahri.	Chahi- Nahri.	Chahi.	Berani.	Sailab.	Abi.	Total.	Banjar.	Ghair- Munkin.	Total.	
Rakh Branch ..	1912-15	429,027	1,907	48	..	3,173	..	..	434,155	119,783	44,027	163,810	597,965
Jhang Branch (I, II and III).	1921-22	329,194	2,112	..	..	1,139	..	..	332,445	87,182	33,207	120,389	452,834
Gugera Branch, Circle I.	1921-22	327,368	411	..	..	3	..	..	327,782	64,021	25,766	89,787	417,569
Gugera Branch, Circle II.	1921-22	200,048	1,358	31	269	..	..	..	201,706	53,423	20,778	74,201	275,907
Gugera Branch, Circle III.	1921-22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	171,135
Extensions ..	1921-22	89,227	182	..	800	6	..	..	90,215	33,436	8,663	42,069	132,314
Proprietary vil- lages.	1921-22	29,400	..	..	5,343	542	6,457	247	41,989	77,738	12,113	89,851	131,840

NOTE.—Regarding Rakh Branch Circle, entries have been made for the whole of the Circle, as it existed at last settlement of Mr. Dobson.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

## B.

*Statement showing areas of the various circles in the Lyallpur district for the year 1938-34 according to the classification mentioned in Rule 2 of 1929 at new settlement. The entries include also Government lands.*

Name of circle.	AREA IN ACRES.													Grand total.
	Cultivated.								Uncultivated.					
	Nahri.	Jhalari-Nahri.	Chahi-Nahri.	Chahi.	Barani.	Chahi-Sallab.	Sallab.	Chahi-Abi.	Abi.	Total.	Banjar.	Ghair-Munkin.	Total.	
Lyallpur ..	380,832	2,568	29	..	1,147	..	..	..	..	384,626	68,969	36,114	105,083	489,709
Samundri ..	337,118	1,287	36	7,435	418	..	8,771	..	170	355,235	93,871	37,500	131,371	486,606
Jaranwala ..	344,646	3,131	332	2,633	1,068	..	..	..	..	351,810	68,523	32,943	101,466	453,276
Toba Tek Singh	432,988	81	4,018	16,740	1,199	481	6,223	3	3,543	465,276	205,399	56,798	352,197	817,473
Extensions ..	59,476	..	3,989	16,215	540	481	6,223	3	3,543	90,470	178,534	21,329	199,863	290,333

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4301. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) as within a circle into how many grades the land was divided, and the number of squares in each circle along with a percentage column during the last settlement of the Lyallpur district ;
- (b) if the results of any one circle are complete, the number of squares and percentage in each grade in the present settlement ;
- (c) how many squares have been changed from a lower grade to a higher grade now in the circles for which results are completed and how many have been changed from higher grade to a lower grade ;
- (d) the total number changed from one grade to another grade in each of the grades ;
- (e) if the number of squares from lower to higher grade is greater than the number of squares from higher to the lower, the reasons for the same ?
- (f) the schedule of land revenue fixed for each circle according to grades ;
- (h) the total difference in rupees in each circle that the change of grades alone will bring about for the circle for which results may have been completed ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) For the classification of *nahri* rates during the last settlement the honourable member is referred to paragraph 50 of Mr. Penny's Final Settlement Report. The latter part of this question is not clearly understood, but it may be said that the number of squares by grades in each circle is not known.

(b) to (h) None of this information is as yet available.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4302. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to—

- (a) lay on the table a statement showing an estimate of net assets based on cash rents for a circle in the Lyallpur settlement inquiry for which may have been completed ;
- (b) state the average net assets worked out from yields and prices, etc., of the circle mentioned above ;
- (c) state the difference in the total of net assets of the circle based on (a) and (b) and the reasons for the same ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The honourable member is advised to await publication of the Settlement Officer's abstract under rule 19 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929. The information is not yet available.

**MR. NUR MUHAMMAD, MANAGER, GURGAON CENTRAL CO-  
OPERATIVE BANK**

**\*4303. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state as to why Mr. Nur Muhammad, Manager, Gurgaon Central Co-operative Bank, who was reported unfit and whose early removal was directed in April, 1934, by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, has been retained in service up till now ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The work of Mr. Nur Muhammad as Manager, Central Co-operative Bank, Gurgaon, was found at successive inspections and audit to be unsatisfactory and the management of the bank was advised by the Registrar to replace him by a better qualified man. The Board of Management have since employed a new Manager under the advice of the Department, and have re-employed Mr. Nur Muhammad as Accountant. The action of the Registrar in this case has been limited to advice ; the decisions have been made by the bank under its own constitution.

**CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK, GURGAON.**

**\*4304. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that under the orders issued by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, under section 85 of Co-operative Societies Act, an enquiry was to be made as to the financial condition of the Central Co-operative Bank, Gurgaon ;
- (b) if so, whether an enquiry has so far been made ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) and (b) Following upon an embezzlement in the Central Co-operative Bank, Gurgaon, in May, 1933, the Registrar ordered—

- (i) a special audit of the bank's accounts,
- (ii) an inquiry under section 85 of the Co-operative Societies' Act.

The special audit was carried out by a firm of chartered Accountants, and on the results of that audit and in consequence of improvements in the working, which had been effected in the meanwhile, the Registrar decided that a separate inquiry under section 85 was not necessary. He therefore cancelled his order for such an inquiry.

**BHIWANI MUNICIPALITY.**

**\*4305. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the number of nominated seats in the Bhiwani Municipality ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that one Muhammadan gentleman has been appointed this year ;
- (c) whether during the previous nominations any Muhammadan gentleman was appointed ;
- (d) if not, the reasons for this departure from the usual procedure ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Four.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) As Bhiwani is a second class Municipal Committee the appointment was made by the Commissioner, and he made it with the object of securing adequate representation for Muslims.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF CANAL WATER.

**\*4306. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some gardens at Bhiwani received no water during the months of September, October, November and December, 1934 ;

(b) if so, the reasons why some garden owners received water while others received no water ;

(c) if so, whether they propose to remit the *abiana* charged for canal water supply ;

(d) the principles on which the *warabandi* of Bhiwani gardens was framed in July, 1934 ;

(e) whether it is a fact that there is no uniform proportion of hours in the distribution ;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(g) the reasons for the low and irregular supply of water at the Bhiwani tail of the Western Jumna Canal ;

(h) whether it is a fact that all the three outlets, *viz.*, (i) the Water-Works, (ii) the Railway Water Course and (iii) the City Water Course, are opened at one and the same time ;

(i) whether it is a fact that some of the gardens have suffered very heavily owing to total non-supply in the closing months of 1934 and very low supply throughout the year ;

(j) if so, how they propose to remedy this grievance ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### ELECTRICITY RATES.

**\*4307. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any memorial from the citizens of Hansi, Rohtak, Hissar and Bhiwani regarding the rates of supply of electric energy under the licence issued to the Lahore Electric Supply Company, Limited, by the Government ;

(b) if so, whether he will lay them on the table ;

[L. Jyoti Prasad.]

- (c) what action has been taken by the Government on these memorials ;
- (d) whether Government proposes to make any alterations in the said licence regarding the schedule of rates ; if not, the reasons thereof ;
- (e) whether Government proposes any legislation regarding rates throughout the Punjab in view of the facts revealed before the enquiry committee sitting at Lahore regarding the cost of production per unit of electric energy ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes ; Government has received memorials from the citizens of Bhiwani, Hissar and Rohtak.

(b) The memorials are laid on the table<sup>1</sup>.

(c) No action has been taken.

(d) No ; the period of seven years from the commencement of the licences has not yet expired and Government cannot make any alteration. The attention of the honourable member is invited in this connection to clause XI of the Schedule to the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

(e) No ; legislation already exists, as the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

#### COMMODITY PRICES.

**\*4308. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table an up-to-date statement giving prices and index numbers supplied in answer to my question No. 1760<sup>2</sup> asked on 23rd July, 1930, with columns for the following commodities—

(i) wheat ; (ii) gur ; (iii) gram ; (iv) toria ; (v) makki ; (vi) desi unginned cotton ; (vii) unginned American cotton ; (viii) fodder crops rice, pulses, millets, etc. ; (ix) orchards, gardens, vegetables and tobacco ; (x) wheat straw ; (xi) gram straw ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement showing the required information in regard to most of the commodities referred to by the honourable member is placed on the table. It is regretted that the information is not available in regard to the others.

<sup>1</sup> Placed in the Library.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. XVI, pages 100—01.



*Statement showing the index number prepared for the principal commodities taking 1918 as 100.*

Year.	Wheat.	Gram.	Peas (or toria.)	Sugar (raw).	Arhar Dal.	Maize.	Jowar.	Bajra.	Rice unhusked.	Tobacco leaf (dry).	Wheat straw (bales).
1913	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	109	124	107	106	138	126	117	111	106	143	102
1915	129	124	87	150	167	147	142	122	106	165	91
1916	111	118	81	144	150	112	127	119	101	147	114
1917	123	125	80	127	142	123	126	100	89	168	128
1918	149	151	100	147	167	172	207	165	127	188	167
1919	176	211	212	227	272	194	229	214	167	212	228
1920	158	203	187	213	290	182	191	177	150	225	184
1921	227	259	167	279	256	260	286	249	162	313	335
1922	183	193	134	192	207	235	219	197	156	309	197
1923	116	110	120	129	139	116	127	109	121	172	113
1924	128	118	148	151	150	133	148	118	124	185	122
1925	168	148	148	189	150	169	177	155	145	182	157
1926	155	166	139	188	183	212	208	186	144	187	161
1927	140	162	142	139	206	165	187	140	136	173	147
1928	147	171	130	143	192	160	159	148	133	165	134
1929	150	199	133	163	187	193	193	180	128	163	121
1930	88	138	117	143	175	104	135	107	86	142	88
1931	62	85	70	97	118	61	85	62	59	120	62
1932	77	77	66	76	125	79	87	66	85	97	70
1933	83	83	60	73	105	81	93	89	67	87	87
1934	64	71	60	106	107	61	89	59	55	93	78

[Hon. Nawab Mezafer Khan.]

Statement showing the average wholesale prices of wheat, gram, gur, rapeseed (toria from 1924), maize, unhusked rice, jowar bajra, arhar dal, tobacco leaf, wheat straw, desi unguined cotton and American unguined cotton for the years 1913 to 1934.

Year.	Wheat.		Gram.		Rapeseed (or toria).		Sugar (raw).		Arhar dal.		Maize.		Jowar.		Bajra.		Rice, unhusked.		Tobacco leaf (dry).		Wheat straw (hossa).		Desi unguined cotton.		American unguined cotton.		Remarks.
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	
1913 ..	3 6 9		2 10 9		5 11 0		4 8 7		4 2 9		2 8 2		2 6 11		3 0 0		3 0 1		7 5 7		0 13 10		*		*		* Not available.
1914 ..	3 11 10		3 5 0		6 1 0		4 13 0		5 12 4		3 2 7		2 13 7		3 5 1		3 2 10		10 8 0		0 14 1		*		*		
1915 ..	4 6 5		3 5 0		4 15 2		6 13 0		6 15 4		3 11 0		3 7 4		3 10 9		3 3 1		12 2 1		0 12 7		*		*		
1916 ..	3 12 10		3 2 7		4 9 7		6 8 7		6 3 10		2 13 0		3 1 6		3 9 0		3 0 6		10 12 8		0 15 9		*		*		* Prices relate to toria.
1917 ..	4 3 2		3 5 5		4 8 10		5 11 10		5 14 9		3 1 5		3 1 1		3 0 0		2 11 0		12 5 7		1 1 9		*		*		
1918 ..	5 1 9		4 0 8		5 11 0		6 10 9		6 15 6		4 5 3		5 0 8		4 15 2		3 13 3		13 12 8		1 7 2		*		*		
1919 ..	6 0 4		5 10 1		12 1 0		10 4 10		11 5 9		4 13 9		5 9 0		6 6 10		5 0 3		15 9 5		1 15 6		*		*		
1920 ..	5 6 6		5 6 11		10 10 3		9 10 3		12 1 3		4 9 1		4 10 5		6 4 10		4 7 11		16 8 6		1 9 6		*		*		
1921 ..	7 12 6		6 14 9		9 8 2		12 10 6		10 10 7		6 8 4		6 15 4		7 7 8		4 14 1		23 0 2		2 14 4		*		*		
1922 ..	6 4 5		5 2 6		7 9 6		8 11 5		8 10 8		5 14 7		5 5 1		5 14 6		4 11 1		22 11 10		1 11 3		*		*		
1923 ..	3 15 3		2 15 2		6 13 6		5 13 6		5 12 7		2 14 6		3 1 6		3 4 6		3 10 1		12 10 9		0 15 7		*		*		
1924 ..	4 6 4		3 2 3		8 6 11		6 13 8		6 4 3		3 5 5		3 9 5		3 8 10		3 11 8		13 9 5		1 0 10		*		*		
1925 ..	5 11 11		3 15 2		8 7 0		8 9 1		6 4 3		4 3 11		4 4 10		4 10 6		4 5 11		13 5 8		1 5 8		*		*		
1926 ..	5 4 9		4 7 2		7 14 6		8 8 6		7 10 5		5 5 1		5 0 11		5 9 2		4 5 5		13 12 5		1 6 3		*		*		
1927 ..	4 12 8		4 5 8		8 1 3		6 4 7		8 9 8		4 2 4		4 8 7		4 3 1		4 1 2		12 11 3		1 4 4		*		*		
1928 ..	5 6 8		4 9 1		7 6 0		6 8 0		7 15 10		4 0 1		3 13 10		4 6 10		3 15 10		12 2 6		1 2 6		*		*		
1929 ..	5 1 11		5 5 1		7 8 8		7 6 4		7 12 6		4 13 6		4 10 11		5 6 4		3 13 7		11 15 1		1 0 9		*		*		
1930 ..	3 0 5		3 10 11		6 10 11		6 7 8		7 4 10		2 9 9		3 4 5		3 3 3		2 9 6		10 6 6		0 12 2		5 15 2		7 15 9		
1931 ..	2 1 9		2 4 3		3 15 3		4 6 1		4 15 0		1 8 5		2 1 1		1 13 8		1 12 7		8 12 7		0 8 7		5 3 6		6 6 8		
1932 ..	2 10 5		2 1 0		3 11 8		3 7 4		5 3 9		1 15 10		2 1 10		1 15 7		2 8 8		7 3 2		0 9 9		5 14 8		5 8 2		
1933 ..	2 13 6		2 3 4		3 6 9		3 5 3		4 6 3		2 10 5		2 4 3		2 10 8		2 0 0		6 6 8		0 12 1		5 14 0		6 3 7		
1934 ..	2 3 0		1 14 2		3 6 2		4 12 9		4 7 9		1 8 4		2 2 7		1 12 3		1 10 5		6 13 7		0 10 9		4 8 5		6 11 5		

SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

\*4369. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the cost of production of each of the crops mentioned in the *communiqué* recently issued by Government *re* Lyallpur settlement ;
- (b) how many bullocks were imported into Lyallpur during the last 20 years and at what average price ;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that *charagahs* in the Lyallpur district are reducing in number ;
- (d) the number and area of *charagahs* in the district of Lyallpur in 1913, 1920, 1930 and 1934 ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that all *charagahs* have been auctioned with the result that now vacant lands are left with villages ;
- (f) whether Government changed the rules of forfeiture of lands auctioned during the last decade for which instalments were not paid by zamindars ;
- (g) in which years auctions of land took place and what were the conditions of sale in each case ;
- (h) how much land was sold in each of these years and how much was later on forfeited due to failure to pay the price ;
- (i) whether Government has during the last year or this year given any concessions to those who got their lands or money confiscated ;
- (j) the concessions for each lot ;
- (k) the concessions given to such purchasers of land in the Montgomery district ;
- (l) whether all purchasers who bought land during different years were treated in a similar way ; if not, why not ;
- (m) what difference in treatment existed between purchasers of each year, and what were the reasons for this difference ;
- (n) whether purchasers of 1930 and later years were also given some concessions ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) The information is not available.

- (c) There is a shortage of *charagah* in some chaks.
- (d) The term "*charagah*" in the colony chaks of the Lyallpur district has so far been applied to *bagaya* up to 10 per cent. of the allotted area in a chak. As this *bagaya* lies scattered in the chak, the number of *charagahs* cannot be given. The figures of *bagaya* in 1913 and 1920 are not available. In 1930 the *bagaya* was 149,729 acres. In 1934 this area was 154,793 acres.

(e) No. At various intervals portions of Crown waste in excess of 10 per cent. on the allotted area have been auctioned.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

(f) The general rule is that, if a purchaser defaults in the payment of the instalments of purchase money, the Collector may rescind the contract and cancel the sale. This rule still exists.

(g) The auctions took place in 1925-26 and 1927-28. The salient conditions were—

**1925-26.**—Initial deposit Rs. 100 per acre. Balance of purchase price payable in four half-yearly instalments; interest at 8 per cent. on overdue instalments, malikana at Re. 0-6-0 in the the rupee of land revenue.

**1927-28.**—Initial deposit Rs. 80 per acre. Balance of purchase price payable in 10 annual instalments; interest at 6 per cent. on overdue instalments; malikana at Re. 0-6-0 in the rupee of land revenue.

(h)	Year.			Area sold Acres.	Area con- fiscated. Acres.
1925-26	..	..	..	29,186	20,165
1927-28	..	..	..	12,744	5,902

(i) Yes.

(j) Concessions have been granted to those purchasers whose lands were not confiscated before January, 1930. Briefly the concession is that these purchasers can acquire land up to the nearest killa paid for, less interest charges. This concession can be availed of up to the 15th June, 1935. The information by lots is therefore not available.

(k) *Purchasers of 1925.*—All purchasers, whose bids or tenders were accepted, have been offered occupancy rights in the land purchased in return for their initial deposits, the tenants being governed by the conditions applicable to peasant grants in the colony.

The right to purchase proprietary rights will commence on 31st March, 1937. The price to be paid will be calculated at Rs. 100 per acre payable either in a lump sum or in instalments on sliding scale rising to Rs. 240 per acre according to the number of instalments selected. The amount paid in excess of initial deposit will be credited towards the purchase price due.

*Purchasers of 1927 and 1928.*—All purchasers have been given possession with proprietary rights to the nearest complete killa already paid for at the price bid, provided that no allotment is made of less than five killas in any rectangle, and that the land sold consists of a continuous block. The remaining areas for which bids were accepted, have been allotted to the purchasers on peasant terms applicable in the Lower Bari Doab Canal Colony. The purchase price for the area allotted on peasant terms has been fixed at half the amount per acre, which was originally bid and is payable in 10 half-yearly instalments.

(l) No. The purchasers of 1925 were more generously treated than the purchasers of 1927 and 1928. The reasons are :—

- (1) Difference in the conditions of sale.
- (2) The land sold in 1925 was inferior.
- (3) The average prices fetched in 1927 and 1928 were much lower than the average prices of 1925.

(m) The information has been given under (k) and (l) above.

(n) The latest concession mentioned in (j) above is also applicable to lands sold after 1st January, 1930, and before 31st December, 1933.

#### LAND AUCTION IN LYALLPUR.

**\*4310. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Government has appointed an officer on special duty to make lists of lands not yet auctioned in the district of Lyallpur ;
- (b) whether Government intends to auction more land ;
- (c) whether Government is aware that there is already scarcity of water and shortage of *charagahs* in Lyallpur district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(c) Government does not admit that there is any scarcity of water. On the contrary, actual irrigation is far in excess of permissible. There is a shortage of *charagah* in some chaks.

#### LAND REVENUE ASSESSMENT.

**\*4311. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) while finding out the value of net-assets for purposes of assessing land revenue, what deductions, if any, are made on account of "the expenses of cultivation" ;
- (b) the details explaining the phrase "the expenses of cultivation" ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The honourable member's attention is invited to Rule 6 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929, and Chapters XVIII, XIX and XX of the Settlement Manual. No detailed rules have been prescribed regarding "the expenses of cultivation," which must obviously vary according to circumstances.

#### CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIP AND COUNSEL FOR DEFENCE.

**\*4312. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan :** With reference to the reply to question No. \*4065,<sup>1</sup> will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement containing the necessary information if it has been received ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Christians.	Parsis.	REMARKS.
Total number of candidates for Public Prosecutorship	10	10	5	2	..	
Agriculturists among them	..	5	2	..	..	
Counsel on the defence list of the Court of Sessions, Lahore.	13	4	1	..	1	
Agriculturists among them	1	3	1	..	..	(In addition to the above there are 4 Hindus, one Sikh and one Christian on the defence list regarding whom information is not available whether they are agriculturists or non-agriculturists.)
On both lists	..	3	1	..	..	
Agriculturists among them	..	3	1	..	..	

ALIENATIONS OF LAND.

**\*4313. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state the provincial figures for each of the last ten years or the total for the last ten years whichever is more convenient, though preferably the former, of decrees or orders passed by Civil Courts which involved—

- (a) permanent alienations of land by members of agricultural tribes in favour of persons who were not members of the same tribe or of a tribe in the same group ;
- (b) mortgages of land by members of agricultural tribes in favour of persons who were not members of the same tribe or of a tribe in the same group ; and of which copies were sent to the Deputy Commissioners concerned ;
- (ii) the number of cases in (a) and (b) in which the Deputy Commissioners concerned applied for the revision of the decree or order concerned under the provisions of section 21-A of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act (XIII of 1900) ;
- (iii) the number of cases in (ii) in which the revisions were in the first instance or ultimately accepted ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** It is regretted that the information cannot be given because the labour involved in collecting it would not be commensurate with the results.

**APPEAL BY THE MINISTERIAL STAFF BEFORE COMMISSIONER, MULTAN.**

**\*4314. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) how many appeals were preferred by the ministerial staff before the Commissioner, Multan division, in the year 1984;
- (b) how many of these appeals were accepted community-wise;
- (c) whether the appellants are allowed by rules to put in their cases in person or by pleader before the Commissioner;
- (d) whether the appellants were summoned before the Commissioner to put their case before him; if so, in how many appeals?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Forty.

(b) Four as detailed below :—

*Muslims.*

*Hindus.*

8

1

(c) No.

(d) In one appeal, the appellant was summoned to put his case before the commissioner.

**SUPERINTENDENTS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES, MULTAN DIVISION.**

**\*4315. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the number of superintendents of Deputy Commissioners' offices community-wise in the Multan division;
- (b) in case of very low representation of Hindus in this cadre, whether Government proposes to give to the Hindus their due share in it?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the required information as given in columns 4 and 5 on page 14 of the consolidated statement showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government as it stood on the 1st January, 1985.

(b) As Hindus are holding 50 per cent. of these posts, no further action is necessary.

**SUPERINTENDENTS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES,  
MULTAN DIVISION.**

**\*4316. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the number of accepted candidates, community-wise, for the post of superintendant of Deputy Commissioners' offices in Multan division;
- (b) in the case of low representation of Hindus in this cadre, whether Government proposes to consider the advisability of enrolling Hindu candidates in this cadre?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Seven, all of whom are Muslims.

(b) The honourable member's attention is invited to the reply given to parts (c) and (d) of question No. 1106.<sup>1</sup>

#### STAFF OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

**\*4317. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly lay on the table a statement showing the following particulars regarding all the districts in the Punjab :—

- (a) the name of superintendent of the office of the Deputy Commissioner ;
- (b) the name of the head vernacular clerk of the vernacular office of the Deputy Commissioner ;
- (c) the name of the head treasury clerk of the office of the Deputy Commissioner ;
- (d) the name of the local bodies' clerk of the Deputy Commissioner's office ;
- (e) the name of the arms licence clerk of the Deputy Commissioner's office ;
- (f) the name of the registration clerk of the office of the Deputy Commissioner ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The information is not available, and its collection would involve labour that would not be commensurate with the value of the result.

#### TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE.

**\*4318. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) how many books purporting to be written, compiled or revised by educational authorities, whether official or non-official, are on the approved list of the Punjab Text Book Committee ;
- (b) whether in view of the fact that the official position and prestige of those authorities exercise a great influence on the use of such books in schools, those books are to remain on the approved list in future ;
- (c) whether the Punjab Text Book Enquiry Committee took this matter into consideration ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The majority of the books on the list.

(b) A scheme is being devised to overcome this difficulty.

(c) Yes, and they have made recommendations which overcome this difficulty.



## TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE CONTRACT.

**\*4319. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether the Text Book Committee contract will be split into several portions with reference to the languages of the books, the departments of schools for which the books are prescribed or their subject matter and the contract for each portion given to a separate and distinct publisher?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The answer to the first portion is in the affirmative. As regards the latter portion it will be open to any one to secure one or more contracts by outbidding others by means of tender.

## TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE.

**\*4320. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of publishers whose books are on the approved list of the Punjab Text Book Committee;
- (b) the proportion of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs among them;
- (c) whether such proportion is in accordance with the just claims of the Muslim community;
- (d) if not, how he proposes to adjust the rights of the Musalmans?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to my answer to question No. 1089.<sup>1</sup>

## TEXT-BOOK ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**\*4321. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether or not the Punjab Text Book Enquiry Committee called for the proofs of the allegations of bribery made by certain publishers against the employees of the Punjab Education Department and managers of private schools;
- (b) if they were not called upon to prove their allegations, why not;
- (c) whether or not the Education Department is prepared to consider the question of eliminating the publications from the approved list of these publishers who admit having given bribes to such employees or managers?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No.

(b) Because no specific allegation was made.

(c) No publisher has admitted this practice.

## TEXT-BOOK ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**\*4322. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :**  
Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether or not the Text Book Enquiry Committee has arrived at the conclusion that a number of books, which are not on the approved list, are used by schools;
- (b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what methods have been recommended for the discontinuance of this practice;
- (c) whether any publishing firm has submitted a proposal to the Enquiry Committee to the effect that the Text Book Committee should adopt the method of affixing its seal to each and all approved books, and that by charging a fee of 3 per cent. on the price of such books for setting its seal, the Committee will be in a position to derive an income of one lakh of rupees per annum, a method which will enable the Text Book Committee not only to meet its expenses but also to control all the publications in use in schools?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

## TEXT-BOOK ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**\*4323. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :**  
Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether the Text Book Enquiry Committee has recommended the selection of only five sets of books on Urdu subjects from April, 1937, the contract for the printing and sale of all of which should be given to the highest bidder;
- (b) whether the acceptance of this recommendation will entail the closing down of all publishing firms but one?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to my answer to Council question No. 1092<sup>1</sup>.

## TEXT-BOOKS.

**\*4324. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :**  
Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether any publishing firm has submitted to the Government and the Education Department estimates of cost of books, which besides appreciably bringing down the price of books, leave a small margin of profit to publishers;
- (b) if so, why the suggestion is not acted upon?

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

(b) Provision is being made for an examination of this question at a very early date.

NUR MUHAMMAD, LAMBARDAR OF CHAK No. 174, VILLAGE MUHAMMADPURA.

\*4325. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : With reference to my question No. \*3633<sup>1</sup> put on 26th October, 1934, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the *chakbandi* records were found incorrect by Mr. King, Superintending Engineer, and the mistake was at once set right ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Nur Muhammad appealed against the order of Mr. King but without avail and Nur Muhammad's Muraba No. 14/59 continued to be irrigated as usual on outlet No. 24 ;
- (c) whether a copy of Mr. King's order and a copy of Nur Muhammad's appeal will be laid on the table ;
- (d) whether the Government intends to remedy the state of affairs ?

The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan : (a) (i) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

(b) (i) Yes.

(ii) Square 14/59 is not owned by Nur Muhammad.

(c) It is not in the public interest to lay the papers regarding a private dispute between two families on the table.

(d) Government considers that no further action is necessary.

#### TUITION FEE IN COLLEGES.

\*4326. Khwaja Muhammad Euseof : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Department intends to enhance the rate of tuition fee in the Colleges ;
- (b) whether Government proposes to reconsider the question and continue the old grades as laid down in the Punjab Education Code, 11th edition ?

The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon : (a) At present there is no proposal to enhance the rates of tuition fees in colleges.

(b) Does not arise.

#### SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

\*4327. Khwaja Muhammad Euseof : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in all grades of subordinate educational service nearly all its employees have finished their grades ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is not early prospect of promotion for young, highly qualified and intelligent teachers ;

<sup>1</sup> Vol. XXX, page 600, ante.

[Kh. Muhammad Euseof.]

(c) if reply to (b) is in the affirmative, whether the Education Department propose to revise the present grades ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Yes, most of the officials in each grade of the Subordinate Educational Service have reached the maximum of their grade. But this gives them no claim for promotion to the next higher grade.

(b) No, highly qualified teachers have the prospect of promotion on the basis of improved qualifications and good record, irrespective of their position on the gradation list.

(c) This is being considered.

#### MUSLIM PRINCIPALS IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGES.

**\*4328. Khwaja Muhammad Euseof :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state —

(a) the number of Government colleges in the Punjab ;

(b) the number of Muslim principals in these colleges ;

(c) if the number of Muslim principals is inadequate, what steps Government proposes to take to give adequate representation to the Muslims ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) and (b) Seventeen including women's colleges (out of these 5 are Europeans, 6 Hindus, 2 Sikhs, and 4 Muslims), out of 12 men's Arts colleges 4 have Muslim principals.

(c) The policy of Government was stated by the Honourable Finance Member in a debate in the Legislative Council on the 19th of July, 1927. This is still the policy of Government, and Government continue to carry out the requirements of the formula contained in the said statement of policy.

#### MUSLIMS IN THE PUNJAB EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

**\*4329. Khwaja Muhammad Euseof :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many Muslims in the Education Department who possess English qualifications but are not yet promoted to the Provincial Educational Service ;

(b) if so, why they have not been promoted ;

(c) what steps Government proposes to take to promote the qualified men belonging to the Muslim community to the Provincial Educational Service ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The information asked for is given in the departmental lists, copies of which are placed in the Council library.

(b) and (c) Merit, record and academic qualifications decide promotions and not religion.

PROFESSOR OF BOTANY, GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, LAHORE.

**\*4330. Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the post of a professor of Botany fell vacant in the Government College, Lahore ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that of all the lecturers, teachers and professors in Biology, Botany and Zoology, working in all the Government institutions, there is not a single Muslim who is a teacher, professor or lecturer in the above subjects ;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that many qualified Muslim candidates are available for the above post ;
- (d) if reply to (c) is in the affirmative, whether Government have considered the names of Muslims also while appointing the professor of Botany in the Government College, Lahore ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes (eight).

(d) Yes. All the vacancies created by the death of Dr. Kashyap have been filled by promotion of deserving men, one of whom is a Muslim who has received the selection grade in class II. Fresh recruitment was made only in the Subordinate Educational Service. To this a Sikh was recruited because no Sikh had been recruited to the Subordinate Educational Service in 1934, whereas the Muslims had received their adequate share during that year. Government have to be fair to all communities when making fresh recruitment.

#### ALIENATION OF LAND, MULTAN DISTRICT.

**\*4331. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state in how many cases, the deputy commissioners of various districts of the Multan division have given sanction for the alienation of lands belonging to the statutory agriculturists to be sold to non-agriculturists for the payment of land revenue during the years 1933 and 1934 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :**

Montgomery	..	..	{ 1933 ..	..	5
			{ 1934 ..	..	1
Lyallpur	..	..			
Jhang	..	..			
Multan	..	..		Nil.	
Muzaffargarh	....	..			
Dera Ghazi Khan	..	..		One in each year.	

#### STATUTORY AGRICULTURISTS OF JHANG AS ZILLADARS.

**\*4332. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) the number of statutory agriculturist Muslims recruited as zilladars from Jhang district during the last 20 years ;

[B. Mubarak Ali Shah.]

- (b) their names, and the places where they are posted at present ;
- (c) what steps Government intends to take to encourage the recruitment of Muslim agriculturists belonging to Jhang district in this service ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Two.

(b) It is not in the public interest to disclose their names.

(c) If any Muslims come forward from Jhang, their claims will be considered along with those from other districts.

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STATUTORY AGRICULTURISTS OF JHANG AS TAHSILDARS.

**\*4333. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) the total number of Muslim tahsildars in the province ;
- (b) the number of Muslim tahsildars belonging to statutory agriculturist tribes of Jhang, who are at present employed in the Revenue Department of the province ;
- (c) What steps Government intends to take to give the agriculturist tribes of Jhang their due share in the services mentioned in (a) ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Fifty-seven.

(b) Three.

(c) Appointments to the cadre of tahsildars are not made on a territorial basis as between Muslim agriculturists.

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REMISSIONS.

**\*4334. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) the actual amount of money which has been remitted by the Government in the shape of reduction in the occupiers' rates on wheat, cotton, sugarcane, and rice, throughout the province ;
- (b) the actual amount of money realized by the Government on fodder crops, on which the occupiers' rates were raised ;
- (c) the total excess which the zamindars have paid on the fodder crops, since the occupiers' rates were raised, owing to increase in the water rates on these crops ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Rs. 49,08,416 including maize which the honourable member has omitted.

(b) Rs. 41,83,240.

(c) Rs. 16,20,774.

**SUPERIOR SERVICE OF ENGINEERS (BUILDINGS AND ROADS).**

**\*4335. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a service called the superior service of Engineers (B. & R.) was created in 1980 and was intended to be brought into force the same year;
- (b) If so, why it has not been given effect to so far and when it is intended to be done;
- (c) whether it is a fact that most of the sub-divisions are in charge of subordinates owing to the dearth of qualified engineers; if so, why recruitment of young qualified engineers who are plentifully available in the market is not made to fill up the vacancies;
- (d) whether it is intended that in recruiting officers to the new service, only young qualified engineers will be taken?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes, the Punjab Service of Engineers.

(b) Owing to financial stringency Government decided to revise the scales of salaries, this revision has not yet been completed, early orders are, however, expected and in anticipation of these orders it is proposed to advertise 6 posts.

(c) There are 27 sub-divisions in the regular line *plus* two other charges (1 under the Communications Board and 1 under the Superintending Architect) of equal importance, making in all 29 charges. Seven of these are at present, as a temporary measure only, in charge of subordinates. The reply to the latter portion of this question is given in (b) above.

(d) No, it is intended for the present to recruit 3 senior men with about 6 years' experience and three young qualified Engineers.

**MR. C. W. STOWERS, ELECTRICAL ENGINEER.**

**\*4336. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the qualifications of Mr. C. W. Stowers;
- (b) whether it is a fact that for the post of an executive engineer it is required that the candidate should be at least a B. Sc. or a member of some institute;
- (c) if the answer to (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons which led to the appointment of Mr. C. W. Stowers to the post of Electrical Engineer to the Punjab Government;
- (d) whether in the whole of the Punjab no other electrical engineer was senior to or better qualified than Mr. C. W. Stowers;
- (e) whether a mechanical engineer has ever been appointed to this post before;
- (f) whether it is a fact that an electrical engineer is better qualified than a mechanical engineer for this purpose?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) *Experience and training—*

Crompton & Co., Electrical Engineer, Chelmsford, Essex .. .. .	1914-1915.
War Service incharge of Workshops with Motor Machines, Guns and Armoured Cars on Western front .. .. .	1915—1919.
Engineering Student, Northampton Polytechnic Institute, London. Four years full time day course (Government assisted) in Mechanical Engineering. Awarded Diploma (Highest award) .. .. .	1919—1923.
Cochran & Co. (Annun), Ltd., Boiler makers, Scotland, Service Engineer in London Area .. .. .	1923—1925.
Planters Stores & Agency, Co., Ltd., Calcutta. Manager of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Department .. .. .	1925—1927.
Assistant and Resident Engineer of various Electricity supply undertakings of Messrs. Martin & Co., 12 Mission Row, Calcutta .. .. .	1927—8th December, 1932.

(b) No, though it was preferred that applicant should have been regularly engaged in electrical engineering for at least five years; possess one of the degrees mentioned in Appendix I of the Regulations for appointment of Assistant Executive Engineers and should be Associate Members of the Institution of Electrical Engineers.

(c) Mr. Stowers being senior of the two Executive Electrical Engineers, is, as a purely temporary measure owing to the death of Mr. Milne holding charge of the duties of Electrical Engineer and Electric Inspector to Government, Punjab, in addition to his own duties pending a decision on the question of separating the functions of the Electrical Engineer from that of the Electric Inspector.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A purely mechanical engineer has never been appointed to this post.

(f) Yes, other qualifications being equal.

#### APPOINTMENTS IN HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

**\*4337. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

(a) whether all the appointments made in the Hydro-Electric Department have been made on the merits of the candidates;

(b) whether at the time of appointing Local Managers their qualifications were kept in view or whether they were appointed on communal considerations;



- (c) whether Mr. B. N. Channa, Local Manager, Dhariwal, possesses any engineering qualifications, and whether he received training in any engineering school or college;
- (d) whether a qualified electrical engineer was not available in the Punjab at the time Mr. Channa's appointment was made;
- (e) whether it is a fact that Mr. Channa has recently been granted special leave to proceed to England to obtain some electrical engineering qualifications;
- (f) whether the qualifications and ability of a candidate for a particular post are ascertained before or after his appointment to that post;
- (g) why the appointment of a person who does not possess the requisite qualifications for a gazetted post was made in this case?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes, but exceptions are occasionally made, in the case of Muslims as qualified candidates are not always available in that community.

(b) Qualifications were kept in view.

(c) Mr. Channa received his engineering training at the Central Technological Institute, Bombay, from where he obtained diploma in Mechanical Engineering. At the time of his appointment as Local Manager he had to his credit 4½ years' service as Apprentice Engineer and Sub-Divisional Officer during the construction period.

(d) Mr. Channa was given appointment as he had done good work during the construction period of the scheme and had 4½ years' service in this Branch to his credit and was considered properly qualified.

(e) No.

(f) Before.

(g) Please refer to (d) above.

#### DETENTION OF STUDENTS FROM APPEARING TO UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

**\*4338. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the principals of the Colleges are empowered to detain students from appearing in the Intermediate and B.A. Examinations of the Punjab University in 2nd and 4th year classes, respectively;
- (b) if so, why;
- (c) whether such powers vested in the principals have been properly notified to the students or not;
- (d) the number of students which the principal of each Government College in the province has detained from appearing in the examinations for 1935?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE IN GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, LUDHIANA.

**\*4339. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the teaching of the Political Science in the Government College, Ludhiana, has been discontinued from September, 1934 ;
- (b) whether Government is aware that it caused great inconvenience to the students and parents ;
- (c) how and by whom this subject was started in the College ;
- (d) why permission to teach this subject has been withdrawn now ;
- (e) how much loss the Government has sustained in closing down the class in the above subject ;
- (f) whether this subject is being taught in the Government College, Lahore ;
- (g) if so, why affiliation is not extended in the same subject to the Mofussil College ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) By the Principal, Ludhiana Government College, in anticipation of the Director of Public Instruction's sanction.

(d) The College Inspection Committee advised against it. With regard to this subject the Committee had already advised against it on a reference from Government College, Lyallpur. It is financially impossible at the present time to allow Mofussil colleges to impart teaching in all subjects. The students who had to leave Ludhiana found accommodation in other colleges, including Government College, Lahore.

(e) The loss in fees was trifling.

(f) Yes.

(g) As a result of the expert advice of the Government College Inspection Committee.

## DEAD BODIES IN THE UPPER BARI DOAB CANAL.

**\*4340. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of dead bodies that have been found in the Upper Bari Doab Canal within the jurisdiction of Thana Raiwind, district Lahore, during the last 12 years ;
- (b) the number of dead bodies that were identified ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the police could not get identified as many as 40 dead bodies ;
- (d) whether the Inspector-General of Police took any action to remedy the state of affairs ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) 27.

(b) 1.

(c) No.

(d) The Inspector-General has taken every possible action to ensure the general efficiency of the Police. It is hard to see what special action he could take to secure the identification of corpses found in the canal.

GENERAL ELECTIONS.

**\*4341. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to question No. \*2860,<sup>1</sup> dated 1st March, 1934, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether the Government is now in a position to say when the general election under the new constitution will take place?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** No.

SIMLA EXODUS.

**\*4342. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) whether any instructions have been issued to Heads of Departments required to proceed to Simla to exercise economy in the matter of staff to be taken by them to Simla ;
- (b) whether he will lay a copy of those instructions on the table ;
- (c) whether those instructions are being observed ;
- (d) the economy that has been or is likely to be effected as a result of those instructions ;
- (e) the number of Branches in the Punjab Civil Secretariat ;
- (f) the number of superintendents in each Branch ;
- (g) the number of superintendents who were taken to Simla before the issue of the instructions and the number, after the issue of the same which have been taken to Simla or are proposed to be taken this year ;
- (h) if the number is less, the economy to be effected and the loss to be suffered in work, if any ; if the number of superintendents this year is greater, the justification for deviation from the instructions even in the case of the Civil Secretariat ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) The instructions are unofficial and are repeated yearly. Those for 1931 are laid on the table.

(c) Yes.

(d) It is impossible to say accurately, as many factors of a variable nature have to be considered.

(e) 12.

(f) One.

(g) Ten before the issue of the instructions and eight this year.

(h) The economy effected is less by the difference in hill allowances and travelling allowances of superintendents and higher paid staff as com-

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pared with those drawn by the lower paid establishment taken to Simla in their stead. The actual numbers differ from year to year in accordance with the requirements of administrative departments.

*Instructions.*

Attention is invited to Finance Department unofficial reference No. 599, dated the 18th March, 1931, in connection with the question of curtailing expenditure on the move of Government to Simla. It is requested that this Department may be informed of the action taken both as regards the reduction in the strength of the establishment taken to Simla last season and also as regards the substitution of junior and less paid men for higher paid men.

It is also requested that Finance Department may be favoured with the views of the Administrative Departments as to their minimum requirements in the matter of establishment at Simla and a statement showing the composition of the establishment which it is proposed to take to Simla during 1932.

A very early reply is requested.

MUNICIPAL LIBRARY, LUDHIANA.

**\*4343. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether there is only one municipal library in Ludhiana, which is located in the upper storey of the Town Hall ;
- (b) whether the Committee proposed on 10th December, 1934, by a resolution to open a municipal reading room in a central quarter of the town ;
- (c) whether the Deputy Commissioner, disagreeing with the Committee's resolution, sent it back for reconsideration ;
- (d) whether that resolution of the Committee has been given effect to ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Not yet, as the matter is under consideration.

SIKH REPRESENTATION IN FINANCIAL COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

**\*4344. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of stamp auditors for the courts in the province with their dates of appointment and what is their ratio communitywise ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that not a single post in this cadre is held by a Sikh ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a new post is going to be created in the near future, and that it is contemplated to give it to a community other than the Sikh ; and if so, to what community ;
- (d) whether Government is prepared to redress the just grievances of the Sikh community when the new appointment is made in the near future ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) (i) Four. They were appointed on the following dates :—

11th July, 1930.

1st August, 1930.

30th October, 1931.

27th November, 1934.

(ii) Three Muslims and one Hindu.

(b) Stamp auditors do not constitute a "cadre". These are posts in the Financial Commissioners' Office where, including the stamp auditors, the position is as follows :—

<i>Muslims.</i>	<i>Hindus.</i>	<i>Sikhs.</i>	<i>Others.</i>
41 per cent.	37 per cent.	12 per cent.	10 per cent.

(c) Yes, but the appointment has not been reserved for any particular community.

(d) The honourable member's attention is invited to the replies given to question No. \*3161<sup>1</sup> on the 19th March, 1934, and to question No. \*3528<sup>2</sup> on the 18th October, 1934.

#### PATWARIS.

**\*4345. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state communitywise the total number of—

(i) patwaris *mal*,

(ii) patwaris *nehr*,

recruited from the first of January, 1920, up to date?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### ATTACHMENT OF PAY OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

**\*4346. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state communitywise the number of Government servants in the different departments at Local Government headquarters whose pay is or has been at any time during the last ten years under attachment, stating also the total amount of the said Government employees' debt at present for each community?

**Mr. F. H. Puckle (Chief Secretary) :** I regret that I am unable to give the information asked for, as the time and labour involved in collecting it would be out of all proportion to its value.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXIV, pages 979-80.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, page 368.

## UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIPS.

**\*4347. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*4059,<sup>1</sup> asked on the 25th February, 1935, regarding the Punjab University lectureships, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay the information on the table of the House, if it has been received ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to the reply given to Council question No. \*4059<sup>1</sup>.

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINERSHIP.

**\*4348. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*4060,<sup>2</sup> asked on the 25th February, 1935, regarding the head-examinerships and sub-examinerships for the various examinations of the Punjab University, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay the information on the table of the House, if it has been received ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to the reply to Council question No. \*4060.<sup>2</sup>

## UNIVERSITY FELLOWS.

**\*4349. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) communitywise, the number of—

- (i) elected,
- (ii) official nominated, and
- (iii) non-official nominated,

fellows of the Punjab University ;

(b) when the system of election of fellows was introduced and under what circumstances, and the total number of Muslims who have been returned under this system from the time of its introduction up to date ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

**\*4350. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*4063,<sup>3</sup> dated the 25th February, 1935, regarding A, B, C and D class co-operative societies, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to lay the information on the table of the House, if it has been received ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The honourable member is referred to the reply given to question No. \*4063<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Page 100 ante.

<sup>2</sup>Page 100 ante, and Appendix.

<sup>3</sup>Pages 104—06 ante.

## PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIPS AND DEFENCE LISTS.

**\*4351. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** With reference to question No. \*4065<sup>1</sup>, dated the 25th February, 1985, regarding the public prosecutorships and Defence Lists of Lahore district, will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to lay the information on the table of the House if it has been received ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to question No. \*4812<sup>2</sup> asked by Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan to-day.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

## BHIWANI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**1104. Lala Jyoti Prasad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of complaints against the administration of the Bhiwani Municipal Committee enquired into by the Deputy Commissioner, Hissar, together with the final reports thereon ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret it is not possible to reply the question as it does not specify the period for which the information is required nor the nature of the complaints.

## COPYING DEPARTMENT.

**1105. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Copying Department is a self-supporting agency ;
- (b) the net saving to the Government from the Copying Department ;
- (c) the income and expenditure of the Copying Department ;
- (d) the total number of copyists ;
- (e) the average income and expenditure per copyist ;
- (f) what circumstances compelled the Financial Commissioner in fixing their pay at Rs. 25 per mensem. once for ever, without taking into consideration their length of service and without any hope of any rise in the future ;
- (g) what measures the Government is likely to adopt after the proposed reduction in the number of copyists, taking into consideration, their ages and length of service to Government ;
- (h) whether this reduction will not add to unemployment in the Punjab ;
- (i) what number of copyists will be brought under reduction ;
- (j) whether the present system of advance is considered to be beneficial to the Department and the litigants and its effect on the income and expenditure of the Department ?

<sup>1</sup>Page 107 ante.

<sup>2</sup>Page 606 ante.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a), (b) and (c) Attention is invited to the reply given to question No. \*85731.

(d) Six hundred and twenty one.

(e) Income Rs. 972 per annum and expenditure Rs. 968 per annum.

(f) to (i) The reorganization of the Copying Agency is receiving the attention of the Financial Commissioner, and no orders will be passed without considering all the bearings of the problem.

(j) The system is under consideration and Government are not yet in a position to give expression to any views on it.

#### MUSLIMS IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES.

**1106. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) the total number of posts of superintendents and assistant superintendents of deputy commissioners' offices in the Punjab ;

(b) the number of posts held by Hindus, Sikhs, Christians and Muslims community-wise ;

(c) the reasons for the paucity of Muslims in this important ministerial post ;

(d) the steps that the Government contemplates to ensure the proper representation of Muslims in this branch ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the required information as given on pages 11-14 of the consolidated statement showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government as it stood on the 1st January, 1935.

(c) and (d) These appointments are made by selection of the most suitable candidate available and not on communal considerations.

#### EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY WITH MR. PRESIDENT ON THE DEATH OF LADY SHAHAB-UD-DIN.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : May I convey to you the deep sympathy of the whole House in your sad bereavement ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : On behalf of my colleagues and myself I express our deep sense of sorrow and sincere sympathy with you in your bereavement.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General) : On behalf of the members of my party I join the Honourable Finance Member and the Honourable Minister in conveying to you the deep sympathy of my party. The grief is inconsolable and the loss irreparable.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South East Rohtak, non-Muhammadian, Rural) : On behalf of the National Unionist Party, I associate myself whole-heartedly with the expression of sympathy by the Leader of the House in your irreparable loss.



**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh** (Multan division and Sheikhpura, Sikh, Rural): On behalf of the Sikh party it is with a sad heart and a sorrowful mind that I associate myself with each and every word that has fallen from the lips of the previous speakers. The only thing which I wish to add is that it is our prayer that Almighty God may grant you sufficient strength to bear this terrible, though undeserved, blow.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated, non-official): On behalf of my community I also join the previous speakers in expressing our heartfelt sympathy on your sad bereavement.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural): On behalf of the members on this side I also join in expressing our heartfelt sympathy to you, Sir, on this sad bereavement.

**Mr. President**: Ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply grateful to you for the sympathy you have been pleased to express in my great bereavement.

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

### INDUSTRIES.

#### *Development of Industries.*

**Mr. President**: The Council will now resume discussion of the demand for grant for Industries.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang** (Minister for Local Self-Government): When the Council rose the other day I was trying to point out what steps had been taken by the Punjab Government in the Industries Department for establishing industries in the rural areas, and I referred to various schemes which had been set on foot in the rural areas. I need not go into the details, but I shall just mention the various heads under which so far action has been taken by the Punjab Government and under which action is proposed to be taken to help the rural areas in industrial matters. I believe I pointed out that we had a textile inspector who went about from place to place helping the weavers in the mofussil. I also referred to the tanning party which went about from place to place instructing tanners of the villages in improved methods of tanning. I also referred to two other peripatetic parties, one which is working in Haiderabad in the Mianwali district and the other which is working in the Hissar district and trying to teach the weavers in those ilaqs improved methods of weaving and spinning wool which is found in fairly large quantities in those areas. I may also here refer to the appointment of an oil expert whose appointment was recently sanctioned, and that oil expert has been going about in rural areas pointing out the great loss which is suffered by the indigenous oil men in extracting oil from the seeds and making suggestions for improvement. When the appointment of the oil expert was being considered, it was pointed out that even if he could raise the percentage of extraction by a fraction it would put several additional lakhs in the pockets of the Punjab people engaged in the oil industry.

In addition to this, attention is being directed to gut making. People who are interested in sports, particularly in tennis, would know how successfully this industry has been developed in Sialkot by the enterprising

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sports firms there. Gut is an important ingredient used by them, and steps are being taken to improve the manufacture of gut by the people who are engaged in this industry. So much credit is due to manufacturers of sports in Sialkot that it is a well known fact that they export large quantities of their produce to foreign countries including several countries of Europe, and I do not know how far this is correct, but I should like this impression to be removed if it is wrong that some of the articles made at Sialkot are sent abroad and are returned as made in this country or that country of Europe with a stamp placed on them, thereby raising the price of that very article several times. If this impression is wrong it should be corrected by those who are in a position to correct it. But it is a compliment to the manufacturers at Sialkot who employ so many people from rural areas in their industries that their goods are appropriated or misappropriated by some manufacturers outside India. I am now informed by my friend behind me, and I wish to make it clear here, that racket frames are sent to Europe. They are strung and finished there and returned to India with the stamp of the European firms. If that is so, and it is clearly stated that that is so, then there is no fraud, but still it is a compliment to those who make the frames here as they are adopted by European firms as their own.

Then recently we have turned our attention to sericulture. That is one of the suggestions made by several speakers. There was a time when sericulture was taken in hand by the Agricultural Department, but owing to various reasons no headway could be made with it. A short time ago the Minister for Agriculture and I came to an agreement with the concurrence of the rest of Government that sericulture should be transferred to the Department of Industries, and I expect that in the near future we shall be able to show some tangible results in the domain of sericulture as well.

Then there is another matter to which the attention of the rural people should be drawn, that is, to brush making out of bristles. Those who have no objection to this work will find it profitable and make a decent living out of it. Then we are also turning our attention to another important matter very well suited to the rural people, and that is dairy farming which includes cheese-making to which reference was made by Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram. Then there is another industry to which attention of the rural people can be easily drawn and to which rural people can take with advantage, and that is dyeing and printing. They have only to buy some stencils and dyes. After they have acquired a little proficiency and have some dyes they can dye ordinary cloth and print it in various designs and various colours. There is another industry to which some attention has already been paid, and which deserves the attention of all those who are interested in industry, and that is lac making. In the Hoshiarpur district something has been done, but I believe there are various parts of the province where this industry can be developed. We have already introduced basket making, another matter to which Chaudhri Chhotu Ram was pleased to refer. In fact we have started this work in Rawalpindi. By baskets is not only meant baskets in which coolies carry mud. There are baskets and baskets. One basket may bring only 2 annas, another may bring Rs. 5; it depends on how artistically it is made and how fine material it is made of. We have chosen Rawalpindi as the proper place for it because they are made

of willow and willow can be more easily imported from Kashmir to Rawalpindi by lorries and by other means, and if it is imported in some other place, the freight would be prohibitive. This basket work will also include tables and chairs made of wicker work, and they furnish very good furniture and will command good prices in the market.

There is another very valuable and profitable industry to which attention is being drawn, that is lace making. The *sari* is now being adopted as the favourite dress by ladies of all communities, and to embellish the *saris* ladies like to have beautiful borders on them. These borders are made of lace and very good lace can be made on a simple loom which costs only a few hundred rupees, and the lace produced on this can command very ready and profitable sale in the market. This is an industry which many people will take to in the country side. We have a class in Amritsar where instruction in superior lace making is already being given. Another industry to which rural people should pay their attention and in which Government will be able to help them, is the preservation of fruits and vegetables. Fruit is now plentiful in the Punjab, but it does not fetch the price which it really can if properly handled. If fresh fruit can be brought from California to Indian fruit market, there is no reason why Indian fruit-growers should not avail themselves of the facilities that they have in this country and make much more out of the fruit that they grow than they are making at present. Vegetables also can be preserved, and a tin of preserved vegetables will bring much more than the same amount of raw vegetables. Along with this is the allied industry of making chutneys, jams and jellies, and it is a very profitable one. One gentleman in the Punjab, I know, has made lakhs out of jams and chutneys. He started with very humble resources, but he has now amassed lakhs, and has very extensive and valuable property, all made through making jams and chutneys. Then there is another industry to which we have directed our attention, and that is the manufacture of agricultural and household implements. We have specialised this industry in Lyallpur as it is situated in the heart of the colony where agricultural implements and household implements of a simple kind can find a ready sale.

There is another industry to which attention can be drawn, and that is utensil making. Most of us depend upon Muradabad for our *thals* and tumblers and *kaulis*. There is no reason why this industry should not be set up in the Punjab. This can be easily set up in rural areas. There is another industry to which very little attention has so far been given, and that is glue making. Glue is a very important article in the manufacture of various things, particularly bats and rackets. Up to now there was only one place in the Punjab where the chamars had some proficiency in making glue. Of course they had been keeping it a great secret. But the Industries Department has discovered the secret, and is now imparting it to whomsoever would like to have it and would like to set up glue industry. I do not propose to weary the House by enumerating all these industries. In short, I may say that there are any number of other industries which can be taken up by rural people with great advantage to themselves. I can assure my rural friends that every possible assistance will be given to those who want to set up any of these industries in rural areas. All the information in the possession of the Industries Department will be placed at the disposal of any one who wants

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to have it. Small loans will also be given within reasonable limits to rural people who want to set up these industries, if of course proper security as required by the rules is forthcoming.

From this short survey it will appear that Government in the Department of Industries has not been sleeping over the question of industries which concern rural people. A good deal has been done though much more yet remains to be done. The will is there, the sympathy is there, and Government will extend its helping hand to any one who wants assistance in setting up rural industries.

The other day I was submitting that so far as laying down a programme for five years or more was concerned two important items in that programme had already been taken up. One was the specialisation of schools. On this point I may draw the attention of honourable members that specialisation has already been effected in a considerable number of schools run by the Department of Industries. For instance, the Kulu Industrial School specialises in wool spinning and weaving because that is the *ilaqa* where good wool can be had in fairly large quantities. The Gujranwala School is specialising in small tools from the 1st of April 1934. The Jhang School is specialising in lock-making. It is a very big industry and people who learn lock-making in that school can be sure of earning a decent living with the aid of this industry. One of our institutes is preparing a machine with which a large number of locks can be prepared in a lot, and one can afford to sell a lock at one anna each. These locks can be manufactured in thousands, and though they may not be strong enough for locking big rooms they will be good enough for small boxes and things of that kind. The Kasur School is specialising in leather goods, making suit cases, shoes and boots. Ludhiana which is the home of hosiery industry is specialising in repairing and building hosiery machines. There are hundreds of them run as cottage industries, and there are some run with power. It is necessary that there should be expert builders and repairers of hosiery machines, and that demand has been supplied by the conversion of the ordinary Industrial School at Ludhiana into one for the building and repairing of hosiery machines. The Rawalpindi School, as I already mentioned, has been specialising in basket making and such other articles of furniture. The Ambala Metal Works Institute has specialised in building small engines and pumps which can be run with crude oil. If that industry is developed, small engines, say, of one horse-power or two or three horse-power can be made easily available within the means of the rural people so that they may be able to increase their supply of water from ordinary wells several times at a very small cost, by using crude oil. The Metal Works Institute at Sialkot has specialised in making small machinery, for instance, for extracting *badam* oil or for making *sevian* the favourite dish of all on festive occasions. This institute also manufactures locks and other small machinery. In Jullundur the Institute has been turned into wood-work institute. The Lahore Technical School is going to specialise in various things such as toy making, electro-plating and other things for which electric power is necessary. This is the first step.

The second step, as I said, is the provision of finance. For that purpose a Bill has been prepared and is now under the consideration of Government. If this Bill is approved by the Government and also passed by the Council

it will give a great impetus to the development of industry in the province as under the provisions of this Bill Government will be able to aid an industry in various ways, for instance by the grant of loans, by the taking of shares and debentures which may be issued by the industry concerned, by the grant of land and raw material, firewood, water or any other material at the disposal of the local Government, payment of subsidy for the conduct of research or supply of machinery on hire-purchase system, guarantee of a minimum return on the whole or part of the capital invested in a public limited concern. These are the various ways in which it is practicable to give help to those who want to set up small industries. State aid may be granted to nascent industries, not for the multiplication of an existing industry. Consequently the industry should be newly established in an area where such industry is undeveloped. That will bring in rural areas immediately within the scope of this Bill. Surely a cottage industry does not necessarily mean an industry run in a village. It may be run in a town. It simply means an industry for which no great power, mechanical power, is required. State aid will be given to an industry which needs revival or development on modern methods. This will meet with the wishes of some honourable members who want a commission to be appointed to find out what industries have gone into disuse, and to find out means for their revival. So far as possible all important matters relating to the development or revival of industry considered necessary have been embodied in the Bill. That Bill is now under the examination of Government, and it is possible that at some near session of the Council it may be brought forward. It will then be open to the House to modify it or improve it as may be considered necessary for the development of industries whether in urban or rural areas.

In this connection I must point out one essential thing, and that is that it is almost impossible to help industries out of the revenues of the province, because our indispensable requirements are so numerous and so great and so urgent that it is well-nigh impossible to set aside any considerable part of our revenues for the development of industries. I would not raise any controversial point now which may cause any kind of unrest in any quarter, but it has been several times felt by people both in this House and outside that whereas for ordinary education a grant of 161 lakhs has been made, for industrial education only a few lakhs have been provided. It is, however, a very important question. I do not suggest that any reduction should be made in the grant for general education nor that a part of that grant should be diverted to industrial education. I myself believe that general education is very necessary. But unless some other means can be found to supplement the small grant for industrial education it is almost idle to talk of any very great advance being made for industrial education or for industrial development. In this connection I have got a suggestion to make. I do not want to be understood when I make this suggestion that I am speaking on behalf of Government. It is purely my own personal view, and I am individually responsible for that view. I feel that the only effective and expeditious way of developing industry in this province is to raise a big development loan, say, of a crore of rupees or two crores of rupees, and then give aid on the lines outlined in the Bill to which I have just referred to special industries which may be approved by Government and set up

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by concerns which command the confidence of Government. If that cannot be done, then there is only one alternative, and that is that a certain part of the revenues should be set aside for guaranteeing interest on the investments made by any industrial concern. Even if 3 per cent. is guaranteed to the shareholders of any industrial concern there would be plenty of capital forthcoming. I know that such a procedure would be attended with many risks of loss and the danger of money being wasted, but what I feel is this that no industry can be developed and nothing worth doing can be done unless people are prepared to run risks. If private individuals can be found, say, 40, 50 or 500 who are prepared to risk their money, say, to the extent of one crore of rupees, Government should not be chary of risking 3 lakhs of rupees a year to guarantee a return of 3 per cent. on that aggregate of one crore of rupees which the people of the province would risk for the development of industry. I cannot, however, commit the Government ; I have no power to commit the Government. I am only pointing out the

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various alternative methods by which industries can be developed. I am very glad that the honourable members of this House are now developing a real industrial mentality, and are feeling so keenly the absence of well organised industry in this province. They have realised, and I am glad that they have done so, that without industrial development no progress or prosperity can be in sight. I am referring to these matters simply as suggestions. It is for the honourable members of this House to consider them and to adopt means which may be necessary for seeing those suggestions accepted and these proposals materialised. But unless something of this sort, something bold, is done, nothing great or considerable can be achieved. While I am referring in this respect to what the Government may possibly do, I should also make a suggestion for the industrially and commercially minded people. There are various banks in this province as there are in other provinces, but there is hardly any which is either willing or is in a position to finance industry. The difficulty is that the depositors in these ordinary banks deposit their money for short periods. Owing to financial stringency in the days which followed the banking crisis of 1913 banks adopted the practice of receiving short term deposits for 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 months, and so on, with the result that the banks cannot have the courage to make long term investments, and unless the banks are prepared to make long term investments it is idle to look to the banks for financial assistance for industries. In the case of industries you cannot get any return for the first year ; you cannot always get any return for the next year ; you cannot sometimes get any return for 3 or 4 years ; and yet after the industry has been in existence for four years you may reap a good harvest. This means that people should either contribute from their own pockets if they have the money or they should have financiers who could wait for the return of the money and this cannot be expected from the ordinary banks that are carrying on banking business in this province. There is hardly any industrial bank in this province, though one or two banks might have gone by that name. Then again depositors naturally want as big a return on their deposits as possible. There was a time only about two years ago when private depositors would not lend their money for less than 5 or 6 per cent. and big depositors even wanted half a per cent. more and charitable

institutions like colleges and orphanages wanted particularly high rates of interest. Banks which have to pay 6 per cent. to their depositors must charge at least 9 per cent. to those to whom they lend money and no industry can flourish if it is to pay 9 per cent. Before any industry can flourish the rate of interest should be very considerably reduced. In fact 3 to 4 per cent. is the highest rate compatible with the successful running of industry in this province. In these days when the rate of interest is so low and money from one point of view is rather cheap, the rate of interest charged to the industrialists has no doubt been reduced because the rate on deposits has also been reduced; but that may be a temporary phase. Those who are interested in industry and commerce and those who understand the economic condition of the country and who may well be looked upon as authorities on economic subjects should really take up this matter, and see whether some industrial banks cannot be established in this province, and when those banks are established in this province I think the Government will also have some duty to do towards them, and I feel that Government will not be found wanting when the time comes and when a really well thought-out and sound proposal is put up before them.

One suggestion was made that Government should run model factories or demonstration factories. There is no doubt there is force in this suggestion and from what I hear about Japan the Japanese Government has been doing a great deal in this direction. They have been starting industries and after they have proved a success they have been transferred to private enterprise, because otherwise private people would not be ready to take risks. But I am afraid that the Government of Punjab has not been very fortunate in this respect. Reference has already been made to Sonapat factory to which the Punjab Government contributed two lakhs. Some reference, I believe, was also made to the tannery at Shahdara which cost about 3 to 4 lakhs and proved a failure. I shall not go into the causes of the failure of that industry, but the fact remains that it proved a failure, and it had to be sold at only a fraction of the cost which had been incurred in setting it up. Therefore Government is naturally shy of starting industries or factories of its own. No doubt the Shahdara demonstration factory which was running at a loss for so many years is now showing some profit, and in this connection I must take the opportunity of paying a tribute to our Director whose close attention and industry and considerable knowledge of business have contributed to the comparative success of the Shahdara Demonstration Weaving Factory. But that is only an exception. On the whole I think that in this province or in any other province of India these experiments will not prove a great success. So far as Japan is concerned, I do not want to run down my own country, but there are differences between the methods people adopt in Japan and people adopt in this country. There it is not necessary to appoint a supervisor or a mate on the workmen. Every workman knows his duty and knows that he must earn his wages and must put in the regular amount of work, overseer or no overseer; but here we have the experience of our own men. This curse of *hooka* and other idling habits have done a great harm to the morale of our people and unless they are closely supervised, they do not put in the necessary amount of work. This is only one instance, and you can draw your own conclusions as to how the same methods as are adopted in Japan cannot be adopted here. There is

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another system in Japan. For instance, take the case of hosiery. Machines are made over to the cottage worker. He works on it and at stated periods the collector comes and takes away the finished articles and makes the payment. You may imagine what would happen if we distributed a thousand knitting machines in our province, whether the raw material we give them will be returned to us and whether even the machines that we make over to them will ever come back to us. I need not dilate on this point. (*Inter-ruption*). Perhaps we have to go to courts and obtain decrees for the return of the machines. Of course circumstances differ in the two countries, and the methods which have succeeded in Japan cannot for various reasons, economic and moral, necessarily succeed in this province. (*An honourable member*: Climatic conditions). Yes there is difference in climatic conditions also. I may assure this House that so far as I am concerned, I have not been idle. I have been realising the great importance of developing industry, and with the small means at my disposal I have been putting forth my humble efforts and doing all that is possible under the circumstances. I am very glad to learn that the Government of India has sanctioned a crore of rupees for rural uplift and for the development of rural industries, and I am glad that you have suggested that a demand should be made for a portion of that money for the development of rural industries. I shall certainly keep this demand of honourable members in view, and shall make a claim for a decent portion of this amount for the development of industries, and I assure the House that if I get that money a major portion of it will be used for the development of industries in rural areas.

Before I sit down I must say a word or two about the various cuts which have been moved by the honourable members of this House. The first was that by my honourable friend the nominated member from Muzaffargarh, Khan Bahadur Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani. He bewailed the lot of this country which had to look to Lancashire for a winding sheet. I did say a few words about this, and I need not repeat them now. I am sure that he need not look to Japan or Lancashire now for a winding sheet or for even his wearing apparel. He can have plenty of these even in his province with its unadvanced industries. He emphasised that a committee should be appointed to go into this question. I believe his cut related to the appointment of a committee. I have no hesitation in assuring him that a committee will be appointed. But what that committee would be I just want to explain. Even at the present moment we have two committees functioning in connection with industries. One is the standing committee on industries whose present members besides myself are:—

Mr. F. C. Bourne, I.C.S.

Rai Sahib Lala Labh Chand Mehra.

Mr. Muhammad Din Malak.

Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah.

Mr. Mukand Lal Puri.

Rai Bahadur Mr. P. Mukerji.

I believe that most of these gentlemen are interested in the development of industry, and are to a very great extent competent also to advise on



the means for the development of industry. (*Sardar Arjun Singh*: Have they ever met?) Yes, they meet occasionally; but there ought to be some matter which can be placed before them. I cannot ask them to meet again and again without any business. Before one can put a mill in motion there must be grist for it. There must be some corn to grind. Then there is the Joint Development Board which consists of the following members:—

*Representatives of industrial interests.*

The Honourable Rai Bahadur Ram Saran Das, C.I.E., of Lahore.

Sir Daya Kishan Kaul, K.B.E., C.I.E., D.B., of Lahore.

Rai Bahadur Panna Lal, Proprietor, Upper India Glass Works, Ambala City.

Shaikh Sadiq Hasan, M.L.A., of Amritsar.

Mr. Maha Narain of Ganesh Flour Mills, Lyallpur.

Lala Balak Ram, Bar.-at-Law, son of our late revered friend, Sir Ganga Ram.

Khan Sahib Chaudhri Fateh Sher Khan of Lahore—I believe he is interested in cigarette industry.

*Representatives of commercial interests.*

Lala Harikishan Lal, Bar.-at-Law, of Lahore.

Mr. J. W. Campbell, Proprietor of the firm of Messrs. Smith and Campbell, Chemists, Lahore.

J. C. F. Davidson of Messrs. Bird and Company, Lahore.

Lala Moti Ram Mehra of Amritsar.

*Representatives of agricultural interests.*

Mr. W. Roberts, British Cotton Growing Association, Khanewal, our honourable member here.

Colonel Cole, Coleyana Estate, Montgomery.

Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath of Lahore.

Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan, Bar.-at-Law, Lahore.

Sardar Gurbachan Singh, Rais of Alawalpur, district Jullundur.

Khan Bahadur Nawab Fazl Ali, M.L.C., M.B.E., of Gujrat.

Sardar Bishan Singh, M.L.C., of Singhpur.

I have read out to you a list of 18 names. I would be very grateful indeed if even now interrupting me, any honourable member could point out the names which could profitably be added to this list. We have tried our best to include in our list gentlemen who are interested in industry and in commerce, the best representatives of each group.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon**: Have you got Sadiq?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang**: His brother is there. I really cannot for a moment think of another name which can be added. If these names have not satisfied my honourable friend from Muzaffargarh, I shall be very pleased to add any other name that he may suggest, and

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I am prepared to go further and say that a special committee of these gentlemen would be appointed for the particular purpose of laying down a programme, as he wants it, a five years' programme. In fact we are proceeding more or less on a programme, and I can supply him with literature which can show him the various steps taken by the Joint Development Board for development of various industries. Of course the Joint Development Board is not a capitalist body, it has no money, it is only a body of men who understand business and industry and commerce and can only give advice, and I believe their advice, and my honourable friend the Minister of Agriculture would bear testimony, has been useful in many directions, and their suggestions have been carried out in various directions.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** May I know how many times this board has met during the last four or five years ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Might have met a dozen times during the last four or five years. Either the whole board or its executive committee and its special committees have been meeting from time to time. Meeting every day does not mean anything. It is not a meeting for exchanging social amenities. Supposing they sit down and say alright we want something to be done for oil. Then all the information that is available is collected before they can take the next step and before they meet to consider the next step. The result is that the information is collected and an examination of that information made, and it is made plain that an oil expert can be appointed in the province who would by his expert advice add several lakhs to the wealth of the province, and it was as a result of their proceedings that an oil expert was appointed.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** This is the only thing that this board has done.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I have given one instance, but I can give other instances. They have done a great deal in sugar, in weaving. They had a special sub-committee on pottery, designs and various other things. These have occurred to me on the spur of the moment.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** And release of credit.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Yes, several meetings were held on the question of release of credit, and my honourable friend would appreciate the spirit in which my honourable friend Mr. Manohar Lal has interjected this remark. But I must say that this was necessary, and it was not an instance of labour lost. Representatives of various interests made two or three attempts and discussed the most pressing problem of credit restriction and credit release and the very important question in connection with the development of industry and commerce. Then Mian Nur-ullah made a motion to urge the appointment of a committee to inquire into old established industries. That was more or less a similar one. Then Sardar Jawahar Singh moved a cut that industries should be started in the province. He probably assumed that there were no industries in the province at all and a start should be made. I understand all that he meant was that something more should be done for the development of industry

and I have nothing particular to say about this motion. Then Sardar Habib Ullah moved a cut to urge the necessity of introducing cottage industries in the country, and I have said all that I could say, and I feel sure that he will agree with me that we have not been entirely ignoring this question. Then Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram moved a cut to urge the development of cottage industries in rural areas. It is practically a similar matter. Then Sardar Bahadur Buta Singh also moved a cut to draw the attention of the Government towards the greater industrial development of the province. These various motions more or less are alike, and what I have said would apply to almost all of them. I am, however, very grateful to Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram for the concrete suggestions that he made, but I am sure he must have been gratified to learn that most of them have already been included in our programme and we are paying special attention to them as far as possible. Then Sardar Bahadur Buta Singh particularly referred to the necessity of having a permanent exhibition or trade museum in this province. In this he supported Sardar Habib Ullah, and I am sure Government will give due consideration to this suggestion. There were some remarks made by my honourable friend Mr. Mukand Lal Puri about which I must say a few words. He put me a point blank question: "What have you done," he asked, "during the last four or five years?" Well I have told you what has been done during the last four years during which I have held this portfolio. I do not want to institute any comparison, but the history of the past is available to every honourable member who may look into it. I do not want to institute any comparisons, and I do not claim any credit except that the will has been there, the sympathy has been there and it is not that the heart was not there. (*Laughter*).

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** And now the words are there.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Words go a long way. He also referred to Sonpat and Shahdara. I have already made some remarks about them. He then pointed out the necessity of protection against Japan and Germany. I entirely agree with him that in the infant state of our industry it is necessary that we should have protection, but that is not within my power.

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani :** Can you not move? Your Government can move.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Our Government has representatives there and the Tariff Board has been appointed to go into this question. At any rate that is not a matter with which the Punjab Government can deal, and my revered friend Raja Narendra Nath was perfectly right when he pointed out that many of the things which the honourable members of this House suggested had really no concern with the Punjab Government but were the concern of the Central Government. Then he referred to the establishment of pioneer factories. I have already explained to you how difficult it is for the Government itself to start pioneer industries because of the fate of one or two industries which were started by the Punjab Government and which proved a failure. I am sure you will not advise the Punjab Government to subscribe ten lakhs for another concern. The honourable member also referred to the necessity of survey. Therein he betrayed his ignorance of what had been done by the Industries

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Department. He did not seem to know that there were industrial surveyors in the Industries Department whose main business was to collect information and to make industrial survey of the whole province which they had done and to which they are adding, from month to month and from year to year. Then he referred to inland trade statistics. He probably remembers that when I was speaking many years ago from the opposite benches, I myself drew attention of the Government to this matter and the then Finance Member, Sir John Maynard, pointed out to me that there was an arrangement for publishing inland trade statistics, but some honourable members of this House had objected to the publication of these statistics as unnecessary expenditure of money. I do not know but probably it was some misguided rural member whose zeal for economy—

**Shaikh Abdul Ghani :** Why rural member ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Or any other member whose zeal for economy ran away with his zeal for development of industries in the province and the collection of information. But now something is being done by the Government of India and, if I am not mistaken, Dr. Meeks is bringing out a monthly journal giving the necessary statistics and the movement of trade from province to province. Mr. Puri also emphasized the necessity of having an unemployment bureau. Well, I do not know what purpose an unemployment bureau will serve. I would rather have an employment bureau, but in any case certainly stock should be taken of the people who are qualified and cannot get decent jobs. Government will certainly afford such help as it can. I am much obliged to Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh for his very valuable suggestions and also to other members, and I assure them that their suggestions will be properly considered. Mr. Sadiq who is interested in weaving referred to the introduction of jacquard machines. I assure him that we have introduced these machines in various schools, and he will be glad to learn that they are turning out very good work indeed. Some of the honourable members might have seen some of these machines placed in the Exhibition here and turning out cotton and silk things most beautifully designed and like indigenous *kheses* and *lungis* and also woollen stuff of beautiful patterns. Before I conclude I want to assure the honourable members of this House once more that all that has been suggested will be kept in view, and that all that is possible is being done and all that is possible will be done. I am now waiting for this Bill to come before this House and for it to go through before any further step can be taken in this direction (*cheers*).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President :** The question is :—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 100.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President :** The question is :—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President :** The question is :—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President :** The question is :—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President :** The question is :—

That the total grant be reduced by Rs. 1.

*The motion was carried.*

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I wish to know whether these motions could be voted upon. Their object was to discuss and the matter having been discussed, can votes be taken on the motions?

**Mr. President :** Yes. The question is :—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,79,395 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Industries.

*The motion was carried.*

#### AGRICULTURE.

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

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,44,200 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, 1936, in respect of Agriculture (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,44,200 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, 1936, in respect of Agriculture (Transferred).

#### *Agricultural farm and nursery in Muzaffargarh district.*

**Khan Bahadur Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani (Non-official, nominated) (Urdu) :** I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup> That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,51,400, total Agricultural Stations.

I have moved this cut in order to impress upon the Government the desirability of establishing an agricultural farm and nursery in Muzaffargarh district. I raised this question once before in 1933 and I was assured by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that they had been considering the question of opening a farm in Muzaffargarh district since 1927 and that they would try to establish the farm as soon as they could get suitable land. The difficulty of the department was that they could not get land in Muzaffargarh at a reasonable price. To overcome this difficulty I offered the Agriculture Department a portion of my land on lease but it seems that the assurance given by the Honourable Minister had no practical significance. I need not relate the mournful story of sufferings of the poor people

<sup>1</sup>To urge the opening of an agricultural farm and nursery in Muzaffargarh district.

[K. B. Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani.]  
 of Muzaffargarh because the poverty of Muzaffargarh is proverbial and the miserable plight of the people of the district is too well known to be repeated. Whenever the Government is asked to improve the existing sorrowful condition of the people it is said that nature is against Muzaffargarh and no measures, howsoever strong, can completely remove the distress of the people because the disabilities caused by nature cannot be overpowered. This is not the fact. The nature there, is very merciful, but the genius of the Government is rusted. The five rivers of the Punjab and the mighty Indus pass through Muzaffargarh district. The water level is not very low. Nature has given more favourable irrigation facilities to Muzaffargarh than to many other parts of the province. The soil is fertile and most suitable for fruit growing. Muzaffargarh produces excellent quality of mangoes and pomegranates. The citrus fruits grown in Muzaffargarh district are in no way inferior to those grown in other parts of the province, while dates are a speciality of Muzaffargarh. The people are poverty-stricken and are not in a position to take up gardening on extensive scale without Government aid. If the Government extends a helping hand, Muzaffargarh can be transformed into an orchard of the Punjab. If the Agriculture Department can establish a fruit farm and nursery in Muzaffargarh and supply acclimatised plants to the agriculturists and benefits of expert advice and other facilities are provided, I am sure, the poverty of the district can be removed and the district can be brought on a level with other prosperous districts before very long. If the department supplies fruit plants to the people at its cost price without charging any profits, and the price is recovered in instalments land owners will be encouraged to put up large gardens. As I have already said irrigation facilities are not wanting and the district has a sufficient number of wells which can be supplemented if necessary. Labour is cheap, climatic conditions are favourable and the soil is most suitable for fruit growing. The money spent for this purpose will be of a remunerative nature because it will bring increased revenue to the Government. This is a profitable investment and the Government should not grudge such expenditure. This House and the Government have given repeated assurances to extend a helping hand to improve the conditions in Muzaffargarh, on many occasions, and I hope they will give a practical proof of their sympathy and good will by supporting this practical suggestion which will go a long way to ameliorate the pitiable condition of the Muzaffargarh people.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,51,400— Total Agricultural Stations.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): I am glad to say that the department has already anticipated the wishes of the mover of this cut and it has been decided to establish a nursery at Muzaffargarh. In view of what I have said, I hope the honourable member will withdraw his cut motion.

**Khem Bahadur Mian Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani (Urdu) :** I am very glad to learn from the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that the Government is contemplating to open a nursery farm in the Muzaffargarh district in the near future. I, however, hope that the matter will be expedited and the nursery farm will be established there as soon as possible. In view of

the information given by the Honourable Minister I do not propose to press my cut-motion and I accordingly beg leave to withdraw it.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

### *Abolition of Boring fees.*

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I beg to move—

\* That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,42,000, Boring Operations—Voted.

In moving this cut it is not my intention to minimise in any way the importance of the Agricultural Department or even to find fault with its working. I admit, on the other hand, that the department has proved and is proving very useful for promoting the interests of the zamindars. What I want to point out here is simply this that the fee that is charged from the zamindars for boring wells for them is too heavy to be borne by them. It even exceeds the fee that a private engineer will charge for the same work. I have, therefore, sought this opportunity to request the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and the Honourable Finance Member to arrange to bring down these fees within the paying capacity of the zamindars so that this branch of the department to which the work of boring wells has been entrusted, may prove more useful. It would be still better if boring is done free of charge by the department as was the practice in the beginning, because the present pitiable condition of the zamindars and the usefulness of the work so demand it. I think the House will better appreciate my request if I explain in brief the work that this branch of the Agricultural Department has been doing or it has to do. It has to do three different kinds of duties in this connection. In the first place the officers of this branch test the land where a zamindar desires that a well should be sunk for him and after testing they tell the zamindar concerned whether the land is fit for a well being sunk there or not. If the land is found fit for a well then boring is done and if it is found that a piece of hard soil is resisting the progress of boring, then further boring is done by filter. This is all very good and very useful, but the fee that is charged for it is very heavy as I have already said and the zamindars find it difficult to pay it although they desire very much to avail themselves of the services of the officers of the Government for the sinking of wells.

The charges for boring has increased to such an extent that it has become impossible for the zamindars to meet them. The Government has fixed the rates for boring at 12 annas a foot. These are very high charges and if the zamindars care to get the boring work done privately they will have only to pay for the tube well something like Rs. 75 or at the most Rs. 100. But according to the 12 annas per foot rate the charges far exceed Rs. 75 or Rs. 100. In addition zamindars have to pay 6 pies per foot as boring allowance. Again, the department charges Rs. 1-8-0 per foot for the tube, while the same tube can be had from the bazar for annas 18 per foot. (*The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh*): But the zamindar can purchase the tube from anywhere they like.) Yes,

\* To urge the abolition of boring fees.

[Ch. Mohd. Abdul Rahman Khan.]

they can purchase the tube from anywhere but their difficulty is that they have got no money with them to pay for it. If they have money with them then they will not depend upon the department's mercy. It is not only in the interest of the zamindars that tube wells should be sunk but it is also beneficial for the Government that they should be sunk. For barani land Government charges very low rates of land revenue but for the well irrigated land they charge something like Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 per acre. The Government charge high rates of land revenue and abiana from the canal irrigated lands because they have first constructed the canals and spent a good deal of money on them. Not only this, but they have also to bear the working expenses of these canals. But on the well irrigated land the Government without spending anything from their own pocket, charge high rates of land revenue. Consequently it would be in the interest of the Government if they help the zamindars in sinking more tube wells. Let the Government give the zamindars facilities for sinking tube wells, for when tube wells are sunk in barani areas the amount of land revenue of the Government from those areas will increase. (*The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan* : But for the first 20 years the Government do not charge anything.) For twenty long years the zamindars continue to pay the loan which is granted by the Government and its interest. I approached the Honourable Minister for Agriculture with a request to lower the charges for sinking tube wells. He promised to reduce them. Then the Director of Agriculture happened to go to my district and I requested him also to do something to reduce these charges. He said that the Financial Commissioners do not give their consent to the reduction of these charges, although he had written to them to do so. I request the Financial Commissioners to agree to the reduction of these charges. In my district in the wells the supply of water has decreased and in many cases they have become absolutely dried up. It is urgently needed that boring operations should be carried on in order to bring those wells into working order. Although for the first twenty years after a tube well is sunk in a certain land, Government do not charge any increased rate of revenue, I may tell the House that in my district although the wells went dry something like twenty years ago the zamindars have paid land revenue according to the high rate for all these twenty years. No concession was given to them for the reason that their lands had become barani. I request the Honourable Revenue Member that he may very kindly see that the land revenue from such lands in which the wells have become dried up, is remitted. The Government charges from barani areas 6 pice or 10 pice per acre but from the well irrigated areas they charge no less than Rs. 5 per acre. If the Government would help the zamindars in increasing water supply of their wells by sinking tube wells in them I think the Government would stand to gain. Sometimes back when the prices of land produce had not fallen Government charged less for sinking tube wells but now when the prices have fallen they have increased their charges for sinking tube wells. It is but reasonable that the fees for sinking tube wells should be lowered so that the zamindars may be able to increase the supply of water in their wells.

Notwithstanding all that I have said I am grateful to the department for the useful work it has done in my district. If the Director of Agriculture had not supplied the zamindars in my district with good seed it would have,



become impossible for them to meet the Government demands. But it was very kind of the department to supply us with good seed and also with manure. Maulvi Sahib prevailed upon the zamindars to use the new manure and this resulted in the increase of the yield. In some cases the yield increased four or five times more. The boring allowance of 6 pice per foot which is charged at present should not be charged in future. When the coolies and the mates go to the villages for sinking a tube well they burden the zamindars with the cost of their meals. They also get from the zamindars a house to stay in. The zamindars also have to give them charpais, etc. Even if you order them not to depend upon the zamindars for their meals they will continue to get them from the zamindars. As such the fee for boring should not be charged from the zamindars for in its place they supply the coolies and mates with food. In the cities and towns the coolies and mates take their meals from the shops and no one gives them meals as the zamindars in the villages do. In consideration of this fact that the zamindars give them meals the boring fee should not be charged.

Our agriculturists are generally very conservative in their habits. They never readily adopt a new thing howsoever beneficial it may be. Maulvi Fateh Din once gave three sacks of manure to certain zamindars for use in their fields but they did not use it. Maulvi Sahib is doing all that is in his power to prevail upon the zamindars to use new methods of agriculture. Once he delivered a lecture to explain to the zamindars the advantages of using new manure but none followed his advice. But it is fortunate that Maulvi Sahib has with perseverance succeeded in creating a new spirit amongst the zamindars. He has taken steps to remove all the defects of the old methods of agriculture and has introduced many improvements. If all officers work as zealously as Maulvi Sahib I am sure the condition of the zamindars can improve in no time. We have no complaint against such sincere and diligent officers of the Government. We want that all officers should sincerely try to ameliorate the condition of the zamindars whether they be Englishmen or Indians. We have no racial prejudice against any officer. I may mention that when an Englishman really tries to help the people they become grateful to him for all that he does for them. I may refer here to the good work that has been done by the European Chief Minister of Kapurthala. He has earned a name for himself for the administration of justice in that State. So far as justice and equity are concerned he is a *Nausheroan* of his time. (*An honourable member* : The honourable member is not speaking to the motion now before the House.) In the end I request the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that he may kindly see his way to reduce the charges for boring for in this way the condition of the zamindars will become better and also an increase will be effected in the revenue of the Government.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,42,000, Boring Operations—voted.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) (*Urdu*) : The speeches delivered by Chaudhri Sahib are always very interesting. I always listen to him very attentively. In his speech to-day he urged the abolition of boring fees. I may inform him that the Honourable Finance Member and myself have been considering this matter for the last two or three days. There is no doubt about it, that boring of

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wells is very useful for the agriculturists, more so in areas where the water level of the wells has gone down. Jullundur district is one of such areas where the surface level of water is going down day by day and it is desirable that something should be done to raise the water surface in this district.

Before 1922 the department charged nothing for supervision charges and depreciation of plant, tools, etc. In 1922 a fixed charge of Rs. 50 per well, bored was approved by the Government. But it gave rise to some dissatisfaction because Rs. 50 were charged irrespective of the fact whether the tube sunk was 20 feet or 40 feet. Accordingly in 1928 the fixed charge was replaced by footage charge of 12 annas per foot, subject to a maximum of Rs. 100 for any one bore. Since 1932 this charge is levied on all bores whether successful or unsuccessful. In addition to this overhead charge zamindars also pay other charges. Even after realising footage allowance and these additional charges Government is still subsidizing well boring very heavily. Last year the subsidy amounted to Rs. 2-9-6 per running foot throughout the year. This clearly shows that the Government does not even realise the actual cost of these operations.

Government is aware that since fee for boring wells has been increased boring operations have decreased and as a result the income of the department has also decreased. In the year 1932-33, 80,287 feet of tubes were sunk whereas in the year 1933-34, only 20,939 feet boring was done. This clearly shows that people have been discouraged. I spoke about this matter to the Finance Member and he has promised to consider the revision of these charges. It is hoped that within this year something will be done to encourage well boring. We realise fully the value of boring operations from the point of view of agriculture and are considering the matter favourably. I hope this will satisfy the honourable member and in view of what I have said he will not press his motion.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): This branch of the Agricultural Department is very useful to zamindars especially of those tracts where barani lands are to be found and where it is absolutely necessary that wells should be sunk. These tracts comprise most of the districts of the Ambala division, also Hoshiarpur, Jullundur districts, and some of the districts of the western Punjab such as Mianwali and Campbellpur. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture has said that the reason for the decrease in the income of this branch was that they had been charging rates at so much per foot. I do not think that that is the reason. The reasons in my view are quite different. First of all the rates are very high. Besides the Agricultural Department recovers cost of boring even in cases where it has proved unsuccessful. Also a portion, if not the whole of the cost has to be deposited in advance. Government has effected large retrenchments in this branch of the department. Is it because boring has been done throughout the province and there is no further need for it? Originally there used to be about 100 borers, an equal number of mates and four sub-divisional officers and the necessary clerks and assistants. At present I understand that the staff has been reduced by one-half and that there is a proposal to reduce the strength of the staff still further. It is not clear whether the Government believes that boring operations have been completed throughout the province and

that there is no more need for these operations. The policy of Government seems to be self-contradictory because it is also said that it is going to open a new circle in the Multan division. That is not a part of the province which stands in any great need of boring operations as the Ambala division. (*Inter-ruption.*) Government is very profuse in its expressions of sympathy but when it comes to a question of translating its sympathies into action it is very niggardly. The result of its sympathies is practically nil.

**Mr. President :** To which motion is the honourable member speaking ?

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** On the question of boring operations.

**Mr. President :** The motion relates to the abolition of boring fees.

**An honourable member :** Does the honourable member want that boring fees should be abolished. ?

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** No, I do not want the fees to be abolished, but I want them to be reduced a little.

**Mr. President :** Then the honourable member is opposing the motion.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Anyhow I have said my say and so I resume my seat.

**Mr. E. Mayadas (Nominated non-official) :** The motion before us is to urge the abolition of boring fees. I am not in favour of total abolition, but perhaps it may be possible to make a small reduction. There is one aspect of the case which I want to place before the House to explain why the fees should not be abolished. There are certain private agencies which are also carrying out these boring operations. They are at present doing this work in a very much simpler way and at a very much cheaper rate than the Government borers. If these fees are abolished entirely it will strike a blow at these private agencies who are at present doing very useful work for the public although the quality of the work done is not always equal to that of the work done by Government borers. In view of this it is not desirable to abolish the fees entirely nor will it be necessary to abolish the fees in all districts. I do not mind if these are somewhat lowered in those districts where no private agencies exist for this work. There is still a great need for boring operations in the province and the necessity for such operations is likely to continue for a great many years to come. In fact it would be better if Government can find some means of opening training schools for borers so that these private borers may displace Government borers at least in some of the districts. For this reason I do not support the motion.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan (Urdu) :** The Honourable Minister has been pleased to remark that this business is yielding less income now than it did previously. I should like to suggest a remedy by which the old level of income may be restored. The Government is very fond of appointing honorary officials ; it has appointed so many honorary magistrates throughout the province. Let it get the boring work done honorarily. They may appoint me an honorary boring officer and allot one district to me. — I shall work on contract system with the help of only

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one assistant and I shall show the Government how many wells I bore in one year and at what cheap rates. The present arrangement of the Government does not work well for various reasons. The Government borer spends full one year on one well. Meanwhile he is busy boring pipe wells for other people in return for handsome compensation. He is handsomely paid and his assistant is paid Rs. 45 per mensem. The result is that one has to pay a huge sum for getting a well bored.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** What is the boring fee per well ?

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** One hundred rupees. This is not a small sum taking into consideration the meagre resources of the zamindar.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I shall consult Maulvi Sahib on this point.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** I shall do the boring work honorarily, without any compensation whatever. I shall not claim any credit for the work done by me. I shall ask for no title, no squares of land. I am not in the habit of seeking remuneration for anything from the Government. The Government knows that. One thing more. The system of taking money in advance from those who apply for boring wells should be abandoned. This subjects the zamindars to great hardship. They have to borrow money at high rates of interest in order to remit money in advance. In the end they have to pay back much more than they borrow. If they borrow Rs. 85 they may have to pay back Rs. 3,500 in cash and kind. The Government should stop this practice of asking the zamindars to pay a sum in advance. The Government, of all creditors, has the least chance of losing its money. People repay the Government before repaying to other creditors. They dare not refuse to pay the Government.

I hope the Government will take early steps to redress this grievance of the zamindars. It is high time that a committee is appointed to go into this question. It should not remain shelved for all time to come. I know that many promises are held out when Government officers go on tour or when they rise to speak here in this Council. But actually nothing is done and no promise is ever fulfilled. Let me hope that at least this promise of the Honourable Minister will be fulfilled. With these words, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

#### *Hissar Cattle Farm.*

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South East Rohtak, non-Muhammadian, Rural) : I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup> That the grant be reduced by Rs. 32,900 with respect to the item of Rs. 2,32,900, Hissar Cattle Farm.

The object of this motion is to secure a slight economy in the administration of the Hissar cattle farm. Every department of Government unfortunately has a white elephant of its own. The department of Agriculture has two white elephants, one used to be at Lyallpur in the shape of the wheat elevator. I do not know what has happened to that. The other is in the

<sup>1</sup> To urge economy.

south-east of the Punjab at Hissar in the shape of the cattle farm which is being run on a very extravagant scale of expenditure. Everybody who has any knowledge of that farm is bitter about this extravagance. Three or four years ago a small committee of officials and non-officials was appointed to go into the whole question of expenditure incurred on this farm. It submitted its report to the Government and that report has never seen the light of day. It was never made available to the members of this House. In a way it is very discourteous that a committee principally appointed at the instance of this House has made a report and that report is not published or made available to the members of this House. I will not go into the details because there is another member who knows more about the subject than I do—Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah—who will be able to throw a good deal of light on the subject.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 32,900 with respect to the item of Rs. 2,32,900, Hissar Cattle Farm.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): The Hissar cattle farm is one of the best farms in the whole of India and of direct value to the agriculturists. I know the honourable member who moved the cut is more intimately connected with the cattle breeding than many of us. (*Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :* How is he more intimately connected?) The honourable member is interested only in interruptions. It will not interest him to know how, because he knows almost nothing about it. Chaudhri Chhotu Ram is intimately connected with cattle breeding because in his area the best cattle of the Punjab are bred if not of the whole of India. If he has ever paid a visit to Rohtak and Hissar he ought to be convinced that there is no area in the Punjab where better cattle are bred than in those areas. Chaudhri Chhotu Ram also knows how in his area if rain fails cattle breeding supports the vast population that lives in that area. Chaudhri Chhotu Ram has asked a definite question and I hope I will be able to give him satisfaction. He is right in complaining that a committee was appointed and its report has not yet been made available to the members of this House. I admit freely that it is the right of this House to see the report of the committee which was appointed at its behest and it is also true that we owe to this House to make known to the House the decisions which we have arrived at regarding the recommendations of that committee. The facts are as follows. The report of the committee raised questions which needed further enquiry to determine finally how far the recommendations of this committee could be followed. The matter was discussed very fully about two months ago. Even then certain matters remained undetermined such as the cost of growing fodder. The biggest item in this farm is the cost of growing fodder and the methods of growing fodder. It was considered desirable to obtain another report from the Director of Agriculture as to the quantity of fodder produced by private tenants, in this area and the cost per acre. This report is still awaited. As soon as this report comes—I hope I will get it within this month—I will be able to deal finally with the report and then place the report of the committee before this House. The honourable member may rest assured that it can never be the intention of any ministry to appoint a committee and to reject all its recommendations *in toto* without the sanction

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of this House. I am sure that I will be in a position to convince the honourable members of this House who are interested not only in agriculture but in cattle breeding that whatever action Government decides to take will be in the interests of the agriculturists and in the interests of cattle breeders. At a time of depression when prices of agricultural produce have fallen any subsidiary industry acquires a larger importance in the economics of agriculture and therefore Government is deeply concerned in promoting cattle breeding to the best of its power and even if necessary, to subsidise cattle breeding, so as to be able to place a pedigree bull almost in every village. It is with this view that the decision on the report has been delayed and with no other object. We desire to secure such economies as are possible in the working of this farm without curtailing its usefulness. (Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit: What are the main recommendations of this committee?) They are not of a very drastic nature. The committee is naturally in favour of continuing the work at Hissar. It has also recommended that we should increase our production of bulls as far as possible and that we should reduce the price of bulls to the district boards. I may say that the Government has agreed to reduce the price of bulls to the district boards to Rs. 100 each and the result of that is that all the bulls have been taken, and not a single bull remains at the farm available for distribution. The committee also refers to the question of growing fodder at the farm and that is the only point on which consideration is still necessary. There are two methods. One is by direct method, that is to say, the farm employs a certain amount of labour to grow fodder according to its own needs under the direct management of the farm. The other is to let out the land to tenants and take a share from the tenants in the shape of fodder. Now you can easily understand that it is not possible for a tenant to take up land entirely for fodder growing. If any one takes it he would like to practice mixed farming, growing fodder on a certain area and growing other crops on the rest of the area which are of more economic value to him. I am exploring every possible method of reducing the cost of fodder growing and I am hoping that when the decisions of the Government are reached, honourable members will be satisfied. (Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit: What is the area of the farm?) Forty-five thousand acres out of which 5,000 acres are irrigated and on which fodder can be grown. The rest is unirrigated and no crop can be grown. (Mr. Mukand Lal Puri: What is the date of the report of the committee?) September 1932. (Interruption). I think the honourable member is wrong in thinking that it will take us another three years to decide. We agriculturists do not move so slowly as the industrialists move, we can say that agriculture in this province has made progress more rapidly than industries have (laughter).

Mr. Mukand Lal Puri: It is saying very little.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: These problems are of vital importance and we cannot let the progress of agriculture slack.

Shaikh Abdul Ghani: It is not only a question of rural versus urban, but also agriculture versus industry.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 32,900 with respect to the item of Rs. 2,32,900, Hissar Cattle Farm.

*The motion was lost.*

*Banking Expert.*

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : I move—

<sup>1</sup> That the grant be reduced by Rs. 23,250 with respect to the item of Rs. 23,250, Banking Expert—Co-operative Credit—Direction.

I believe this question has been hanging fire since long. The question came directly before the Retrenchment Committee appointed by the Punjab Government in 1931 and if I remember aright the unanimous recommendation of the committee was that this post of banking expert should be abolished. It was pointed out that this post was brought into being for certain reasons and that as soon as possible the post would be abolished. Since then the question directly came before this House in 1933 and it expressed itself very strongly again in favour of the abolition of this post of banking expert pointing out that the post was not worth the cost which it was involving the province. Two years have since passed and still nothing seems to have been done by way of abolishing this post. I might point out that as a matter of fact my chief object in this is that some economy might be made so that some more funds might be made available for better purposes, as for instance, consolidation of holdings. It has been pointed out many a time by this House that much more should be done by the Government for promoting consolidation of holdings, but the Government do not seem to be very serious and therefore it is very much under-staffed in that department. To my mind the only real necessity of the zamindar is that he should be in a position to have bigger holdings and this House will be surprised if it is told that in my districts, Hoshiarpur and Jullundur, holdings are so small that no attention can be paid to them and no effective and useful management can be done. There are 40 or 50 ghumaons spread over no less than 100 places. You can very well remember that no improved methods can be employed and no tangible results can be attained in these fragmented holdings and unless we have bigger holdings we cannot hope to get much out of the land. It is my object therefore that this post should be abolished and the money so released should be utilized for pushing on the scheme of consolidation of holdings.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 23,250 with respect to the item of Rs. 23,250, Banking Expert—Co-operative Credit—Direction.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to support the amendment moved by my honourable friend from Hoshiarpur. This question has been cropping up over and over again. The stale argument that Government gave last time was that he was very useful to the department in that he brought to their notice several embezzlements.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Is that a stale argument ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** This is a slur on the department if they say that such highly placed and paid officers as the Registrar and Deputy Registrar are not enough to check such embezzlements. There is no complication in learning the business. Even ordinary people can carry on the work very well and if the Co-operative Department after so much training and experience cannot carry on that work without the assistance of the banking expert, it is a great condemnation of the department. This argument should no longer be employed. Why have you not trained up your own men by now to be experts in banking business ? This movement has now been in the field for a very long time and every officer of this department should by now have acquired sufficient knowledge but over and over again the importance of the banking expert is stressed by Government. This is nothing short of the fact that a man had to be provided for and he has been provided for. When the Co-operative Department is keenly feeling the pinch of financial stringency when a large number of zamindars are already despairing of this movement, when the movement is losing a good deal of the great reputation, what is the good of keeping a banking expert at this time. This money should be saved and should be utilized elsewhere, though not for what my honourable friend suggests, yet for lowering the rate of interests. This huge sum of Rs. 24,000 is sufficient for doing a lot. I think it may be more useful than any advice that anybody can give. The Honourable Minister interrupted me when I began my speech I did not hear him well, but perhaps he said that he did not use this argument, but this is on record and I think it was I who moved this motion about two years ago and brought irrefutable arguments for the reduction of this post and then, if I remember aright, the Honourable Minister gave a half-hearted promise that the appointment would come under reduction after sometime.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** No.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** If you did not make that promise it is time for consideration. If the interests of the Co-operative Department are really at your heart, it is a matter of commonsense to know that the department would benefit by the reduction of this post and more and more societies will be started and more zamindars will take advantage of them. As was urged on the floor of this House by certain friends on my left the credit of the zamindars has been very much reduced by the Act which we passed last time, the Debtors' Relief Act. Under these circumstances the zamindars have nothing but the co-operative societies to look up to for getting money at the time of extreme necessity and for this reason it is all the more necessary that this appointment should be reduced. I hope the Honourable Minister will give a reply that he would consider the suggestion very carefully and sympathetically, for this will be for the good of the zamindars. With these words I support the motion.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture) :** I think my friend Sardar Arjan Singh will be satisfied when I explain to him the functions of the banking adviser to the Co-operative Department. When I took over the department about eight years ago, I discovered that this department was carrying on large banking business,



and banking is not a business which everyone can undertake. My friend Chaudhri Allah Dad is a genius who can survey and criticise and offer suggestions on every activity of Government, I am sure every one in this House will agree with me that it is necessary to have somebody with knowledge of banking to supervise and control the business now being done by the Co-operative Department. If I mention the figures, perhaps, honourable members will recognize the magnitude of the task which is placed before the banking expert. The provincial bank now has a capital of about 1½ crores; 49 central institutions and 64 unions deal in 7 crores and agricultural and non-agricultural banks deal in 10 crores. That is, we are carrying on a business of about 20 crores. No businessman would grudge the advice of a banking expert about how to employ the funds that are brought into the working of these institutions. It is not only that but I can also point out that by his manipulation of securities at a proper time, he has made very large profits which are enabling the provincial banks to pay off its debentures which it had created for mortgage banks. The profits out of the securities obtained by the financial adviser's advice amounted to Rs. 1,49,987 in 1933, and to Rs. 5,58,150 in 1934, and I can assure the honourable members that no one could have advised how to operate on these securities excepting a banking expert who knew how we can operate on stock exchange. Further, at the present moment, I do not know if the House is aware that a conference is being held which is being presided over by His Excellency the Governor in which the representatives of this House are also taking part to survey the whole field of co-operative movement. All these questions are to come before this conference. A meeting of this conference has already been held and another meeting is going to be held on the 20th instant and I am sure that a result of this conference would be to strengthen the co-operative movement in all its directions. The honourable member pointed out that the present is the time when larger credit facilities are required. We have legislated and tried to give some relief to the debtors. But it lies with us now to create such facilities for agricultural credit to take the place of the credit which we have closed down. I am quite sure that no large undertaking in this direction can be undertaken without expert advice. Without a banking expert it is not possible either to carry on a big banking business or to organise and explore new fields of creating agricultural credit on the lines on which it has been created in other civilized countries. A very interesting note has been contributed on the subject by our very energetic Registrar of Co-operative Societies. That note on mortgage banks, when it is available, will show what is being done in exploring the field of creating credit for co-operative societies.

In view of what I have said and in view of the matter being under examination by a very well-represented conference I hope Sardar Sahib will not press his cut to a division.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 23,250 with respect to the item of Rs. 23,250 Banking Expert—Co-operative Credit—Direction.

*The motion was lost.*

*Working of the Co-operative Department.*

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup> That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 91,700 Direction—Co-operative Credit.

My object in moving this cut is to draw the attention of the Government to the unsatisfactory working of the Co-operative Department. There is no doubt that Government have from time to time been giving their attention to the problem of rural indebtedness. But just as the verse goes

مرض بترتا گیا جون جون دوا کی

malady goes on increasing with the treatment. The reason for this is that no proper remedy is adopted. The exorbitant rates of interest has crushed both the zamindars and non-zamindars alike. The Co-operative Department has been created for the benefit of the zamindars, that is, to save them from the clutches of the greedy sahukars. No doubt the department has done well. The societies which have been under the control of honest and wise persons have worked well but those that are under the guidance of ill-advised persons are mismanaged and they consequently add to the difficulties of the zamindars. The latter cannot pay their debts even if all their lands are sold. I therefore submit that some steps should be taken to meet the situation. When the Co-operative Department was started a sort of keen competition began between the sahukars and the department. Both of them tried to advance loans on easy terms and the zamindars were tempted to take loans which resulted in the enormous increase in their indebtedness. While their indebtedness has increased the prices of agricultural produce have gone down which has made the situation worse.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** : Is the honourable member speaking to the motion ?

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** : There are no means at their disposal to pay off their debts. They are merely existing. If you want to help the zamindars you should try to lower the rates of interest allowed on deposits and those that are charged by central banks.

**Mr. President** : The honourable member is not speaking to the motion.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** : I was submitting that zamindars had nothing with which to pay their debts, and their position has become worse by the abnormal fall in prices of the agricultural produce. I therefore submit that because the money advanced to the zamindars is in fact their own money, steps should be taken to relieve them of their present distress.

**Mr. President** : The honourable member is advocating the desirability or necessity of reducing the rates of interest or changing the rules in force under the guise of his motion to discuss or draw the attention of the Government to the unsatisfactory working of the Co-operative Department. The working of the department with its present staff and under the rules in force, is what the honourable member should discuss and show to be unsatisfactory.

<sup>1</sup> To draw attention to the unsatisfactory working of the Co-operative Department.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** In talking of the indebtedness of the zamindars and the way in which loans are being realised from them by the co-operative societies, I wanted to show that no regard is being paid to the miserable plight of the former. In these days when on account of the unprecedented fall in the prices of agricultural produce and the continuous floods, which have been ruining the crops of the zamindars, the zamindars have nothing to spare and to make payments to these societies and it is, therefore, really very hard for them if they should be pressed for payments in the way in which they are being actually pressed. In the present circumstances these societies and the liquidators appointed by them are proving very troublesome to them. Whenever these liquidators happen to come to a village for the realisation of debts from the zamindars, and I may say that they have begun to come too often, they seldom return unless they have attached whatever may have been found in the possession of the debtors or unless a sufficient sum has been paid to them by way of gratification by the zamindars or the debtors. These attachment orders that these liquidators bring with them prove all the more troublesome because the lands, the produce from these lands, the fodder, the cattle, the implements and even the residential huts, as I call them, of the zamindars are not spared by them. Therefore the situation demands that some such remedy should be found out, and it should not be difficult for the Government and its officers to find out such a remedy, as would give a breathing time to the zamindars and also enable them to make payments of the loans in easier and more extended instalments. There are societies, I may say here, which appear to have sympathy for the poor zamindars. I can name some of them if I am desired to do so. Before I proceed further I would like to say once again that it is imperative that something or other should be done immediately to ease the situation so that the zamindars may not begin to dislike the system of co-operative societies.

Even as regards the consolidation of holdings much remains to be done. In fact very little has been done so far. I know that the zamindars are themselves to blame to a very large extent for the small progress in this direction. I also admit that there have been cases in which applications for consolidation of holdings submitted by one party have been opposed by the other. I also know that the factious spirit of the villagers has stood in the way of this reform, but all the same it does not follow that the Government stands absolved and that no blame can be laid against its door. Knowing as we do that the zamindars are not wise enough to understand what is good and what is bad for them, the Government and its officers ought to have proceeded with the work of consolidation in many cases on their own initiative and if they have not been doing so and if they have been taking shelter behind the factious spirit of the people as they have no doubt been taking, they are surely to blame. I do not mean to say that the officers should in all cases disregard the wishes of the parties concerned and consolidate holdings even against the unanimous desire of the people or persons concerned. What I mean to say is that in cases where it is in the interest

of the zamindars to proceed with this work, the opposition of some persons should not be allowed to stand in the way of such a useful step. The officers entrusted with this work should not be led or rather misled by what one faction or party, which is

[**Ch. Mohd. Abdul Rahman Khan.**]

always more influential in such cases, may say. I may be allowed to say that this party spirit in the villages has stood in the way of almost every reform. An influential party will always try to injure the cause of the other and ultimately injure its own cause. The House will perhaps be aware that an influential party in a village went so far as to try to send the sons of the members of the other party to jail although the victims of this spirit were reading at that time in one of the colleges at Lahore.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member is again irrelevant.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** To meet the situation I think it would be better if a sub-committee is formed to investigate the causes of delay in the consolidation of holdings and to expedite this work in future. This committee should consist of the officers of Government and some members of this House. That, I think, will help to remove many of the difficulties which are at present experienced by the Government and its officers in this work of consolidation of holdings.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 91,700, Direction—  
Co-operative Credit.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** (Ambala-cum-Simla, non-Muham-madan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : I also take this opportunity to make a few observations with regard to the working of this department of co-operative societies. It is not right to say that this department is yet in its infancy because it came into existence several years ago. It is on the other hand a pretty old department and, therefore, it cannot lie in the mouth of any one to say that the mistakes that this department has been committing and is even now committing—and I may say that they are serious mistakes—are due to inexperience or anything of that sort. These mistakes are serious as I have said and I may here sound a note of warning that if they were allowed to be committed for any length of time I fear they would result in bringing a bad name to the department and possibly in marring its existence. It was this fear which induced me sometime ago to see Mr. Wace, the present Registrar, when he was coming over here to assume charge of this department. In my interview with him I suggested to him that some sort of control should be placed on the powers or at any rate on the exercise of powers vested in the directors of the co-operative societies. In making this suggestion I had in my mind at that time the grievances of the employees of these societies who, I know, are removed from service and punished otherwise unjustifiably in many cases. I say again that many of them are punished not because they deserve to be punished but because of other private considerations which weigh with these directors and it was with that view that I suggested that some check should be placed on the powers of these directors. But it appears that I was misunderstood. I never meant to say that a drastic step like the one which has been taken by the Registrar in issuing a recent circular, should be taken by the department. This circular, I may say, gives the Registrar power to remove the directors of the co-operative societies. It further authorises the Registrar to remove the directors who are unanimously elected and who are, therefore, the elected representatives of the societies and the shareholders. The local officers of the department

interpret this circular to mean that it gives them power to remove the employees of a central bank or annul or set aside any punishment that may have been given by any central bank to any of its employees and even to annul any enquiry that may have been made by a central bank with regard to the conduct of any of its employees. In the face of this circular the elected members of these banks appear to be only figure heads. They now hold no position at all. I fail to understand the need for issuing such a circular. There is already a provision in the rules according to which a director can be removed by a vote of a fixed majority at the general meeting. I am inclined to think that this power which has been assumed by the Registrar in this circular is *ultra vires* of the Act. In any case this is what I feel and if I am wrong I would very much like to hear what the Honourable Minister has to say on this subject. However, I feel that such a drastic step is not needed. It may be added here that this wide power which this circular gives has been and is being very much abused and it is why I have been compelled to raise my voice against that circular.

Another point to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government is that in this province the number of D class co-operative societies is increasing day by day. Those societies which came under liquidation some twenty years back are still in existence and no settlement has been arrived at regarding their debts. This is very disgraceful for the department. When I say this I do not mean to attack the co-operative movement. There is a system according to which those who are not even connected with any society have to pay for the debts of their relations. This method of realisation of debts is not praiseworthy, but the Co-operative Societies Act is responsible for it and I therefore do not blame the department. But so far as the matter of liquidation of societies is concerned, I do not see any reason why the department should not be blamed for it. These societies came under liquidation some twenty years back but up to this time no decision has been made regarding the final winding up of their affairs. I think, that as soon as it comes to the knowledge of the department that a society has become insolvent it should at once proceed to bring it under liquidation. On account of the toleration shown by the department to D Class societies the amount of bad and doubtful debts due to central co-operative banks has in some cases increased to seventy or eighty thousand rupees. These societies are not liquidated in time in order to avoid the criticism that the societies are in a majority of cases established on unsound basis. Moreover by keeping them alive the department can show the extent of work done by it.

Next I come to C class societies. As compared with D class societies these societies are much better and this is due to the fact that all the people connected with them belong to the same class. The inspectors, debtors and creditors all belong to the same class and as such they have mutual sympathy on account of which they co-operate in the real sense of the word. In the beginning when these societies were brought into existence credit was given only to that circle registrar in whose circle a large number of them was formed. On account of this the circle registrars without seeing whether the members of a society which was proposed to be formed were responsible men gave sanction and helped it to come into existence. It was a basic mistake which was committed at the time when the expansion of the co-operative societies

[Kanyar Mamraj Singh Chohan.]

was made. Due to this mistake even those men who did not understand the meaning of unlimited responsibility were allowed to open societies. Zamindars want to borrow and they would borrow from anywhere. They found that it was so easy to borrow by first bringing into existence a co-operative society. So they brought co-operative societies into existence and then borrowed loans from them without being disturbed by the idea of returning those loans. They took loans but never thought of returning them. At present the zamindars are not even prepared to pay the interest due from them to these societies. On account of this mistake that no care was taken to see whether people who wanted to form a society were responsible men and had also some paying capacity, the co-operative movement instead of helping the zamindars is harming them.

Next I come to the Punjab Co-operative Union. The work of this union is to control the co-operative societies and their inspection. One great complaint against this union is that all matters are decided by communal considerations. The communal spirit in the Punjab Co-operative Union is on the increase. I request the Registrar to take some steps to remove the communal spirit from the Punjab Co-operative Union. The election of the managing committee also takes place on communal basis. To remove this complaint some rules should be framed by which the committee should have representatives of areas in which the co-operative societies are very influential and are also very successfully doing their work, but because the representatives of the minority community do not wield any influence, they may be given a fair share on the managing committee. The sub-inspectors who represent such communities are not treated fairly by the Punjab Co-operative Union. I request the Honourable Minister to take some steps to protect the interests of such sub-inspectors.

The next point to which I like to draw the attention of the Government is this. The Government have decided to reduce the rates of interest on loans advanced by the co-operative societies. If these concessions are given to the debtors of a society whose debts are doubtful or bad then it is all very well but to make it a rule that all societies should advance loans at reduced rates is not a good policy. Those societies which are working well, and which are in a position to recover their debts easily should not be allowed to charge low rates of interest. Such societies should charge market rates of interest. Also the societies which are to come into existence in future should also charge market rates of interest. Only those societies should be allowed to lower their rates which think that their debts are bad or doubtful. A wholesale reduction in rates would be dangerous for the department. Moreover those banks whose amount of doubtful or bad debts is something like Rs. 80,000 should not be forced to reduce their rates of interest, for by doing so their position would become awkward. Zamindars want loans. If the sahuikars charge 25 per cent. and the societies 8 per cent. the zamindars would naturally prefer the latter as their creditors. But in this way the department would suffer a loss. Only those societies should be allowed to reduce their rates of interest whose debts are doubtful or bad.

The next point I would like to take up is with regard to the different kinds of societies which the department has brought into existence. The

department wastes a good deal of its energy on various kinds of societies. It would do well if it devotes all attention to co-operative credit societies. There are thrift societies and also societies to reform various ceremonies and customs of the people. The department should not waste its energy on these societies. On the other hand it should devote all its resources to the working of credit societies. The inspectors have to give some time to these other societies. If they were to devote all their time to credit societies they would make the movement a success. Thrift societies and other such societies which are formed by educated and responsible men should not be given attention to by the inspectors, for they can themselves look after their interests. I happened to read a report of the Co-operative Department. In it mention was made that a member of a female co-operative society saved Rs. 40 and with that money purchased anklets for herself. To make mention of such facts to show the achievements of the department is merely childish.

Another point that I want to place before the House is with regard to the increasing number of agents through whom debts are realised by the societies. These agents are given commission for realising debts. Four or five societies jointly employ a paid commission agent who on behalf of those societies realise their debts by sale of the property of the debtors. The number of these agents has so much increased that it has become difficult to control them. The department has also to spend some energy for controlling the work of these agents. The increase in their number is proof of the working of the department going from bad to worse.

There is another point and that is with regard to the consolidation of holdings. The consolidation of holdings is very beneficial for the zamindars but very little attention is given to this work. This work of consolidation of holdings is under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. But it is very unfortunate that the Registrar has to depend for this work on the co-operation of the executive officers. If the revenue officers give him some efficient patwaries and qanungoes the work of consolidation would be done efficiently, otherwise not. Consolidation of holdings is a very useful thing and it should be done on a very large scale all over the province.

Then there are several other societies under the control of the Co-operative Department the most important amongst them being thrift societies, arbitration societies and better living societies. The better living societies need our special care. The Government should make earnest efforts to improve the condition of these societies and I assure them that they will not have to spend much money over them. Moreover, one should not be too careful about spending money for a noble purpose. Last but not the least are the co-operative credit societies. They are at present in an appalling state of negligence. We should try our best to improve their lot; this will facilitate the raising of loans in rural ilaqs and improve the general condition of the people.

**Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof** (South-East Towns, Muhammadan, Urban): While speaking on this motion I would like to impress on the Government the necessity of overhauling the Co-operative Department. I do not mean to say that the working of all the officers of this department is unsatisfactory. But certainly I would like to impeach those officers who are responsible for the bad working of this department. The zamindars are not

[Khawaja Muhammad Eusoof.]

educated. They are illiterate persons and do not know how to raise their voice against their oppressors. On the other hand I quite see that some of my zamindar friends in this respectable House are under the impression that the officers of this department are helpful to the zamindars. I would ask those members, especially the zamindar members who claim themselves to be the best friends of the zamindars to go to the Ludhiana district and see for themselves the working of the co-operative societies. I can assure them that they will find there that the sahukar has not ruined the zamindar as much as the officers of this department. As my honourable friend Kanwar Mamraj Singh has already said, the arbitrators, liquidators and execution agents are appointed in this department but no qualifications are prescribed for them. Take the case of the abitrators. Only such persons are appointed as would play in the hands of the officers. Generally these arbitrators do not write any decisions. They merely put in their signatures on the award written by the officers and these officers write the awards according to their wishes and according as the debtor is friendly or not to the officers. I know it very well that in many cases about Rs. 50 or more are inflicted as costs. If the officers are friendly to the debtors then they show all sorts of favours to them. It is generally stated that arbitration is the cheapest way of deciding disputes and I think that really the intention of the Government when appointing the arbitrators, was that the zamindars should be saved the very high cost of going to civil courts. But you will find that the arbitrators are generally uneducated. They do not know what arbitration is. They do not understand the rules of the society. They are illiterate persons. The result is that they do not receive any justice. I would refer the House to the atrocities which are committed by the officers of this department. Once a society in Bankaur, a village which is not far from Ludhiana, was brought under liquidation. A mere illiterate person was appointed as its liquidator. It will be difficult to explain how the villagers, the members of the society in that village were treated by the officers of the department. They were made to stand before the sub-inspectors and inspectors of this department and were given *dandas* on their backs as if to remind the villagers of the old tragedy at Jallianwala Bagh. But in the Jallianwala Bagh case the officers were at least censured. But here in this department the officers were not brought to book. They all escaped even censure. (*An honourable member* : When did this occur ?) It occurred in 1929 or 1930. If the working of this department is not satisfactory it is not a matter for surprise. I know that there are some officers of this department who have committed all criminal and penal offences covered by the Indian Penal Code. For instance, some of the officers conceal misappropriations in their offices. They pay money from their own pockets to avoid leakage of news about misappropriation. Some of the officers destroy and take out pages of diaries of sub-inspectors and inspectors and get them replaced by forged documents. The signatures of auditors are erased and forged signatures are made of some other auditors. Very often they prepare false reports and send to the higher officers. When even officers commit such horrible offences and nobody takes notice of them, what is the result ? They are encouraged and go on committing more oppression and do whatever they like. They are let loose, I should say. If some of the educated members of the society approach some of the officers of the Government and bring these things to their notice



they say, we cannot take any action. There is another thing which is very bad. Our Honourable Ministers have taken into their heads a wrong and fantastic idea of appointing executive officers in all the departments under them. The officers of this department are beginning to follow the footsteps of the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government and have appointed executive officers for supervising the work of these societies. (*An honourable member*: Who is this officer?) He is called an executive officer. (*Interruption*). I am sure the Honourable Minister knows about the appointment of these executive officers. The societies are asked to pay about Rs. 5 towards the maintenance of these officers. (*An honourable member*: There is no such officer). I can name one. He is an illiterate ignorant man, Muhammad Roshan. He is an executive officer. This is how everybody calls him. I do not know if he has any other designation. I think the Honourable Minister knows it. He is getting Rs. 5 from the society every month and he is supervising the society. I can assure the Honourable Minister that as in the case of the municipalities these executive officers serve no good purpose in this department and I think it is better that their services are discontinued. With these words I support the cut motion moved.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): I was never more surprised than when I heard my friend Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof speak on the co-operative department, and speak in the way he spoke about the officers of the department. It is a sad commentary on ourselves that a department which is mainly concerned in promoting co-operation receives such co-operation from the members of this House. Is this the way we are going to treat the department which is working for co-operation in every field of rural reconstruction? Is it right to say that the officers of this department have been committing atrocities? When the honourable member was asked when these atrocities were committed he said it was in 1929. If it happened in 1929, where was he and where were his friends, and why did they not bring these to the notice of the Government or the officers concerned? Is it now the time to revive the charges which are alleged to have happened in 1929? Then the honourable member said that the officers of the Co-operative Department were influenced by considerations other than honest. One expects the members of this House to uphold the departments for which they vote funds and which are working in the villages in helping rural reconstruction. I am not speaking in anger. But I do feel that as this House becomes more and more representative, it is the duty of this House to uphold the departments and to support them. He further talked of an officer who concealed misappropriations himself making up the shortage. Could he not bring any case that he wishes to the notice of the Registrar or to me? He should get himself properly acquainted with the facts before he takes them as proved. (*Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof*: I brought them once to the notice of the Registrar and he did not do anything). Except making these allegations had he nothing more to say as to the work of the department? I heard with deep interest the remarks of Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan. He seems to take some interest in the working of the department and he seems to be acquainted with its working. He surprised me, however, when he spoke against the lowering of the rate of interest for the borrowers. I have never heard anyone in the House support the proposition that the level of the rate of interest should be maintained

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

at that rate at which a man can borrow from a village money-lender. If this is his idea of affording relief to the villagers, then I must say that I dissociate myself entirely from him.

I am sure he must have read the circular which the Registrar issued about a year ago, with the main object of affording relief to the debtors of co-operative societies, and that circular provided rebate of interest not only for the future but also for the past even beyond two years. It also provided, that in future payments of instalments should be arranged after taking into consideration the ability of the debtors to pay. In fact the department has taken every possible step in affording relief to the debtor and to support him in these difficult days. It is true as the honourable member has pointed out, that D class societies are weak and if we follow his advice we will have to liquidate them. I am sure he will be the first man to accuse us, if we did this. I am sure that he will support the policy of the department in nursing these weak societies to strength. He spoke again against thrift. Now one of the main objects of co-operative movement in other parts of the world has been to promote thrift, so that members of co-operative societies should by themselves provide funds which can be utilized for creating credit. In fact if there is any weakness in our movement it is that thrift has not been promoted to the extent to which it ought to have been promoted. Our societies have still to borrow from central banks but if the members in the villages had been exercising thrift, they could provide all the money that was needed in the villages themselves. Now it is in cultivating the habit of thrift that the salvation of our peasantry lies. You will be interested to know—and he said that women's societies were an eye-wash—that in the women societies thrift can make the greatest possible progress. I have hardly any doubt that women's societies will grow in strength and will lead to larger measure of thrift if we could provide an adequate staff to organise women's societies. The honourable mover of the cut laid great stress on consolidation of holdings.

(Urdu): As the honourable mover of this cut wants me to speak in Urdu, I should like to comply with his wishes. In the course of his speech he laid particular stress on two points. First, that a law should be enacted to facilitate and expedite the consolidation of holdings, secondly, a committee should be appointed to go into the question of loans taken by the zamindars from the co-operative banks. In this connexion I may inform the honourable member that a Bill has been drafted, and it will be introduced in the Council as soon as possible. A conference has been sitting, with the honourable the Leader of the opposition as one of its members, which is carefully considering the questions referred to.

The Co-operative Department belongs to the zamindars. It is their duty to lend their full and whole-hearted support to this department, and spare no pains to promote its interest. I assure them that they will derive great benefit from it. In the end, I trust that in view of the assurance given by me on the two main points raised by him in the course of his speech, the honourable member will not press his motion.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries): I do not profess any intimate knowledge of this department, but when the Honourable Minister

appeals to the members of this House for co-operation with him solely on the ground that zamindars should not criticise the co-operative movement, I think, it is time that a protest is made against this attitude. Definite allegations have been made based on facts and incidents alleging that this department is rotten to the core.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** What are the facts and figures ? Will the honourable member trot out those facts and figures ?

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Very serious allegations have been made by Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali, Kanwar Mamraj Singh and Khwaja Muhammad Eusooif.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Will the honourable member repeat a single fact or figure ?

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** One point which was emphasised by Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan and which I took a particular note of and which could not have escaped the attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, if he was at all listening to the speeches in the House, was that communalism was rampant in the department and that members of particular communities whether serving in the department or others do not feel that they are properly judged on their merits, but always through communal glasses, that there is no feeling of security amongst them and the claims of Sikhs and Hindus are ignored. That was a point which was definitely raised by an honourable member of the House and I expected that the Honourable Minister before inviting the House not to look too closely into the affairs of this department would attempt some kind of explanation or justification against a charge of that kind. (*Interruption by the Honourable Minister*). I trust that the Honourable Minister will have the patience to listen to me and would not be impatient. I have just now stated that I do not profess any intimate knowledge of the working of the department, but I trust, as a member of this House, I am entitled to look into this department. It may be a *ghrehu* department, as the Honourable Minister has said, it is perhaps a matter entirely between a zamindar minister and zamindar members, but there is no reason why inefficiency, corruption and waste should not be brought to light. When allegations are made by members of that very fraternity itself that all is not well with the department, it is but fair that information should be vouchsafed to the members of this House about the alleged charges whether they have been investigated and if investigated, if they have been proved true or false. I should like the Honourable Minister or any other official if he is in a position to give any information on this point to say whether the charge which has been brought by the Hindus and Sikhs that communalism is rampant in the department is true or not. I would unhesitatingly accept the statement of Kanwar Mamraj Singh in the absence of any contradiction or information from the Honourable Minister. I should like to know what Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram thinks about this allegation about a department which is monopolised by the zamindars. What is his information on the working of the department in this particular respect ? Are things allowed to work in a non-communal way or whether in this department, as is alleged, rank communalism holds its sway ? That point has been repeatedly emphasised on

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the floor of this House and for reasons best known to the Honourable Minister he has deliberately chosen not to reply to him. I am entitled to ask for information on this point. Does the head of the department believe that things are as they should be, or they need any improvement? Would he take or dare to take any steps to remedy this alleged defect? Does he propose to frame new rules and regulations so that this legitimate complaint, which is not in the interests of the future development of the department, is removed? Or does the Honourable Minister want to sleep over it, because he finds that a powerful group or powerful section of this House may not like it? This is a matter on which the Honourable Minister should take the House into confidence. Again, what has he to say with respect to the impression which exists all over the province that embezzlements are the order of the day in the department?

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Order of the (k) night.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** There are three or four knights.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Has he taken any steps to prevent them? Has he investigated the reasons? Is it due to the fact that recruitment of the staff is from a particular privileged class and that the people working in the same office do not belong to different groups so that they may act as a check upon each other? The manager, the accountant and the auditor and the director may, and often do, belong to the same clique. Is it not necessary in the interests of efficiency?

**Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh :** This is wrong.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** This may be wrong I do not know.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** You are speaking without the book.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** I should be very glad to be assured that proper checks are employed by the department. But if they are employed, why this crop of embezzlement cases at Sialkot, Gurgaon and other places? Again, another point to which attention was invited, although the Honourable Minister is not tired of reiterating it that this department is for the particular good of the zamindar, was the unsympathetic treatment of the officers of this department towards their constituents. It appears that these complaints have never been investigated nor attended to. In the presence of these complaints the Honourable Minister is not justified in asking the House not to criticise or probe deeply into this department, because professedly it exists for the good of the people. There are so many other departments which exist for the good of the people. There is, for instance, the Education Department, which is wasting a crore and a half on primary education without achieving any substantial results. Is the House then not justified in criticising the Department of Education simply because it professedly exists for the benefit of the people? I submit that the Co-operative Department is one of the worst departments so far as management goes. I am one of those who are for the co-operative movement. In fact I have advocated in this House and outside, the spread of co-operative movement amongst the non-agriculturist classes also. It is a good movement, but it does not follow that simply because a thing is good, it should be permitted to be run by inefficient and incompetent persons and should not be managed properly.

It is time that people looked more carefully into the working of these beneficent departments. This department, the Honourable Minister would pardon me for saying, is practically dead, though not yet buried. Even now it is quite possible to revive the department, if the good intentions of Sir Jogendra Singh were supplemented by much greater energy, thought and attention than has so far been bestowed upon it, and it is possible to achieve much better results, if the present policy of drift and lack of supervision is replaced by a more vigorous initiative, direction and control.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): I have had an opportunity of studying the working of this department. There is no doubt about it that we have got to be very careful in this case. It is quite obvious from the report of the last ten years that instead of making any progress, this department is declining every day. I do not want to use those words which my learned friend, Mr. Mukand Lal Puri, used in condemnation of this department, but I would certainly say that it is face to face with a great danger. If the Government does not like, it may not admit this fact to-day, but if it gives a careful consideration to this matter, it will easily realize that the number of A class societies is decreasing, and that of B and C classes is increasing. It means only this that the great work which was once started by Government has been declining day by day for the last ten years. If it is really a fact that the number of best societies has been on the wane and that of worst on the increase, the Government ought to accept the charge that my learned friend has laid at their door.

*At this stage the Council adjourned till 2 P.M., on Wednesday, 20th March, 1935.*

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## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, 20th March 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

#### AGRICULTURE.

##### *Working of the Co-operative Department.*

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the motion of Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan relating to the unsatisfactory working of the Co-operative Department.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I was submitting yesterday that the condition of our societies is very serious. If we look at the figures of the last ten years, we shall find that this movement has proved a failure. This fact may be unpleasant but we have to admit that the Co-operative Department is not serving any useful purpose in this province. The figures for the last ten years clearly bear out my statement. For instance, in the year 1927 the number of A class societies was 808, of B class, 2,392, of C class, 7,122, and D class, 498. In 1928 the number of A class societies was 253, of B class, 2,246, of C class, 8,899, of D class, 671. Then in 1930 the number of A class societies was 299, of B class, 2,195, of C class, 11,145, of D class, 909. In 1931 the number of A class societies was 298, of B class, 2,081, of C class, 11,685, of D class, 1,302. I have the latest report of 1932 in my hand and it shows the number of societies as follows: A class 290, B class, 1,801, C class, 12,045, and D class, 1,627. If we look at the figures for 1927-32, we find that within a period of 5 years the number of D class societies has multiplied four times. Whereas our expectations were that every new year will see a marked decrease in the number of D class societies and a good number out of them will be promoted to A class, our disappointment knows no bounds when we find that after 5 years of boasted remarkable progress of the co-operative movement in the province the number of D class societies is four times that of A class societies. Instead of that the number of A class societies shows a decrease and the number of D class societies becomes four times more; it thus becomes quite plain that our movement is proving a failure. The figures prove beyond a shadow of doubt that this movement is turning out a complete failure. I am sure it will be contended that during the last ten years there has been a tremendous increase in the number of both societies and members. This argument cannot be put forward as proof of the success of this movement. In the report on the working of Co-operative Societies a good deal of stress has been laid on the point that the working capital, the number of

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members and societies have increased. But this is no proof of the fact that the movement is really making some progress in the province. It is believed that the more staff is engaged the greater will be the number of societies that will come into being. It is just like the Punjabi saying

جہاں لکڑی ہو وہاں گھر

The societies which have been working for 20 years are becoming defunct and new ones are being formed. The only aim of the activities of this department would appear to be to show that the working capital, number of members and societies have been increasing day by day. But if we carefully look into this matter, we will find that this movement has totally failed in the Punjab. I can refer in this connection to the societies of Madras. Although their number is small, yet they are on a very sure and sound footing. In any case, the condition of these societies there is not the same as it is unfortunately here. What the Government does is this: it does not try to save old societies from ruin but only tries to set up thrift societies and better living societies at those places where co-operative credit societies are failing. Instead of rescuing the old societies from destruction, societies on which so much labour and expense have been devoted, and restoring them to their former position, the Government tries to find new ground and I should be excused for saying so, the Government's policy is responsible for this unfortunate state of affairs.

I admit the argument advanced by my learned friend that the Hindu-Muslim question is present in our societies. We should gladly admit our foibles and shortcomings. In the report for 1929 it has been candidly admitted that communalism is rife in the Co-operative Credit Union and central bodies. We ought to remove these defects. For the last five years the situation has remained the same and Government has not paid as much attention to this question as it really deserves. The high officers, I should be pardoned for saying so and there are exceptions too, devote little attention to the efficiency of work but bother a good deal about these things.

I would impress upon the Government that every effort should be made to improve the administration of the department. I do not agree with the view that because there has been trade depression, therefore, the importance of A class societies has been small and consequently the number of B class societies has increased, I have referred to the year 1927. At that time there was no trade depression. At that time the number of B class societies was more than the number of A class societies. It was not then contended that the number of B class societies was more because there was economic depression but it was more because there was something wrong with their working. Even now the Government should admit in a straightforward way that the societies are deteriorating not because of any economic depression but on account of mal-administration. Unfortunately the Co-operative Department has not infused into the minds of the people the true co-operative spirit. There is a lot of officialdom in this department. The members regard it as a rural bank, and they do not join it in the real spirit of co-operation and do not display any eagerness to promote its interests. They just think that whenever they stand in need of money they can borrow from the Co-operative



Bank, and when they are forced to pay it back, they can sell their land and discharge their loans.

So far as the supervision of our societies is concerned, it is highly unsatisfactory. The visits of our inspectors are few and far between. The quinquennial report shows that the inspectors visited some societies 8 times in a year. Though even this number is very small, yet our surprise is unbounded when we learn that some societies were not visited at all. Their condition is similar to that of some of the standing committees of our Council which do not meet at all. Government should try to create an awakening amongst the masses. The desired change cannot be brought about by merely holding co-operative conferences at headquarters every year. Government should try to bring home to the people the importance and advantages of co-operation. In my district there is one co-operative society at Jamalpur which is in very affluent condition. The prosperity of this society is not due to the fact that the members of this society have realised the importance of co-operation, but it is rather due to the fact that whatever the people earn from other places they deposit it with this society. I do not say that the officials of the Co-operative Department are not doing good work or that they are not paying proper attention to their work. But they are creating great many varieties of societies such as trade societies and better living societies and so the work in general is deteriorating. It is better if they impress upon the people the great benefits and advantages of co-operation. The increase in staff would not help the cause of co-operation. The number of B class societies has increased four times but there is not a single society in any village where the people have not got complaints against the working of the society. The co-operative movement started in 1914 and from that year till 1920 the co-operative societies did well. With the increase in the number of societies the quality of work deteriorated and the old societies came under the control of persons who wanted to serve their own ends. Now the village people have come to regard these societies as banks and their office bearers as sahkars. In 1920 the Government issued a circular to the effect that the co-operative societies should not be allowed to grow as political bodies. No doubt the Government was justified in issuing that circular for the organisations set up by them should not be anti-government. At this the officers in charge of these societies were frightened and they were afraid lest something undesirable should happen. The result was that the spirit of co-operation now found in countries like England and Germany is nowhere to be found amongst our people. Mere lectures on co-operation cannot improve the condition when elections take place on communal lines. I do admit that in various countries of the world co-operative movements have met with failures but the people of those countries were never discouraged. Similarly we should not be discouraged by unfavourable circumstances in which we are now placed. We should make efforts to make the co-operative movement a success. While stressing that point I would also like to express my appreciation of the work of the officers of the department who have laid the foundation of a great movement. I again assert, and assert it on the basis of facts and figures supplied by the department, that unless it takes suitable steps to make this movement a success it is bound to fail. With these words I resume my seat.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural): In rising to support the motion under consideration I want to make it quite clear in the beginning that I have always treated the Minister for Agriculture with leniency and have always said kindly words about him because I knew that he was doing his best in the departments entrusted to his charge. But his speech the other day has disappointed me. I, therefore, take this opportunity to criticise him and point out that he is utterly mistaken. The Honourable members on this side of the House gave a long list of remarkable offences committed by a number of officers of the Co-operative Department. Instead of listening coolly to the charge and then meeting it, the Honourable Minister got provoked and instead of saying that the charge was right or wrong he levelled a charge against the honourable members on this side of the House that he had expected co-operation from them but had received nothing but non-co-operation. I assure him that the honourable members on this side desire nothing but co-operation with him. If any member pointed out any defects in the working of the department, it was with the best of motives so that the defects may be removed. I will quote a quatrain in Persian of which he is very fond—

دوست آن برد که معائب دوست—همچو آئینه رو برو گوید

نه که مافذ شد هزار زبان—پس پشت رفته رو برو گوید

I think that was the best form of co-operation that the member could offer. Do you think that this kind of corruption and jobbery should be allowed to go on in a department and the members should keep their eyes and ears shut? Is that the form of co-operation that the Honourable Minister expects from us? If we wanted that the co-operative movement should die, we could have kept silent. But that would have been non-co-operation and not co-operation. The honourable members thought that all the defects in the department should be brought to the notice of the Honourable Minister so that he should try to remove those defects. Does the Honourable Minister think that his department is so perfect that there are no flaws in it? All big movements take a long time to develop and mature. They cannot develop in a year or two or even in four or five years. They take generations, if not centuries, to develop. If the Honourable Minister had pointed out the remedy that he proposes to take to remove the defects, that would have been something. But he spoke as if he had done everything for the development of the department and that nothing remained to be done. I will again quote an Urdu verse—

یہ میدان ترقی ہے غضب کی ہے کٹہر منزل

کہ ہم ہر قدم چلے میں سو سو بار بیٹھیں ہیں

Returning to the charges, one charge was that the officials of the Co-operative Department had beaten the villagers with sticks and shoes and that they had been made to stand in the sun for a long time. The only objection to this was that perhaps this happened in 1929 and that the matter should not have been raked up after so many years. If the matter came to the honourable member's notice just now or perhaps last year, what is there to prevent him from mentioning it and saying that such a thing should not take place?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I do not believe that any officer of the Co-operative Department could have done it.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Here is an honourable member who says that he is definite that this thing did happen, but the Honourable Minister says he cannot believe. Persistence and stubbornness could not go further.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** If Chaudhri Sahib had himself seen the incident, I would have believed his statement.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** The Honourable Minister should listen carefully to the charges made by the honourable members, who are not out for non-co-operation with this department or with any other department. When they come to the Council they take the oath of allegiance and that should be enough to ensure that whatever they say here they say in good faith and with the honest and best of intentions. They have enough scope for making seditious speeches outside, if they like but whatever they say here they say with the best of intentions. The speeches of the honourable members should be taken in that spirit, and the Government Members and Ministers must put aside once for all the idea that honourable members are out to preach sedition. Whatever may be uttered outside this Chamber may not be in good faith, but I may assure the honourable members on the Government benches that whatever we suggest here in this House is in absolutely good faith. It is possible that Government members may not be able to see eye to eye with us, but there are definite proofs on record to show that whatever we have criticised has happened often to be true and what the Government members said proved otherwise. So, if I take the opportunity of pointing out certain misdoings of the department let it be understood clearly and unequivocally that it is with a view to set things right.

I shall now begin to give out the charges one by one. I hope the Honourable Minister will kindly take note of them. The first charge is that in 1927 when the Royal Commission on Agriculture went to Jullundur money was collected from the various co-operative societies for the reception of the Commission. You know that there are about 500 societies there and the Co-operative Department officials thought of exploiting them on this occasion. They levied a subscription, as it were, of Rs. 10 per society and collected about Rs. 5,000. When the Royal Commission went to Jullundur the civil department met all the expenses of reception and other necessary arrangements for the Commission. Not a pie collected from the societies was spent on the Commission. (*An honourable member :* What happened then to the money collected from the societies?) It went into the pockets of the officers of the department. It was never refunded to the societies. When the Honourable Minister gets up to reply he will say that this is an old story. True it is an old story. But my point is that he should take steps to see that such incidents are not allowed to recur. He must take preventive measures for the future. (*An honourable member :* Why did you not make a report even then?) I did make a report to the deputy commissioner. But he did not take any steps in the matter.

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The next charge is with reference to certain occurrences in Gujranwala and Sheikhpura. I am very sorry I have to divulge certain shameful events that took place there. I think I will do well to refrain from making mention of those bad practices which were resorted to in those districts. They are so revolting and filthy. In whose interest did they resort to those practices? Only to please certain officials in the lower strata of this department. (*An honourable member*: What happened in those districts?) I do not propose to mention it in this House. My point is that the Honourable Minister and the officials under him must always keep their eyes and ears open so that they may take note of complaints that are brought to their notice. Now, what happens is that the people are afraid of taking any complaints to the deputy commissioners because of the evil consequences they will produce on the complainants themselves. The higher officials are concerned only with seeing that the Government runs smoothly and do not pay much attention to public grievances. That is why people so rarely take their grievances to the notice of high Government officials whereas they are quick in bringing them to our notice.

Now there is a village in the district of Lyallpur known as Salarwala. Here I will divulge the action of an honorary inspector of co-operative societies. Six or seven years ago he transferred his liabilities amounting to Rs. 1,850 to his minor nephew. He owns plenty of land, but without touching a single inch of that land he simply transferred his liabilities to a minor. This he was able to do because of his official position. The other day the Chief Engineer wanted chapter and verse to be quoted. I am prepared to give the name of the official who abused his official position in order to bring about this unfair transaction. He was one Ghulam Rasul, an honorary inspector of co-operative societies. It was because of his official influence that the co-operative bank sanctioned the transfer of his liabilities to a minor.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: Is it right for the honourable member to make charges against persons, whether they are officials or non-officials, when those persons are not here to defend themselves?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: The person I am attacking is to all intents and purposes an official inasmuch as he draws second class travelling allowance from Government. I cite this case only to criticise the working of the department.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: Members of this House have a certain amount of protection under the rules which have the force of law. But, when they are so protected, is it fair that members of the public or officials should be attacked by name when they have no opportunity to defend themselves?

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq**: If certain charges have to be brought against the conduct of certain officials, have we first to get them nominated as members of this House and then bring charges against them? I do not mean to support the statements of the honourable member, because I know nothing about them, but I do not know how else to bring before this House charges against the officials unless the Honourable Finance Member means to say that they should first be got nominated to this Council.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I do not make any such suggestion. My suggestion is that attacks against individuals by mentioning their names should not be made in the House for the very good reason that the person attacked cannot reply.

**Mr. President :** If the speech of a member is relevant to the matter before the House and does not violate the restrictions laid down in Article 59 (S. O. 80) of our Business Manual, however objectionable it may be, it is not out of order merely because it reflects upon the conduct of any person who is not a member of this Council. But if the words or expressions used by a member are unparliamentary, the Chair will not allow them to be used in the House.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** If I mentioned the name of the official it was only because the other day the Chief Engineer wanted chapter and verse to be quoted. This mention of the name will also enable the Honourable Minister to start enquiries and if possible to clear the official of the charge. There was a man with whom he had arranged for a loan of Rs. 5,000 in the Co-operative Mortgage Bank, Lyallpur, and this amount he could not pay. He was, therefore, arrested and sent to jail. Thereafter the officials of the bank got him released. Then two or three years passed. Now not a single pie has been recovered from him. It is said that Rs. 2,000 were given by him to the officials who got him released and he is now roaming about merrily without paying anything to the Co-operative Mortgage Bank. Then in Chak No. 140-R. B. he reduced the price of shares. The price of shares cannot be reduced without the sanction of the Registrar, but he reduced the price of the shares and the balance was paid towards the debt of the shareholder. This was an official of the bank. Again this officer's sister and his brother who is also a paid inspector are married in Chak No. 124-R. B. and Rs. 5,000 are outstanding to the co-operative society there from them. This co-operative society has been in liquidation for 5 years and not a single pie has been recovered. This again is a grave charge and yet the Co-operative Department is quite calm and merry and has taken no action against the person concerned. He stood surety for a large number of people in Chak No. 126-R. B. and his private property cannot be sufficient to meet this amount and they are all defaulters.

**Mr. F. B. Wace :** Will it save time if I say that in this particular case the matter is under investigation ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** It may be, but still, can it be said that there are no grave defects in the working of the department ? These things happened 7 or 8 years ago and what has the department done till now ? If they have started an enquiry just now that speaks of the efficiency of the department. That shows that there is something rotten in the whole working of this department. Again there was a man in Chak No. 165 who was a defaulter ; he was arrested and then released and then his pension was attached towards the payment of the money that he had to pay to the bank. But under the instructions of this inspector the pension was released and the man goes free and the service that he does is to give his help at the time of elections to the district board. Then there was a lam-jardar in a village who owed money to the central bank and the society

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and it was ordered that money should be recovered from him without interest being charged. Do the rules of the society allow that a man can exempt his own relation from paying interest and take steps to recover the principal only? Unfortunately the lambardar died and he had a minor son. The question was that he could not be appointed lambardar because all the property was under mortgage either to the Central Bank at Lyallpur or to the society or to other private creditors. So a device was adopted by which his property was released from the co-operative bank and then the boy was appointed lambardar. This is again an instance of corruption.

Again, in Chak No. 130-R. B. a certain man named Ali Muhammad was a shareholder of the bank and his name was struck off the register of the bank without consulting the society and the money was sent to him privately. Under the rules no one can strike off the name of a shareholder of a bank without the consent of the society. Then in Chaks Nos. 134, 139, 140 and 143-R. B. Rs. 1,000 were collected on the pretext of starting a school. Now all this money has been misappropriated and no school has been started. Again a certain official in the Lyallpur district came to a village Gope Rai in Sheikhpura district—he was an official of the bank. He joined as a member of the society at Gope Rai in Sheikhpura district though the rule is that no one can be a member of two societies at the same time and he got Rs. 1,000 as loan from the Gope Rai Society. Then after some time objection was made that he could not get money in this way and it was improper. So his share was sold to somebody else and the liability was entered by making a private arrangement with him. These are the instances of grave irregularities which require to be investigated and I am glad that the Registrar has admitted that there is an application pending before him. But he has been very late in investigating charges of these complaints although they occurred several years ago. He may say that they came to his notice just now; but where were his officials? These are done under the very eyes of his officials. Now I hope that when these facts are substantiated all these officers will be severely dealt with. Even for a much less grave or lighter offence the Circle Registrar of Ambala got an inspector of co-operative societies of Ludhiana dismissed. No doubt he has done well; but what have these people done? There is the Circle Registrar at Lyallpur, the Deputy Registrar at Sargodha, what have these officers been doing? Why should they have allowed the man to go as he liked and not taken any steps? In the face of these facts how can the Honourable Minister say that the department is working very well? I regret very much that I have to state another thing which may not be very palatable and that is about Europeans being appointed Registrars. I do not say that Indian Civil Service officers are not able men. These officers are very competent. But they are very successful as deputy commissioners because by long association they have become very good. But in this department they are out of place because they cannot have that free touch and intercourse with the public which a member of the Provincial Civil Service can have. So I say a chance should be given to the members of the Provincial Civil Service; let us see how the work goes on. If still there is corruption going on, you can change them. I am not making these statements with any other object than for the good of the department and

these poor fellows have no first hand knowledge and cannot possibly have in this matter; only the Provincial Civil Service man will be very suitable and cheap for this work. (*An honourable member*: Why not a non-official?) Perhaps a time will come for that too. There are some other things which cannot be called serious but are still defects all the same. One is that although there are graduates in this department working as sub-inspectors, yet a large number of inspectors are recruited direct instead of being recruited from among sub-inspectors. The people in the lower ranks should be promoted as inspectors. They know the working of the department much better than the new comers and the rules should be so changed as to allow a greater number of departmental men to be promoted than is the case at present. That will be one good way of ensuring good work in this department. Another thing is that the sub-inspectors of co-operative societies are not given any horse allowance. These poor fellows go on wandering about like the old philosopher from village to village. Of course I do not say that the villagers are discourteous. When the officers are not provided with their own horses these villagers lend their horses; but this has undesirable effect on the poor people. Ultimately they have to pay in all sorts of ways for the maintenance of the Government. So, it is necessary that this burden should be taken off them not only in the interests of the zamindars but also in the interests of the position and prestige of these sub-inspectors. It will be very good if they are provided with horse allowance; the work will be better done in that case. (*An honourable member*: Why not bicycles?) They are not suitable in villages. At present there are too many fictitious diaries written and that is due to the difficulty of conveyance. When a man has his own horse he will not think of committing a sin in this respect. He will go to the spot and use his own horse. Of course these poor people are driven to such things by circumstances. After all why should we grudge this small sum, especially when we can save that money by shearing off the superfluous officers in the department and by appointing cheap people who can claim better knowledge of these things? I think it is better that people with some commonsense rather than people with expert knowledge are appointed. So if we want to improve the working and the tone of these societies in the villages, we must provide our sub-inspectors with horses and that will enable the department to work more creditably and effectively than at present. I see the Honourable Minister is smiling at the mention of providing a horse to a sub-inspector. I ask him to go to the villages on foot and then he will find that this suggestion is very sound. It is only then that he will realize the difficulty of walking in villages through mire and dust and sand and stone and depressions, and only then he will appreciate the value of this suggestion. Besides if he were provided with horse, the sub-inspector will visit a larger number of villages than he does at present. With these words I support the motion.

3 P.M.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** (North-East Towns non-Muhammadan, Urban) (*Urdu*): This out which is now before the House, has provoked a good deal of discussion and sufficient light has already been thrown on the subject from the various quarters of the House. I need not make any lengthy remarks regarding the co-operative societies but as I have heard the complaints that have been made in the House by the honourable members

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in respect to their constituencies, I am also moved to make a few submissions about these societies and their work in the rural areas. So far as I understand the work of these societies, I think their aim is to ameliorate the condition of the zamindars by all possible ways. The Government brought them into existence in order that they may teach the rural population the value of economy, thrift and better living. In addition, these societies were formed so that the zamindars can borrow loans from them at a low rate of interest instead of from sahukars at a high rate of interest. Moreover these societies were meant to serve the purpose of banks in which the zamindars could deposit the surplus of their incomes. But it is very unfortunate that these societies have failed to serve the purpose for which they were brought into existence. The speeches that have been made to-day by the honourable members on this motion clearly show that instead of proving useful for the zamindars these societies have proved harmful to them. These speeches also show how these societies have forgotten the purpose for which they were created. The officers in the Co-operative Department are too many and too much money is spent on them. The purpose of the co-operative movement was that after meeting the working expenses of the department the remaining income should be spent on the improvement of rural conditions. But the working expenses of the societies are so much that nothing is saved to start any works of improvement. The societies in the beginning advanced loans to the zamindars without ascertaining their paying capacity. At present a large amount of such loans is due to the societies from the zamindars. The societies adopt very harsh measures to realise their debts. Government have passed so many laws for saving the poor zamindars from the clutches of the sahukars. Only recently in this Council a law was passed to give relief to the zamindars. The purpose of this law was to save the zamindars from the highhandedness of the sahukars. But Government has not done anything to save the zamindars from the co-operative societies which were formed to help them. These co-operative societies are working untold hardships on the zamindars instead of affording them any relief. Something ought to be done to save the zamindars from the highhandedness of the co-operative societies. I understand that the co-operative societies are empowered to attach cattle, corn and the dwellings of the zamindars in order to realise their debts. Not only this but as Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan pointed out yesterday, they are empowered to realise the debts from other villagers if the actual borrowers are not in a position to pay. I ask, is it not tyranny? Can the societies under these circumstances prove beneficial to the zamindars?

It has been said several times on the floor of this House that the co-operative societies educate the zamindars in the matter of co-operation. But as I pointed out while speaking on the Indebtedness Bill, they do not do any educating business. What they tell the zamindars is only this: "These sahukars are leeches who are sucking your life blood. They are bleeding you white. They are taking undue advantage of your ignorance. You toil and the sahukars grow fat on your earnings." The result is that this sinister propaganda turns the zamindars against the sahukars. Their mind is poisoned against them, and the co-operative societies which were meant to promote co-operation amongst the people and bring them together,



prove to be an insidious instrument to keep the people divided and fighting amongst themselves. I have attended myself the lectures arranged under the auspices of co-operative societies where it was shown by magic lantern slides that sahukars were veritable leeches who were sucking the blood of the zamindars. These societies should be ashamed of such a propaganda. If the Government has started these societies with the intention of benefiting the people these societies should be asked to stop these pernicious activities. On the other hand, the hardships perpetrated by these societies on the zamindars are many and great. An honourable member of this House drew our attention to them yesterday. He told us how the officers of the co-operative department were torturing people in the Lyallpur district. We are told that there is an honorary inspector of co-operative societies in village Salarwala in the Lyallpur district, who has been the cause of great unrest amongst the people on account of his cruel practices. As many as four letters were addressed to the Deputy Registrar as well as to the Circle Registrar on 20th February and 24th March, 1934, and 24th January and 13th March, 1935, but nothing has come out of these letters. After that, deputations waited twice on the aforementioned two officers and they promised to write to the Registrar about the matter. But nothing has so far been done to redress the grievances of the people who have been victimized by the said honorary inspector. I had no intention to speak on this motion but these facts have obliged me to protest against the treatment that is being meted out to the zamindars by these co-operative societies. It is high time that the Government should take early steps to make these societies really useful for the people of this province. In the first place it should at once take steps to rid the department of many highly paid officers who are not doing any useful work. In this way the expenditure of the department will decrease and the burden of those people who have anything to do with these societies will be lessened. Under the present circumstances the zamindars think, and they are justified in holding this view, that the sahukars are better than the co-operative societies. I challenge any one here to prove that any sahukar is half as hard upon any of his debtors as these co-operative societies have been. And the zamindars realise that. Therefore they borrow more readily from the sahukars than from the co-operative societies. Since the passage of the Indebtedness Bill the zamindars are heard complaining that they are sure to be ruined now that they have been thrown on the mercy of the co-operative banks and the sahukars have been turned out of the field. They know it full well that sahukars treat them far better than the officers of the co-operative societies. It is necessary that the Government should purge these societies of all evils now that they have chosen to throw the zamindars at their exclusive mercy after passing the Indebtedness Bill into law.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): If a stranger were to visit this Council for the first time and were to listen to the speeches, he would carry away the impression with him that probably there is something very rotten in the co-operative department. I have had an experience of the working of this department for the last 24 or 25 years and so I cannot allow all these wild allegations to go unchallenged (*hear, hear*). The other day I listened to the speech of Mr. Mukand Lal Puri who had no personal experience himself and who

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relying only on second hand information condemned the department wholesale in spite of the fact that every day he comes across cases in which he has to deal with facts and figures and has to rely only on primary evidence. I could not understand how he could go on condemning this department without any personal experience or knowledge. However he can be excused for, the information supplied to him was supplied by interested persons. But I cannot understand the allegations or the condemnation levelled at this department by some of the members who have got actual knowledge of the working of this department. One honourable member made some allegations against the working of the department in the Gujranwala district. I can tell him that I have been in charge of this district for 8 years and not a single instance of that kind came to my notice (*hear, hear*). (*An honourable member* : What kind of instance ?) There are not only village societies but there are central and mortgage banks both of which are working in a sound financial condition. Had they not been working well their credit would have been shaken and people would not have come forward to deposit their money in them. The fact is that their condition is good. Another charge laid against the department is that there have been a large number of D class societies. But that must naturally happen. That does not show laxity or slovenliness on the part of the department.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** : But the report shows that.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** : On the other hand it shows searching scrutiny on the part of the department by means of which they sift the grain from the chaff. The reason why there have been so many D class societies is firstly there was economic depression and secondly the mentality of the people who deal with the department is such that these D class societies must come into existence. The people have got no regard for their obligations, and never think of repaying their debts. Very long time will be required for the eradication of slovenly habits of the people. On the one hand it is said that the department is very harsh and severe in the treatment of the people—in this connection the other day the horrors of the Jallianwala Bagh were recalled—and on the other hand it is said that the department is lax. What is the poor department to do ? Is there any middle course for them to follow ? This reminds me of the Persian couplet :

در میان قعر دریا تخته بندم کرده  
باز می گوئی که دامن تو من هشیار بش

My Indian friends will understand it. It means you have placed me in the middle of the whirling course of the stream and then you are asking me not to let my dress become wet and want me to be careful. How is it possible ?

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** : How do you apply that saying to the Co-operative Department ?

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** : You condemn the department for being both harsh and lax.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** : I have not understood the significance of the verse that the honourable member has quoted.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** I think the honourable member is not sufficiently proficient in the Persian language. If he wants to know the meaning of this couplet he should go to some maulvi who will explain it to him.

Then a reference was made to some cases of embezzlement. Surely when there are about 22,000 societies of all classes consisting of lakhs of members and involving a capital of about Rs. 20 crores, is it any wonder that in some districts some cases of embezzlement occurred? Is there any society bank or even any Government in which such instances have not occurred? Take the case of France. What has happened in the Stavisky case? The point to note is that one swallow does not make a summer. With these few instances we cannot condemn the whole department. Such lapses are bound to occur. This is a department which on the whole has done a lot of good to the rural classes. Had this department not been established—I think it was in 1905 or 1906 that the societies came into existence—there would have been no capital for the zamindars. The reason for starting this movement is well-known to all of us. When the Punjab Land Alienation Act was passed there were strong rumours of all sorts that the zamindars would in all probability get no credit from the sahuks. In order to place the zamindars on their legs, Government came forward and established this beneficent department. I admit there have been lapses or defects in the working of the department but I urge that no society is free from such shortcomings. The department is doing its best to remedy them and to put the co-operative movement on a sound footing. When prosperous times return, surely the department will take all possible steps to improve the societies. With these words I oppose the motion.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Fazl Ali** (Gujrat East, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): I am sorry that I have not been fortunate enough to listen to all the complaints that have been raised in connection with the working of the Co-operative Department. I shall, however, make a few observations on the motion which is now before the House. So far as the matter of elections is concerned, it is plain enough that those people who have failed in the elections make the greatest complaint. When they fail to secure the election they come here to feed fat their grudge against the department. But we should consider these questions dispassionately and come to a conclusion whether a particular department is or is not doing useful work. We should not let our personal motives give an entirely different tinge to our opinion about any department run by the Government. We should consider it coolly whether it is possible that an agency run by money-making capitalists who have no object but to make huge profits by hook or crook, can ever compare favourably with an agency that is run by the Government with a view to help the needy and where the accounts are kept properly, there being no desire on the part of anybody to make any profit. Who does not know that when the question of compelling the sahuks to keep clear accounts of their transactions came up before this Council it was vehemently opposed by the representatives of those money-lending classes whose praise we have just heard from the lips of the lady member of this House, Shrimati Lakhwati, who says they are better than the co-operative societies? They fought hard to make it impossible for the Government to go through their

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accounts. They wanted to maintain the old system under which it was possible for them to give as loan a particular sum and to enter in the *bahi* an altogether different amount ; then if the poor debtor paid a particular sum it was not entered in the *bahi* and if it was at all mentioned in the account book a considerably lower amount was shown. On the other hand the accounts of the co-operative societies are as clear as day-light. From the beginning right up to the end everything is quite clear and every sum is entered most lucidly. Then the accounts are regularly checked by inspectors, sub-inspectors, circle registrars and auditors. Therefore, there is no possibility of any mistake in the accounts of the co-operative banks. The condition of the accounts of the *sahukars* is quite the reverse. No one has access to their account books. Nobody checks them. Even the income-tax officers are not shown the books by these money-lenders. Under these circumstances, can any sane person have any confidence in the dealings of the *sahukars* as opposed to the transactions of the co-operative societies ? I am in favour of improving the lot of the co-operative societies. I firmly believe that with the growth and popularity of the co-operative movement is closely bound up the prosperity of our province. We have to take into consideration this fact also that the co-operative banks which were charging previously 9 or 12 rupees as interest have made drastic reductions in their rates of interest. Now they are charging only 4 or 5 per cent. interest. All this is being done to help the poor debtors out of their difficulty. Further the transactions of these banks are free from all sorts of mal-practices. We hope that if their financial condition improves, they will allow still greater concessions to their clients. There are some banks which do not charge any interest. Can you expect such concessions from any other department ? I do not assert that this department is perfect and is free from all defects. But as compared with other departments its dealings are far more fair, its transactions are far more clean, and its accounts are far more clear and they are checked properly and regularly. Some credit societies, the financial condition of which is not good, are being allowed to take first the principal only.

If the honourable members are not determined to ridicule and censure this department, they will find a good deal in it which deserves genuine praise and appreciation. My learned friend, the Chaudhri Sahib, has just observed that this department has even surpassed the *sahukars* and there is chaos in its accounts. But he forgets that the *sahukars* never keep true and accurate accounts. They are never checked by anybody. If they double or treble the amount they lend, there is no one to question them. If the word *Sund jungir* is written in their *bahis*, it may be easily turned into *Sundh* (she-buffalo) without any hesitation or fear. They actually do so. I admit that there may be some bad men in the co-operative department. After all black sheep are present everywhere. But to condemn the whole department on this score and pass a vote of censure against it on this basis, is neither fair nor wise. If any official of the department is really bad or corrupt, somebody can take courage and report against him to the Registrar. The matter will be inquired into and the culprit will receive his retribution. But to say that because one man in the department is guilty therefore, the whole department should be abolished is not at all equitable or wise. It is just

like saying, as Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan said the other day, that the post of the Financial Commissioner should be abolished because he had appointed a minor as zaildar in the Gujrat district. As long as a department is run by human beings, faults will necessarily exist. The Co-operative Department is no exception to that. It is not being run by angels that it should be flawless and perfect.

One thing has touched me very deeply and I cannot help expressing my views regarding that. This department was started for the benefit of the zamindars. Ever since it came into being, some honourable members of this House or a certain class has always looked down upon it and tried for its abolition. Because it has been a beneficent department for the zamindars, it has always been a thorn by their side and the sahukars and their champions have always endeavoured to pluck it from their side. That is the only reason why this department has been maligned so much, otherwise there is nothing radically wrong with the department or its administration. They only want that—

کلیں سا کہ گناہ میں نکل جائے تو اچھا

But the question may arise if the co-operative banks are really beneficent to the zamindars why should such things happen in them that they may be regarded as even worse than the sahukars? The real fact is that owing to the last depression the financial position of the people had become so precarious that they could not pay anything towards their debts. The department tries to realise the debt; hence the complaint. The department went on advancing loans to its clients and also giving them concessions. Members have been borrowing the money very cheerfully, but now because they have been asked to return the money, they abuse the department and call it every kind of names. If the whole of the borrowed money is remitted, the department will be praised and it will be at once declared that it is free from any defect. This is common knowledge that when somebody lends money he is very good, and when he asks his money back and treats us harshly for not paying it, he is regarded as hard-hearted and cruel. Therefore, it is quite natural that the co-operative banks should be condemned and censured. But the right thing is that we should consider the principles on which this department was founded. If there are any defects in it in reality, we should honestly try to remove them and improve its administration. But on the ground of a defect or two, or the misdeeds of a few black sheep, we should not run down the whole department.

An honourable member said that because there are A, B, C and D classes in the societies, therefore its administration is loose. As a matter of fact, the advantage of this classification is that the department is aware of the state of the societies. This classification shows that there is no secrecy about the working of this department and its accounts can be audited with great facility. If a certain society is now placed in B class or C class, it does not follow that it will always remain so. If its working is satisfactory and if its financial position improves, it may be placed in A class and it will prove an incentive to other societies to better their condition.

Whenever the working of any department is examined, it does reveal some defects. There is not a single department of Government which on

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examination has been found to be perfect. More or less each honourable member is connected with some office or another. He knows full well how the offices work. To err is human. It is useless to clamour over this matter. If any officer of the department is guilty of misconduct, the attention of the higher authorities can be drawn to it and every effort can be made to get him punished. The co-operative banks deal with public money and it should be properly and satisfactorily handled and its accounts should be kept in a most proper manner. When the public reports against any official, a proper inquiry will be held and the whole matter will be thoroughly investigated. Instead of doing that, if we merely quote anecdotes in these matters it is entirely useless. If any inspector is guilty, we should report against him to the Registrar and take necessary steps to get him punished. That is the right course of action. Our object should be to remove defects where they exist and improve the administration of this department, and not to censure the whole of it in a malicious manner. With these words I oppose the cut under discussion.

**Mr. F. B. Wace** (Registrar, Co-operative Societies): I will endeavour not to keep the House long and I must apologise in advance for a partial loss of my voice. It is impossible to let go by some of the charges which have been made against officers of the Co-operative Department. I will start by answering as well as I can some of the general allegations which have been made. The first allegation is one of communalism. This unfortunate charge which is so freely made and which is so difficult to rebut is particularly difficult in the case of this department. There is in the first place always a certain confusion when accusations of this nature are brought against the department. It is never quite clear whether in fact the accusation is being made against Government paid officials of the department or against members of the co-operative movement who occupy a prominent place in that movement. For instance, it is made a common charge against the department that the Punjab Co-operative Union is communal in its outlook. Well, I do not wish to take refuge behind the plea that the Punjab Co-operative Union is a completely autonomous body and can do whatever it likes without any control from the Registrar. The Registrar is the President of the Union and he has a very great responsibility in endeavouring to see that the Union does not exercise its control on communal lines. Moreover, the Punjab Co-operative Union receives for its work a considerable subsidy each year from Government, and Government has therefore a very justifiable claim that in spending that subsidy it again shall not favour one particular community or adopt a line of policy which is not beneficial to some other particular community. At the same time the system of election to the Punjab Co-operative Union is not under the control of the Registrar. The Punjab Co-operative Union is the constituent body of Co-operative Societies throughout the province. If at any time one community has a preponderance over another, it may be said that the system of election is bad and that there should be some provision made for it, but you cannot base on that a charge against Government that it is deliberately fomenting a communal majority of one community or another.

This question of communalism in the past has caused a great deal of anxiety to all Registrars and lately it has also been discussed in the conference.

which has been held under the presidency of His Excellency. Again, it has been examined very closely by the Honourable Minister. The conference of officials and non-officials also suggested certain measures which might lessen the apprehension of minority communities in relation to the work of the Union.

Then as regards communalism among officials of the department itself, this charge again has been made that officers of one particular community of this department shield officials of their own community against punishment which they deserve. In the last two or three years there have been unfortunately several cases in which officials of the department have been reported and have had their conduct inquired into and it has been necessary to take disciplinary measures against them. In almost every case, as soon as the inquiry was started the official concerned at once complained against all members of the other community with whom he had anything to do during his service, alleging that the charges were due to communal bias against him. That allegation is made almost always as a matter of course. The allegation was examined in all these cases and I could not find that in fact there was any real basis for it. Orders were passed. Their appeals went up to the Financial Commissioner. He again examined the records and came to the same findings. Nonetheless, the fact that such an accusation is made is very often sufficient to create an erroneous impression that there is a general communal bias. I would like to assure members of the House that it is my honest conviction that there is no such communal attitude amongst the officers of the department—I should not say that there is no communal attitude but there is no more inclination to it in the officers of this department than in the other departments in which I have had the honour to work.

Then on the same line an accusation is apt to be made, that, for instance, the Assistant Registrar in charge of a particular area is showing undue favour to the societies with members of his own community and is showing injustice to societies containing members of another community. That charge is again very easy to make. Several questions have been asked on the floor of this House on those lines and you will probably remember that the answer has been given that co-operative societies are not classified communally; it is therefore not possible to say at once whether there is any foundation for such an accusation. But of course on a close examination locally it is easy to discover what societies consist of a majority of one community and what of another. Whenever that accusation has been made, again I have made a close examination of the local records to see whether it has been justified and in no case has it been found correct. There is a particular case in point, in the district of Ludhiana. A member from Ludhiana yesterday made what I think, you will agree, were very extravagant charges against the department, but there is no doubt that in his district in the last year or eighteen months repeated charges have been made of communalism of the official in charge of that area and those charges have been repeated in some of the less reputable organs of the local press. On those charges I have made several different inquiries and I have not found that in fact there was any basis whatever for a general charge of communal prejudice on the part of the officer in charge. The investigation had been carried out not only by the Deputy Registrar but by myself personally, on the spot and by

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looking into the records of the societies, and I do not think that it could be said that there is any basis for the charge there, or elsewhere where it has been brought.

I would ask you to consider why *prima facie* there should be any basis for this charge of communalism. I am talking now almost entirely of the movement in agricultural areas and you will remember that there is no department of Government in which there is a heavier majority of zamindars than in the co-operative department. Nearly all the existing assistant registrars and a very large majority of the inspectors are zamindars coming from the villages, and I need not tell you that it is not in villages that the excessive spirit of communalism is bred. Therefore, I do not see any reason why *prima facie* excessive communalism should be rife amongst officers of the co-operative department rather than among other officials.

Leaving that very difficult question, I will now come to the general accusation that there is a wholesale deterioration of societies. One member yesterday—an urban member speaking with all the moral fervour that we have come to expect of him—said that the department is dead, though not buried. The department is very much alive. That there has been deterioration I do not for a moment deny. A speaker to-day attempted to show that we could not point to the depression as a reason for that deterioration. I do not say that it is the only reason, but I would ask him to remember the speeches that have been made in this Council, particularly in connection with the Indebtedness Bill, in which speaker after speaker has got up and drawn attention to the distressful condition of zamindars and how in the past years they have been finding it more and more difficult not only to pay their debts and land revenue but even to keep themselves alive. These agricultural societies are composed of those zamindars. Is it to be supposed that in those years they alone could go on in the same way and that their economic condition should not fall in any degree? The wonder to my mind is not that they deteriorated but that they have kept up in the extraordinarily vital way in which they have. There was, it is true, deterioration before the depression came. Every movement, not only every movement but every person, makes mistakes. You will remember that in the boom years not only every individual but every institution and even Government itself was tempted into lavish expenditure. When co-operative societies started, the standard of living was high, the credit of zamindars was high. They wanted to borrow and, all too readily, I admit, co-operative societies advanced them to the limit of what they wanted to borrow. Even before the depression started it was realised that a mistake had been made. Figures have been quoted showing that D class societies had increased enormously. That showed that the department knew very well that the societies had put themselves into a dangerous condition by those lavish advances. The depression followed and naturally the deterioration continued. In the last two years, as those who have read the Annual Reports know the deterioration has, I am glad to say, been largely checked and I only hope that now there is definitely a turn for the better.

The next general charge was made that embezzlements were common. Well, here too the depression has to answer for a great deal but I ask you to remember, as the previous speaker has reminded us, that there are over 21,000.



societies, mostly composed of people, illiterate, almost uneducated and some of them unaccustomed to handling their own money, and certainly unaccustomed to handling other people's money. Is it surprising that out of 21,000 societies with a membership of some 750,000 there should have been 800 cases of dishonesty? I am aware that the figures of dishonesty as given in the Punjab Report are heavier than the figures of dishonesty as given in some other provincial reports. I cannot account for that, but I do recognise the fact. One member enquired whether there are no checks applied. I would answer that every possible checks that we can adopt have been applied. Also the criticism that there are no checks applied was somewhat strikingly answered by another objector, himself a co-operator, who asked why the Registrar had brought in a rule empowering himself to remove the officials of central banks. The reason largely is to check embezzlement. We had found for a number of years that the directors of central banks and similar institutions were sometimes inclined to give jobs in co-operative banks to persons untrained and connected or related in some way to themselves. It is regrettable to have to confess it but there it is. Obviously members will realise that this tends to open up very much wider avenues of embezzlement in such institutions. Therefore we felt compelled to bring in that rule.

I would also in the same connection draw the attention of honourable members to the complaints which have been made about a certain honorary inspector. I will come back to this complaint in a minute but I shall at present show its general bearing on this. More than one complaint has been made to me about the working of honorary inspectors. Is not that rather a comment of the criticism that there should be less official control? Personally I would be glad to see a large increase in our staff of honorary inspectors. It is work which should be done honorarily and in most countries is done honorarily. But it is a significant fact that of the few we have, complaints have been made in the last two years that some of them are working inimically to the interests of the banks and of the countryside generally.

Another line of criticism is in regard to the liquidation procedure adopted in relation to societies under liquidation. Liquidation is one of the most difficult tasks with which the department is now faced. There are a large number of societies under liquidation, and their members in some cases have very few assets; those who have assets are only too willing to plead the depression as an excuse for not paying. Normal recovery is not only rendered difficult, but in parts of the country even dangerous. The complaint was that liquidators engaged are men of no status and no character and are corrupt. If we can get better men, I assure the House that we would be only too glad. The difficulty is that it is extremely difficult to find men who will accept the post of liquidator. It is not generally profitable, unless corruption is employed. Unfortunately, I admit that there is corruption among the liquidators. We do our best to eradicate it, but hitherto no complete remedy has been proposed to meet this state of affairs. We have examined it in the department for the last two, three or four years. At every meeting of the officers of the department, some new way is explored to try to make liquidation both effective and honest. So far, I regret, we have not been able to achieve our ideal. Obviously we cannot allow liquidated societies to pay nothing. Members of the House represent a considerable

[Mr. F. B. Waco.]

body of depositors in the central banks. Is it fair to those depositors that every effort should not be made to realise as much of the debt as the debtors are honestly able to pay? We are bound to make whatever efforts we can to realise such debts. If in any of the districts honourable members can suggest any means for improving this procedure of liquidation, if they can produce honest and reliable men to be employed as liquidators, I can say that the department will be only too glad to give every consideration to their suggestions and a trial to the men whom they recommend as liquidators.

I think that I must refer briefly to specific allegations which were made by the honourable member from Ambala (Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan). His specific allegations were in fact in relation to two cases. One was in relation to a case in 1927 in which money was collected from societies in the Jullundur district to entertain the Royal Commission on Agriculture. I will make enquiries into that. I am exceedingly glad that the honourable member made a report to the Deputy Commissioner so that I can make an enquiry from the Deputy Commissioner's office which will at once put me in possession of the facts. (Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan: It was not a written report) (Laughter). Secondly, there was an offence which the honourable member was too modest to mention in relation to Gujranwala and Sheikhpura. I regret that if he was too modest to mention it, I am also too modest to investigate it. Then there was a long series of complaints against an honorary inspector in the Lyallpur district. Complaints have been made against that honorary inspector and in the normal way they were sent to local officials for investigation. The local officials summoned those who originally made the accusation and it was reported to me that the accusations were baseless. On that information I filed the papers. Again, a report was made to me that the allegations were true and that the local officers had in some way been influenced and therefore they did not make a true report. That report was made to me by a member of this House only a few days ago. I have now sent the papers back again with instructions to the Deputy Registrar to make an investigation himself and give a careful report. I cannot say anything more than that except to utter a word of caution. In that area there is a very bitterly contested district board election and the honorary inspector against whom the complaint has been made is said to be associated with one party or another. That is a definite caution because we know that in these contested elections it is only too common for the party against whom the official is working to make false accusations. I do not say that this is inevitably the case in the present instance, but there is that caution before us.

Now, I would like to refer very briefly to the general policy of the department, for I feel that it is not fully understood. The general policy of the co-operative department, as far as it relates to rural areas is to nurse the societies which are in a weak condition to prevent them from stagnating and to bring them back to strength. One member from Ambala (Kanwar Manraj Singh), whom I am glad to acknowledge as a useful member of his Central Bank, made the surprising suggestion the other day that we should raise the rate of interest to these societies, that we should give all our attention to good societies and that we should bring into liquidation all the D class societies. In my opinion no policy can be more fatal to the zamindars at

the present moment than this. Our policy is to keep our rates as low as we can and in relation to D class societies to give them every possible concession, every possible facility to pay, so that when better times come the societies may be in a position to help them. Honourable Members have all heard the accusations which have been made about liquidation procedure. Is it to be the policy of the department to consign more than half the societies to the rigours, as they are described, of that process? I am quite sure that members of this House will at once negative any such proposal. Next, combined with that we have come to recognise that credit has been too much stressed in the co-operative movement. We have started almost exclusively with credit, and we still realise that credit is a necessity to the zamindar. Where he needs that credit and where there is good material for the foundations of new societies we intend to the best of our ability to expand that credit, but at the same time it is undoubtedly essential to link that expansion of credit with other activities in the way of rural reconstruction. Several members have referred disparagingly to 'fancy' societies, and have suggested that we are wasting our energy on them. I would only remind them that the society for consolidation of holdings was once regarded as a 'fancy' society. It had been in existence in this department for very many years before the real demand arose from zamindars themselves, and it is now recognised as one of the most beneficent activities in which the co-operative department can engage itself. There are other societies of other kinds in which I am convinced that we can make very great advance and that advance will be of real benefit to the zamindars. It has been said that the movement is too official. I agree that it is. If the movement is to live it must become self-supporting and truly co-operative. But this is not the time to attempt a radical change. What we need is a very much wider expansion not only of co-operative education but of general education. For that we need the help and assistance of every educated lover of the zamindar. May I conclude by appealing to all zamindar members of this House to look sympathetically on the programme we have laid down and to give us every assistance which they can in the future. (*Cheers*).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the question be now put.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 91,700, Direction—  
Co-operative Credit.

*The motion was lost.*

*Audit fees of Co-operative Unions and special pay of Sub-Inspectors.*

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** (Ambala-cum-Simla, non-Muhamadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,05,200, 34-C—  
Agriculture, Co-operative Credit (iii) Grant-in-aid.

As the House is aware the Government gives a certain amount to the Punjab Co-operative Union as grant-in-aid in order that the Union may be able to meet the expenditure that it

4 P.M.

<sup>1</sup>To criticise the policy of the Punjab Co-operative Union with respect to audit fee and demanding additional pay of sub-inspectors from the Central Banks.

[Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan.]

has to incur on its establishment. In return the Union has taken upon itself the responsibility of engaging sub-inspectors to supervise their work and to hear and investigate complaints against them. It has further taken upon itself the duty of realising audit fee from the Central Banks and for the matter of that from the societies. Now this audit fee is charged at the rate of 10 per cent. although originally its rate was  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. When this fee was increased to 10 per cent., it was done so arbitrarily and without any reference to or permission of the Government or of any other higher authority. Now only recently it has been proposed to add to this burden by 10 per cent. more and again without the permission of the Government and without any reference to the Council. It is really something very extraordinary and I should say intolerable. You know that when any additional tax is proposed to be levied on the public, the sanction of the Council should invariably be obtained or at any rate the matter should be allowed to be discussed by the Council. But here in this case the Union is increasing the burden on the central banks and on the co-operative societies without any reference to any authority as I have already said.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** In what way is this fee being increased ?

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** I shall just explain in what way the audit fee is being increased. A circular has recently been issued by the Union requiring the central banks to engage at their cost one sub-inspector for each unit of one hundred societies under them. Now our central bank which has nearly three hundred societies working under it, will have to engage three extra sub-inspectors according to that circular and will have to pay towards their emoluments, etc. This as we have calculated comes to about an additional burden of ten per cent. more. Lest I should be misunderstood I may say that I fully endorse the view that there is great need for extra sub-inspectors to supervise the work of the co-operative societies. I also know that the number of sub-inspectors at present working is not sufficient to cope with the increasing amount of work, but that is no reason why the shareholders of the central banks and the societies should be made to bear this additional expenditure. It is the Government which should be approached to meet this extra expenditure and not the central banks. In this connection there is another very important point which should be borne in mind and that is that very few of these societies are making so much profit as to be able to bear this in addition to the audit fees. Many of these banks are running at a loss and are under debt because many of the persons who had taken loans from them have become insolvent. It is, therefore, highly objectionable that they should be made to pay anything more than what they are already paying.

**Mr. President :** Which item in the budget is the honourable member speaking to ?

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** Page 361 Grant-in-aid to Punjab Co-operative Union (1) for propaganda work and (2) for higher audit, half cost of the pay of two auditors at Rs. 500 per mensem each.

**Mr. President :** Then the honourable member will please confine his speech only to these sub-items.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** Because of this propaganda work the Punjab Co-operative Union in its turn charges the co-operative societies and I am objecting to that charge which the societies have to pay. This is relevant. In this propaganda work the Punjab Co-operative Union engages sub-inspectors and pays them and charges the societies for that. The central banks that are working yield a very small percentage of profit to the shareholders varying from 5 to 7 per cent. There are instances where their full interests are not realized at the end of the year and they put a great amount of money towards bad and doubtful debts. The central banks have been compelled to charge a lower rate of interest from the agriculturists. I object to it. The future rate of interest must always depend upon the repaying capacity of the debtor.

**Mr. F. B. Wace :** What has that got to do with the present motion?

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** When the central banks have been asked to pay a substantial amount I must explain the position in which the central banks are. Their profits have been charged and I was explaining how their profits were made up.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member is requested to confine his speech to the sub-items mentioned on page 361 of the budget.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** In fact, it is quite clear what his point is and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies will be able to explain.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan :** If it is clear, I need not say anything more.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the demand be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,05,200, 34-C—Agriculture—Co-operative Credit (iii) Grant-in-aid.

**Mr. F. B. Wace (Registrar, Co-operative Societies) :** A very brief explanation will suffice in regard to this one particular item. I think it is an item which should not have been raised in this House at all. It is a matter which concerns the Punjab Co-operative Union. The mover is himself a member and director of a central bank which sends a representative to that Union and if he wishes to press this point he could very well raise it in the Punjab Co-operative Union itself. Even so I feel that it is an ill-advised step. The Punjab Co-operative Union has not put on a further tax, has not increased the audit fee. It really amounts to an appeal to the central banks saying that at the present time it finds it exceedingly difficult to meet its increasing expenses. It is an appeal to them to subscribe the pay of one extra sub-inspector for the 200 societies in its charge. This was done because its income has been decreasing and its expenses have been increasing. The alternative is to ask the Government for an increased grant. That is, in fact, being done, but to meet a shortage under other heads. But to move a cut in the Government grant because of this seems to me an entirely upside down procedure, and in any case it is a matter which should be left to the decision of the Punjab Co-operative Union and of the co-operative societies themselves.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,05,200, 34-C—  
Agriculture Co-operative Credit (iii) Grant-in-aid.

*The motion was lost.*

### *Opening of Mortgage Banks.*

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural) : I beg to move—

\*That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 11,31,800—  
Co-operative Credit.

Before I discuss this question of opening new banks I may be allowed to explain the working of the present mortgage banks so that we may be in a position to find out on what lines we should start.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** If I may say a word, I think Sardar Sahib will agree with me that he himself is a member of the conference which is going into the whole question and I do not think it would serve any purpose to go into the question now. He will have an opportunity of taking up this matter in the sub-committee of which he is a member.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh :** That is a different question. The sub-committee has its own work to do and this House has to do its own. Whatever is done in the sub-committee need not necessarily be discussed here, but whatever is worth considering by this House must be put before it. I would not discuss the merits or demerits of the present banks and I will come directly to the banks which I have in my mind and which, I urge, should be opened in the Punjab. We have only in the last session of this Council, passed a Bill to relieve the rural indebtedness. The important measure which we have provided in that Bill is to compromise the debts so that the indebtedness of the peasant class of the province may be removed. There is a very popular Urdu saying—

دامن کے روئے داموں سے ہی مانتے ہیں

It goes without saying that when we think of settling debts we have to provide how sahuikars are going to be paid. We know that the peasant has no credit left ; he has exhausted all the credit he had and now if he wanted to raise any more loan he would be in a fix and will not be able to raise any. For this purpose it is the duty of the Government to provide facilities which will enable the peasant to settle with his creditors according to the arrangements which may be arrived at by the conciliation boards provided by the Bill to which I have referred. If we go into the history of western countries, especially that of America, we find that almost about two centuries ago they started these land mortgage banks. The main features of these banks is that Government guarantees the loans which these banks raise, and with that guarantee those loans can be raised at a very low rate of interest. Indebtedness being very great, if payments are made in ready cash to the creditors, they would be willing to forego in some cases 50 or even 60 per cent. of the loans which have accumulated. For this reason we should open

\*To press upon the Government the necessity of opening Mortgage Banks in the province on the lines on which they are run in Western countries.

these banks. If debentures are issued by these mortgage banks and such debentures are guaranteed by the Government then money may be raised at a low rate of interest say at 3 or between 3 and 4 per cent. per annum. This may be advanced to the peasants at a rate of interest between 4 to 5 per cent. per annum and this can be done on the security of the mortgage of the land for a long term of say 30 to 40 years. This will reduce the burden of debts so far as the peasant class of this country is concerned. In this case he will get three kinds of relief. Firstly, his debt will be reduced, secondly, the rate of interest will decrease tremendously and thirdly, the burden of that debt will be distributed over thirty to forty years and in that way he will be able to meet his liabilities in an honourable manner. If such a provision for opening mortgage banks is not made, the result will be a sort of general demoralization all over the province. Efficiency in agriculture will decrease and Government revenue will be paid with very great difficulty, perhaps it may almost become impossible for people to do so. Generally the people will be living in a very bad condition so far as the economics of the province are concerned. If we want that agriculture and other industries in the province should flourish and the people should be able to meet their liabilities, and on the whole everybody in the province should have better relations with one another, I think this is the only measure which can help us in bringing about this state of affairs. There is a great difficulty also in the way of these banks. Government might object that in view of the Land Alienation Act, land in the hands of agriculturists is not a good security for such loans. But we know that under the Land Alienation Act it is provided that the land of an agriculturist can be mortgaged for 20 years and even the possession can be allowed to pass for that period to non-agriculturists. While considering these mortgage banks we will have to give the same value to these lands which they have under the Land Alienation Act, that is, the income which they get during 20 years. With that in view no doubt people will not be able to raise any large loans, but all the same they will have credit to the extent of the income of their land for 20 years and to that extent some banks will be able to advance loans to these people at very low rates in order to meet their liabilities and settle their old debts. With these few words I move this motion.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 11,31,800, Co-operative Credit.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): I am sure the honourable member will agree that he does not wish me to make any general statement on the subject. He knows that I am in full sympathy with the idea of long term credit for agriculturists. With this object in view the Co-operative Conference which the honourable mover of this motion attended, considered the whole range of long term credit and its possibilities in the Punjab. At the instance of another member, Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi, I am glad to say, a very representative sub-committee has been appointed to discuss this matter of which the honourable mover himself is a member and I can say that when the report of that committee is presented it will receive the most serious and sympathetic consideration from the Government as a whole. I do not think he will like

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

me to say anything more on the subject because we await the recommendations of the sub-committee of which he is a member and in view of this I do not think he will press this out to a division.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh :** I beg to withdraw the motion.

*The motion was by leave withdrawn.*

*Saving of lands from Thur and Kallar.*

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural) : I move—

<sup>1</sup>That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

This is my old subject to which I have again to revert on this occasion. Fortunately or unfortunately land is the only wealth of the people of this province. There is very little industry and there are hardly any big commercial concerns in this province. To our great distress we find that hundreds of miles of our fertile lands in several parts of the province are becoming a prey to *thur* and *kallar*. We have been hearing for quite a long time that efforts are being made by the Departments of Irrigation and Agriculture in co-ordination with other branches of Government to check the spread of this great calamity. But so far no effective work has been done. I have made the suggestion time and again that in order to stop the spread of *kallar* it may be necessary in some localities to stop irrigation by canal so that the spring level of water may not come near the surface and the lands may not get still worse. At some places it has been observed that *kallar* appears where the spring level is so low as 15 or 16 feet. The scientists explain that this is due to the capillary action of water. When water at the top dries up, water from below comes up by capillary action to the surface of the land bringing with it sub-soil salts and when that water dries up, those salts are left on the surface which create *kallar* and render the land entirely unsuitable for agriculture. The land is not actually waterlogged, but the coming up of the spring level sets the capillary action and *kallar* is the result. Therefore in all those parts, where this evil is spreading, it would be better to stop irrigation by canals and start tube-wells worked by electricity so kindly generated by Government. A large number of people have already applied for energy. The other day in my absence the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government informed my honourable friend Sardar Bishan Singh that no application for electricity has been received. (*Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government* : I said, three applications had been received). An honourable member of this House on that day suggested that to his own knowledge many more than three and indeed several applications had been made. I do not think that they ever reached the hands of the Honourable Minister. But the question remains that either by the aid of this scheme or by some other method Government should start the process of taking water out of the land affected by *kallar* and send the canal water to some other areas where there is no danger of *thur* or *kallar* appearing. I was thinking that in Amritsar and Gurdaspur districts where there are several distributaries which are only one crop channels it would be proper to give them more water than at present. The water withdrawn from places

<sup>1</sup>To impress on the Government that this department is making no headway to tackle the problem of saving the Punjab lands from *thur* and *kallar*.



now affected by *thur* and *kallar* may be diverted to such places. And instead of the canals tube wells worked by electricity should be substituted. I know that this is a big scheme. But the danger is also very great. I am afraid that the danger which we see ahead is much greater than the money which Government may have to spend on such a scheme. With these words I move my motion.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the total grant be reduced by Re. 1.

**Mr. H. R. Stewart** (Director of Agriculture) : The honourable member who has moved this cut has referred to two things, *thur* and *kallar*. The distinction between these two is merely historical. *Kallar* is the term we usually apply to that white salt which we get on the surface of land which has not yet come under irrigation, whereas *thur* is the same thing which has appeared subsequent to irrigation. There is, therefore, no real distinction in the composition of the two, and such remarks as I am about to make may be taken as applying to both.

The honourable member has made a suggestion that it might be advisable to consider withdrawing canal irrigation from certain *kallar* affected tracts and substituting tube well irrigation. He will probably be interested to know that active steps have already been taken to locate lands to which electrically operated tube well schemes on a large scale could be applied. Two months ago I had the opportunity of seeing what is being done in the way of hydro-electrically operated tube wells in the United Provinces, and at a conference which took place since then it has been decided that preliminary steps should be taken and preliminary proposals worked out to see whether similar schemes can be applied here.

Apart from that aspect of the treatment of *kallar* soils I should like briefly to say what has been done in recent years in the Agricultural Department. While it is quite true that the Agricultural Department has not undertaken on any large scale any reclamation measures connected with *kallar* on zamindars' lands in recent years, we have been very actively engaged in the laboratory and on our own experimental farms in finding ways of treating and curing *kallar*. Not only have we been busy but the research section of the Irrigation Branch have been equally so, and between us we have made very considerable progress, as I shall show just now.

Unfortunately *kallar* is not all of one composition and the methods which will cure it in one instance will not do so in another. Very briefly, there are in general two kinds of *kallar*. The first one consists mainly of water-soluble salts which are easily washed down by heavy flooding,—the process we call leaching. There is no very great difficulty in getting rid of this kind provided the water is available. In addition to the application of water we recommend also that a crop of rice should be grown subsequently because it has been found that rice has very fine properties in connection with the reclamation of *kallar*. The second kind of *kallar* is much more difficult to cure. A normal soil contains in fairly large quantities what we know as calcium clay, but under certain conditions which accompany *kallar* formation, an excess of sodium salts in the soil converts that calcium clay into sodium clay, a very harmful product and one not easily got rid of. Consequently, before we were in a position to make any recommendation

[Mr. H. R. Stewart.]

as to how this kind of *kallar* should be treated, we ourselves had to find out the solution. We have found that this sodium clay can be reconverted back again into the useful calcium clay by the application of certain chemicals. The most efficient of those chemicals are calcium sulphate, commonly known as gypsum, and calcium chloride. Gypsum is readily available in the province. It can be had at Khewra mines at a cost of Re. 1-12-0 a ton f.o.r. Adding railway freight to that it may be said that it is generally available, and in as large quantity as it is likely to be needed in any of those affected tracts in the Punjab, at rates varying from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 a ton. Our experiments have shown that certain types of *kallar* can be definitely reclaimed by the application of gypsum, but they are not yet complete. At the present moment we are working out the economics of the application of gypsum, how much is the most economic quantity to apply and at what cost. Equally important also is another point that we are working out, namely, how long the effect of applying gypsum lasts. Five years ago we started these applications on *kallar* soil of the bari type in Montgomery district and on the land then treated we have now taken four successive wheat crops, and still we are deriving very considerable benefit from the original application which had cost us Rs. 25 an acre. Hitherto only wheat had been grown year after year. We have now put this land under a normal rotation of crops and we are watching the results very carefully. But whilst I have said that the benefit obtained from applying gypsum to this land at a cost of Rs. 25 an acre is still very evident five years later, I do not wish the House to feel that the application of gypsum at Rs. 25 an acre is definite and final solution of the *kallar* trouble. We have carried out other experiments of a similar nature at Kala Shah Kaku and although our work there has not advanced so far as at Montgomery, the indication is that we shall have to apply gypsum much more frequently than appears to be the case at Montgomery. Our work, therefore, is still incomplete and we are doing our best to push it on.

Taking now the Irrigation Department, they have been very actively engaged at their farm at Chakanwali during the last half dozen years, in an attempt to reclaim *kallar* soils on land where the water table has come up very near the surface of the ground. There the procedure is first to construct a series of open drains, for they have found that if you can keep the underground water table moving, without allowing it to stagnate as it were, by drainage even when the water is as near the surface as 18 inches, they can still get admirable crops. Their method consists first of all in establishing a series of open drains, heavily flooding the land and treating it with gypsum, allowing it to stand for a time and subsequently sowing a rice crop. They find that rice is most important in this reclamation process. The rice crop is in fact, used as an index of the state of reclamation which has been reached. If the yield of the rice crop is twenty maunds per acre, the land is declared to be reclaimed and they proceed to grow other crops, first senji or berseem, followed by sugarcane. If, on the other hand, the yield of rice varies from twelve to twenty maunds, the land is considered to be only partially reclaimed and they then grow another rice crop: finally if the yield is below twelve maunds per acre, they consider it necessary to repeat the reclamation process all over again.

These are the measures which have been worked out up to the present time. As to the lines we are working on, I might add that at an official conference held a few weeks ago, the progress which has been made in *Kallar* reclamation came under review, and it was felt that the information which we have gained up to the moment in our laboratories, in the field, and at Chakanwali is sufficient to warrant us in greatly extending our reclamation experiments and possibly proceeding in some cases to the point of demonstration of measures of reclamation. It has, therefore, been decided that we should work out a scheme for extending this experiment not only on Government farms which need reclamation, but on privately-owned land. At the present moment my department is actively engaged in working up a scheme with that object in view. If funds are available, as I hope they will be, we hope to start these reclamation measures in the next cold weather. I hope, therefore, that, as a result of what I have said, honourable members will feel that, although we have undertaken no big scheme of reclamation measures up to the moment, we have acquired a great deal of useful information which we are on the point of applying.

**Mr. President :** I think this amendment is out of order. Therefore, I cannot allow any further discussion on it. In fact all amendments after amendment No. 23 are out of order.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** You have heard two members make their speeches. I think you can spare a few minutes for me.

**Mr. President :** As soon as that mistake was discovered, I expressed my opinion. An amendment at any stage, even after it is fully discussed, may be ruled out of order before the council has voted upon it.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** I desire to speak on the demand as a whole. I want to oppose it, and I will give my grounds why I oppose it.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member may speak to the whole grant but not to any items which have been discussed and disposed of directly or indirectly. The Parliamentary practice on the point is—

A proposal cannot be made for the reduction of the whole grant, for the purpose of renewing discussion upon an item on which a question has been proposed, or debate arisen, or upon any item previous thereto.—*May's Parliamentary Practice*, page 534.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** Supposing a member does not want to oppose the whole grant, but wishes to express an opinion upon some matters connected with the grant, is he debarred from doing so?

**Mr. President :** The rule of relevancy will regulate his speech.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** Relevancy has a wide range.

#### *Agricultural, Veterinary and Co-operative Departments.*

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to oppose the whole demand. If you look at the percentage of officers in this department you will find a great disproportion in the representation of various communities. Then the things that are useful to the zamindars are not being done by this department. For instance, take the case of supplying good seeds to every nook and corner of

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the province. Officers getting high salaries never visit villages. The very fact that they do not keep horses really shows that they do not go to villages. This is a very great defect which the Ministers should have attended to long ago. If the Director of Agriculture does not go to villages, what is the good of keeping him? How is it that he goes to Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Lahore and Amritsar and places like that, but he seldom pays any visit to villages. The very fact that he does not ride and does not keep a horse shows that he does not go to the villages, and that is a sufficient condemnation of the department and its existence is absolutely superfluous. It would have been better if we had no such high salaried officers and the district officers alone did the work.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Most of them can ride very well.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** But they do not. Why are you keeping such highly paid officers like the Director, the Deputy Director and the Assistant and Extra Assistant Director? A practical man like the Honourable Minister must set his face against the increase of highly paid officers. He should address himself to lower paid officers who can serve the province better and do what is needed. The Honourable Minister is aware that the department was started only with the object of increasing the output of the agriculturists and to find means of living for the increasing population of the province. But what is the result? I should like to know what good has been effected out of the huge amount of money that is being spent on the department. I remember once taking a large number of zaildars to visit a farm at Hansi, where a Deputy Director was stationed. People from all over the Rohtak district had come there. When they saw the sugarcane farm of the department they asked, "what good is that? Our own farms are better than that." He challenged anybody to walk through his farm from one end to the other. I asked the man "what is bad in this farm." He said that these people are getting large salaries and enjoying themselves whereas we work in the hot sun of the day. I have seen in Mianwali district people ploughing their lands at 12 noon. The sun was scorchingly hot, and yet the man with uncovered head and unshod feet was ploughing his fields at a time when these Directors and Assistant Directors and Deputy Directors would not even like to go there. They keep motor cars and run from Jullundur to Hoshiarpur and back and count the distance which they have covered for getting travelling allowance. Is that the way of spending the resources of a poor country like the Punjab? This is sufficient condemnation of the Minister in keeping the department in this sorry condition. Has the Honourable Minister ever gone to villages away from metalled road. If he has gone he should know that never has any of these highly paid officers visited the villages. The real work is being carried on by lower officers, and these highly paid officers enjoy themselves in the months of May and June. I ask the Honourable Minister if he can get any practical work out of these officers during the months of summer when the sun is hot and it is not possible for them to move out. Why do they not then reduce the staff and recruit those who can do the work practically. A large amount of land lies fallow on account of *kallar*, and this department does nothing about it. All it does is to keep a farm

in some place near a town which is though ostensibly meant to show experiments is really meant for their own feeding. If you keep them for the benefit of the people, you must keep them in outlying districts so that the villagers living in the neighbourhood may be able to benefit from the demonstrations given by them. In the annual reports it is said that so much money is spent on the departmental farms. What good is that? I ask. Has it improved the amount of production proportionately to expenditure incurred and could be expected after spending so much money? I know production has increased, but has it increased as much as the population has increased? Again, whatever increase has been made is all due to the exertions of the lower staff and not because of the Director and Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors. You have declared a previous motion out of order.

**Mr. President :** Which motion has the Chair declared to be out of order?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Motion No. 24 referring to *kallar*. I understand from personal knowledge that in the Agricultural Department experiments are being made for reclaiming land from *kallar* and *thur*. But the question is, how long will experiments go on? You cannot take water to all places, and places situated near the sources of water like canals are not the only places entitled to attention. Money of the whole province is being spent and every part of it must benefit equally thereby. Take the case of Ambala division, Gurgaon side or Hissar side where there are no canals and which is almost always in the grip of famine. Large tracts of land are lying fallow in that tract with abundance of *kallar* and *thur*. If you turn your attention to these outlying tracts, it will be very useful not only to the zamindars but the Government also. A large tract of land will be brought under cultivation and will increase the revenue of the province. By spending a little you can make as much money as you like. Revenues may be doubled and in fact they have already been doubled, thanks to the efforts of those good Englishmen who took over the reins of Government of the Punjab. But these efforts have not been made by the present officials, they were made by those good Englishmen who toiled day and night to make the Punjab what it is (*hear, hear*) and who left an indelible mark on the province. Do you not know that you are making no improvements? Are you making any further development in any department? The labour of those good men is being wasted and the books written by those hard-working men are now lying in oblivion. This lethargy of the Government servants must be shaken in order to increase the revenues of the province. It is no use saying that Punjab is much ahead of the United Provinces. Compare it with Russia and Poland. What was the condition of Russia a few years ago? How much land have they reclaimed out of those ice-bound areas. If you reclaim land towards Palampur and other districts I have mentioned, where there are large tracts lying fallow, you will do a great good to everybody. But nothing is being done and still you claim that Agriculture Department is doing something. This sorry state of things which has been brought to the notice of the House must be ended.

Now I come to the Veterinary Department. This department consists of highly paid officers, inspectors and others. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram drew a long list of men in this department and pointed out

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that at least a dozen highly paid officers were superfluous. You have in this House a large majority and think there is no use listening to these speeches. You may carry the day, but that is not the proper spirit and the right way of doing one's duty. You should reduce a large number of officers and improve the chances of lower officers. You are spending Rs. 46,83,720 a year on the Department of Agriculture. Is not this a waste? A crore of rupees is being wasted, but can you show me production in proportion to the heavy expenses in this department? If not, they are answerable for this waste of public money. If I had the time and statistics before me, I would have pointed out that they have been very extravagant in spending money.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** On a point of order. Is the honourable member addressing the Chair?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** I am addressing the Chair. If these remarks are heeded by the officers on the Treasury Benches then I think we should have done a real service. But each year whether in opposing the whole demand or in making reductions in any demand we have not been effective at all. I admire the trouble and hardship which honourable members on this side of the House nevertheless take in dinning into the ears of Government their points of view which unfortunately never permeate or enter the official mind. If we have any valuable ideas to suggest, why should not honourable members of Government take action on them? If we out of the experience of the conditions in our villages, out of our experience as agriculturists give sound advice which members of Government cannot get by sitting in their offices, is it not their duty to accept and act upon such advice? Knowledge is not to be had from books and charts alone which Government can issue from time to time. Far more valuable is the advice which honourable members can give Government out of their practical experience. One should have thought that after some twenty years of active work in the co-operative department there would be a network of societies in the province, about three or four in each village running very well and flourishing. But what is the actual condition. Go to the villages. You will find default in each bank and society. The working of the department has revealed many abuses. There is something rotten somewhere if that is the state of things. I assure Government that even now the money-lender in each village is doing more business than the co-operative society does. He has no officials to assist him; he has not got the force and power at his back. He has only his shrewdness, activity and business instinct to aid him, whereas Government has a host of highly paid officials who pose themselves as though they were *Hakims*. This notion is ruining the whole department and the movement cannot make any headway unless it is knocked out of the heads of officers and unless they feel that they are closely tied to the prosperity of the village people. In the present outlook of the officers of the department it is very difficult to expect the villagers to co-operate with them. I trust that these remarks will bring home to Government the defects in the working of the department, and the conditions being what they are I am constrained to oppose the whole demand.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Landholders, General): I do not question the utility of the Agricultural Department. It has

done a lot for the agriculturists but more remains to be done. I am also prepared to admit that the peasant proprietor of the Punjab is a shrewd zamindar. He knows his work very well. There is hardly any scientific truth of which he has not a general cognisance and empirical knowledge. My observation shows me that the sort of knowledge that he lacks is quantitative, the sort of knowledge he possesses is qualitative. He cannot make calculations, but he knows what the effect of certain processes would be on the productivity of the soil. So far as that matter goes the Agricultural Department has no new knowledge to impart. It has done useful work in other ways. But there are shortcomings and to these shortcomings I would invite the attention of the Honourable Minister. Discussion has been going on about *kallar*, and the Director of Agriculture stood up and explained to the House that the *kallar* that we find in the Punjab soil is of two kinds, white *kallar* and black which is called *thur*, and that the removal of each kind of *kallar* is possible by different processes. The first defect that I find in the department is this that the knowledge that has been attained by means of experiments has not been given due publicity. The officer of the Information Bureau ought to be supplied with all the facts and with all the knowledge obtained by means of experiments and those experiments and that knowledge ought to be brought home to the zamindar. The Director of Agriculture said that there are certain kinds of *kallar* which are removable by irrigation, that there are other kinds of *kallar* which is due to excessive irrigation. The ordinary zamindar should be made to know (*An honourable member*: He already knows it.) the difference between the two classes. He does know it in an empirical way. I happen to own lands which are suffering from both kinds of *kallar* and I know the difference. But the ordinary zamindar ought to be made to know what process would remove his *kallar*, whether it is as in the one case by irrigation or as in the other perhaps by slight decrease of irrigation. With regard to *thur*, the Director of Agriculture referred to certain experiments which were being made, but from which no definite conclusions have yet been drawn. So far as experiments have been made and as far as they have proved to be successful the benefit of the knowledge should be given to the agriculturist. The Irrigation Department should be induced to give sufficient supply of water to lands from which *kallar* can be removed by irrigation. There is no such provision made by the Irrigation Department. That department calculates the area which can come under cultivation in a certain estate and supplies water according to its own calculation and its own estimate of efficiency per cansec. The department never takes account of the fact that there are certain estates in which water is often needed for the removal of *kallar*. They do not take cognisance of this fact at all. This ought to be brought home to the Irrigation Department by the Agricultural Department. Then, the fees which are charged by the Agricultural Department for giving scientific advice are certainly excessive. I know that from my own experience. If a bottle of water taken from a well has to be sent to the Chemical Examiner he charges Rs. 32 for the examination. One would rather save this Rs. 32 and test the alkalinity of water by tasting. The exact amount of *kallar* in the water cannot be ascertained without undergoing considerable expenditure. Then again, the fees charged by the Agricultural College for the examination of soils are very

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excessive. (*Honourable Finance Member*: They have been removed). The services of the Agricultural Chemist in the Agricultural College should be made available to zamindars, and he should be paid his travelling allowance by Government without charging any fee to the zamindar. These are matters on which I should like to lay stress, and these are, in my opinion, shortcomings in the working of the department. If they are removed I would wholeheartedly support the demand.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural): I may add a few words with regard to the three departments under the Honourable Minister for Agriculture. I will first draw his attention to the Veterinary Department. Here there has been a general fall in the number of statutory agriculturists. The reasons that were given by the Honourable Minister were that agriculturists were not available, they did not resort to the Veterinary College, and that, therefore, it was found impracticable to employ them in larger numbers. But he himself is responsible for making conditions in the Veterinary College such that agriculturists find it difficult to resort to it. In the first instance, he raised the standard of education for admission from that of matriculation to that of intermediate in arts. When this was done loud protests were raised, but the Honourable Minister did not heed them. Then there were a certain number of scholarships which were open, in the first instance, only to agriculturists. He took away that benefit from statutory agriculturists and threw the scholarships open to everybody. Another difficulty which agriculturists find in seeking admission to the college relates to the lower scale of pay. The course lasted only for three years, say, about ten or twelve years ago. That period was raised to four years, but a definite undertaking was given by the then Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Har Kishen Lal, that those who underwent a four years' course would receive a salary of Rs. 100 a month. He set a limit of Rs. 100 to the number of those who would be engaged by the department on that scale. Before that number was reached the present Minister for Agriculture, most arbitrarily, reduced that scale of pay to one of Rs. 51. No reduction on that scale was attempted in any other department. In the Medical School at Amritsar the educational standard for admission is matriculation, the period is four years and the initial pay which a student who completes the four years' course receives when he enters service is Rs. 70. It rises to Rs. 120. He is entitled to private practice. Veterinary assistant surgeons undergo training for the same period of four years; they have to pass a higher standard of examination before they are admitted into the Veterinary College; they are not entitled to private practice. Of course there is not much scope for it. Still there is a rule which prevents them from practising privately. And yet, their pay has been reduced from Rs. 100 to Rs. 51 a month. Another prospect which would induce students to go to the Veterinary College has been removed by the abolition of the post of inspector. Therefore all the circumstances which discourage the admission of statutory agriculturists to this college have been created by the Honourable Minister himself.

Next to the Veterinary, I may take up the Department of Agriculture. Here my complaint is in respect of the employment of Hindu zamindars.



The expectation naturally could have been that their percentage and their number in the department would increase. But instead of that happening the numbers have either remained stationary or have gone back. The number of Hindu zamindars in 1927 was 17, in 1935, 22, an increase of 5 in eight years. (*An honourable member*: What is the percentage of non-agriculturist Hindus?) The classes which my honourable friend represents in this House are 21·4 per cent. in the Hindu population and 60 per cent. among Agricultural Assistants in 1935.

*At this stage the Council adjourned till 2-30 P. M. on Friday, 22nd March, 1935.*

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## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 22nd March 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2-30 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### OATH OF OFFICE.

*The following members were sworn in :—*

Mr. J. W. Hearn (Home Secretary to Government).

Mr. T. B. Tate (Chief Engineer, Irrigation).

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### LAND REVENUE COLLECTION, LUDHIANA.

**\*4352. Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali :** (i) Will the Honourable Member for Revenue lay on the table—

(a) report of the patwari Allah Ditta of Ludhiana city, dated 30th June, 1934, regarding collection of land revenue from the city, along with all the connected papers ;

(b) complaint, dated 10th July, 1934, by Chaudhri Fazal Ilahi, acting zaildar, Taraf Ghelewal, Ludhiana district, in connection with the above report ;

(c) report of Shah Abdul Rahim, tahsildar, dated 18th July, 1934, in connection with the above-mentioned complaint ?

(ii) Will the Honourable Member also please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the said tahsildar, in his report, dated 18th July, 1934, made a request to the Revenue authorities that the case be handed over to the Police ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative whether the Revenue Assistant, Ludhiana district, agreed with the tahsildar, Ludhiana ;

(c) if not, on what grounds ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Government do not consider it in the public interest to give the information asked for.

#### WHEAT AND TORIA CROP, LYALLPUR.

**\*4353. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state the area under wheat and toria, the yield per acre, and the quantity brought to all the markets in the Lyallpur district in the year 1934 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement giving the required information is laid on the table :—

	Area in acres.	Yield per acre in maunds.	Quantity (in maunds) brought to all the markets in the Lyallpur district.
Wheat ..	580,816	18	5,772,268
Toria ..	18,098	6	1,315,708

**GRAM, MAIZE AND SUGARCANE CROPS, LYALLPUR.**

**\*4354. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state the area under gram, maize and sugarcane and the yield per acre for the years 1922—1934, in the Lyallpur district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing area under gram, maize and sugarcane and the yield per acre for the years 1922—34 in the Lyallpur district.*

Years.	GRAM.		MAIZE.		SUGARCANE.	
	Area.	Yield per acre.	Area.	Yield per acre.	Area	Yield per acre.
	Acres.	Mds. Srs.	Acres.	Mds. Srs.	Acres.	Mds. Srs.
1922-23 ..	170,171	6 14	57,443	11 27	69,384	21 37
1923-24 ..	138,450	8 6	54,298	11 26	53,892	21 35
1924-25 ..	133,154	7 30	43,251	11 26	34,567	26 10
1925-26 ..	140,164	7 32	45,000	14 24	30,566	24 3
1926-27 ..	149,550	8 11	46,142	14 23	43,152	27 14
1927-28 ..	138,999	7 34	50,190	16 16	51,445	20 26
1928-29 ..	162,320	5 1	46,879	13 5	39,082	25 21
1929-30 ..	156,052	10 33	55,217	16 17	30,946	21 34
1930-31 ..	170,727	10 38	53,080	16 15	55,762	24 13
1931-32 ..	183,632	10 19	46,714	16 16	63,551	26 30
1932-33 ..	123,729	10 2	48,465	15 32	55,475	27 14
1933-34 ..	100,776	7 10	54,481	12 24	41,675	27 16

## COTTON CROP, LYALLPUR.

**\*4355. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state the area under cotton, yield per acre and quantity baled per hundred acres of cotton crop, for the years 1933 and 1934 in the district of Lyallpur ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement containing the required information, so far as it is available, is laid on the table—

*Statement showing acreage, yield, etc., of cotton in the Lyallpur district.*

Years.	Total area in acres (both Desi and American) according to Season and Crop Report.	Yield per acre (cleaned cotton) in lbs.	Quantity baled per 100 acres in bales of 400 lbs.	REMARKS.
1933-34	290,235	271	67.75	(a) According to 4th Cotton Forecast. (b) Based on figures of yield reported by pressing factories for the period 1st September, 1934, to 1st March, 1935, only. The cotton pressing year ends on 31st August, 1935, and until then final figures are not available.
1934-35	(a) 315,400	(b) 153	(b) 38.25	

## WATER CHANNELS FOR IRRIGATION.

**\*4356. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state the decision, if arrived at by the Government, regarding the matter referred to in my question No. \*3712<sup>1</sup> of 1934 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to his question No. \*3354<sup>2</sup> of 1934.

## SETTLEMENT IN LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4357. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- the area of land in acres brought under settlement in the Lyallpur district in the years 1912—15 and 1920—22 ;
- how much area was under the various grades fixed for purposes of land revenue ;
- how much area belonging to the Jangli class was under each of the above grades ?

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXV, page 563.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, page 120.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) The information will be found in paragraph 189 of Mr. Dobson's final settlement report and paragraph 50 of Mr. Penny's final settlement report.

(b) Two statements giving the information for Mr. Dobson's and Mr. Penny's settlements are laid on the table. These statements give figures for nehri and nehri-jhalari areas only.

(c) The information is not available, and cannot be collected without inordinate delay.

*Classification according to settlement between 1912—15.*

1	2	3	4	5	6
Class.	G. B. Circle II.	G. B. Circle III.	Extensions.	Proprietary villages.	Rakh Branch.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
I .. ..	50,984	37,510	2,016	..	99,576
II .. ..	21,643	14,281	2,486	..	153,460
III .. ..	97,561	19,842	21,713	1,465	107,750
IV .. ..	32,693	28,232	26,318	4,461	49,833
V .. ..	6,560	14,214	15,545	7,434	21,812
VI .. ..	122	3,782	2,297	2,928	10,237
VII .. ..	..	..	..	207	..
Town lands ..	..	..	..	..	821
Total ..	209,563	117,861	70,375	16,495	443,488

*Classification according to settlement of 1920—22.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Class.	G. B. Circle I.	G. B. Circle II.	G. B. Circle III.	J. B. Circle I.	J. B. Circle II.	J. B. Circle III.	Extensions.	Proprietary vil- lages.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
I .. ..	116,581	26,432	6,838	67,106	29,482	5,278	3,892	..
II .. ..	73,200	29,531	26,107	13,221	5,529	528	14,434	..
III-A ..	59,210	84,358	20,080	16,895	18,808	3,438	21,686	..
III-B ..	34,140	32,230	15,035	23,491	19,096	3,224	15,133	4,595
IV-A ..	26,114	21,332	17,340	15,402	14,042	10,614	18,581	3,279
IV-B ..	18,514	10,587	16,705	4,641	14,709	12,802	9,031	6,216
V-A ..	13,524	7,630	11,938	7,602	8,566	11,051	6,607	9,370
V-B ..	7,032	1,374	7,616	7,165	10,574	8,503	2,647	494
VI .. ..	2,961	3,815	2,102	4,932	3,939	8,426	673	214
VII .. ..	..	..	..	..	390	1,082	..	..
Town lands—								
(A) ..	0	21	..	..	456	..	..	..
(B) ..	793	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	352,078	217,910	123,761	160,455	125,591	64,946	92,683	24,168

**Mian Nurullah :** How far is the Honourable Member in order in referring a member in answer to a question to any book or a paragraph of book ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I was helping a brother member, otherwise you should have seen the book for yourself.

**Mr. President :** What is the honourable member's point ?

**Mian Nurullah :** I want to know how for an Honourable Member is in order in pointing out in reply to a question certain paragraphs of a book when certain information is required on the floor of the House and that book is not available in the Library. This morning a book named by an Honourable Member in reply to a question stating that it will be found in the Library was not there. Probably it is not in the Library. Similarly, in reply to another question a Member referred to another book, and I could not find it in the Library.

**Mr. President :** Parliamentary practice on the point is—

Questions are irregular because the information sought can be obtained from ordinary sources and does not come within the official knowledge or duties of the Minister.—*May's Parliamentary Practice*, 13th edition, Note 3, page 240.

#### COLONIZATION OF GOVERNMENT LANDS ACT.

**\*4358. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the collector of Lyallpur is empowered by the Commissioner, Multan division, to exercise powers on his behalf under section 19 of the Colonization of Government Lands Act (Punjab), Act V of 1912 ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the settlement collectors as well in the Lyallpur district are empowered by the Commissioner, Multan division, to exercise such powers on his behalf ;
- (c) whether Mr. J. D. Penny, who was the settlement officer during the last settlement, was empowered by the Commissioner, Multan division, to exercise powers on his behalf under section 19 of the said Act ;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that since 1912 or 1913 the collector of Lyallpur and the settlement collectors in the Lyallpur district, are exercising powers under section 19 of the Colonization of Government Lands Act ;
- (e) if answer to parts (b), (c) or (d) is in the affirmative, the relevant letter or notification giving such authority to the collector and settlement collectors in the Lyallpur district ;
- (f) in case the answer to part (b), (c) or (d) is in the negative, whether the Honourable Revenue Member will look to the great hardship caused to so many people in whose cases the powers were exercised by the collector or settlement collectors in the Lyallpur district while as a matter of fact the exercise of this power was without any legal authority ;
- (g) whether the Government intends to take steps to redress this wrong ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a), (b), (c) and (d) The reply is in the affirmative.

(e) Copies of the relevant orders are laid on the table.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

*Copy of a letter No. 3298, dated the 26th July, 1912, from the Commissioner, Multan division, to the Deputy Commissioner, Lyallpur.*

With reference to your letter No. 276, dated the 18th July, 1912, I have the honour to state that I had already in view the desirability of making the delegation in question, and I hereby empower the Collector of the Lyallpur district to sanction transfer of rights under section 19 of Act V of 1912.

*The 2nd December, 1920.*

No. 27470.—In exercise of the powers enabling him in this behalf the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to invest Mr. J. D. Penny, I.C.S., Settlement Officer, Lyallpur, with the powers specified in column No. 2 of the subjoined schedule: such powers to be exercised within the limits of the Lyallpur district:—

#### SCHEDULE.

Authority under which the powers are conferred	Powers conferred.
(1) Section 3 of the Colonization of Government Lands (Punjab) Act, V of 1912.	All the powers of a Collector subject to the control of the Deputy Commissioner, Lyallpur.
(2) Section 3 (c) of the Land Acquisition Act, I of 1894.	Appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under the Act.

J. P. THOMPSON,

*Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.*

*The 18th November, 1933.*

No. 28583.—In exercise of the powers enabling him in this behalf, the Governor in Council is pleased to invest Mr. S. K. Kirpalani, I.C.S., Settlement Officer, Lyallpur, with the powers specified in column 2 of the subjoined schedule: such powers to be exercised within the limits of the Lyallpur and Sheikhupura districts—

#### SCHEDULE.

Authority under which the powers are conferred.	Powers conferred.
Section 3 of the Colonization of Government Lands (Punjab) Act, V of 1912.	All the powers of a Collector.

F. H. PUCKLE,

*Offg. Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.*

#### LEGUMINOUS CROPS IN LYALLPUR.

\*4359. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the chief leguminous crops sown in the district of Lyallpur ;

(b) the percentage of matured area under the different leguminous crops in 1912, 1922 and 1923—1934 ;



(c) what percentage of the sown area was sown as green manures in each of the years 1922 to 1934 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Gram, Mung, Mash and Moth.

(b) A statement containing the required information is laid on the table.

(c) Nil.

*Statement showing the percentage of matured area under the different leguminous crops in 1912, 1922 and 1923—1934, in the Lyalpur district.*

Name of year.	Matured area under gram.	Percentage.	Area matured under Mung.	Percentage.	Area matured under Mash.	Percentage.	Area matured under Moth.	Percentage.
	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
1912 .. ..	96,119	6.6	406	.002	3,943	.030	4,796	.039
1922 .. ..	169,909	10.4	445	.002	2,935	.018	4,321	.008
1923 .. ..	160,039	10.2	496	.003	1,892	.012	3,070	.019
1924 .. ..	131,545	8.3	364	.003	931	.0059	2,445	.015
1925 .. ..	124,401	7.9	546	.004	978	.006	2,044	.013
1926 .. ..	126,793	8.1	420	.003	1,132	.007	2,094	.013
1927 .. ..	137,826	8.5	362	.002	1,436	.009	1,734	.017
1928 .. ..	127,368	8.6	370	.002	1,434	.008	1,307	.009
1929 .. ..	155,053	9.3	552	.004	1,408	.008	1,462	.009
1930 .. ..	151,569	9.9	719	.004	2,119	.013	1,076	.006
1931 .. ..	161,776	10.16	727	.005	2,144	.014	1,289	.008
1932 .. ..	165,236	14.04	587	.003	2,208	.014	1,103	.007
1933 .. ..	102,135	7.7	1,007	.008	3,096	.023	1,544	.012
1934 .. ..	151,950	9.3	532	.003	1,876	.011	831	.005

# HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

\*4360. **Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) the total number of Europeans employed in the Hydro-Electric Department at present and the aggregates of their salaries and oversea allowances, respectively ;

(b) the total number of Executive Engineers in the Hydro-Electric Branch and also the number of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh electrical engineers appointed as Executive Engineers ?

- The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Twelve. Salaries Rs. 1,27,680 per annum. Overseas pay—£3,580. These figures are based on the rate of pay for the month of February 1935.
- (b) Five, four of whom are Europeans and one a Hindu.

## ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS.

**\*4361. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state whether he is aware that recently two young European Electrical Engineers were employed as Executive Engineers, and whether in making these appointments the claims of Indian Engineers were considered?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The answer to both parts of the question is in the affirmative.

## LOCAL MANAGERS, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4362. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the total number of Local Managers (1st grade) in the Hydro-Electric Department in the scale of Rs. 200—20—600 and the strength of each community represented on these posts, together with total money paid to members of each community as pay of the Local Managers?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The total number of Local Managers, Grade I, is 13—Hindus 7, Muslims 5, Sikh 1. The total money paid to members of each community per annum works out as under :—

	Rs.
Hindus	28,040
Muslims	13,200
Sikh	3,840

These figures are based on the pay for the month of February 1935.

## LOCAL MANAGERS, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4363. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the total number of Local Managers in Hydro-Electric Department appointed in the grade of Rs. 150—15/2—225 and the strength of each community together with the total of pay earned as share of each community?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Total number of Local Managers in the grade of Rs. 150—15/2—225 is 16—Hindus 4, Muslims 3, Sikhs 6, Europeans and Anglo-Indians 2, Others 1. The total pay earned per annum by members of each community works out as under :—

	Rs.
Hindus	7,560
Muslims	5,580
Sikhs	11,160
Europeans and Anglo-Indians	3,600
Others	1,980

These figures are based on the pay for the month of February 1935.

**MUSLIMS IN HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.**

**\*4364. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state whether he is aware of the recent resolution of the Government of India on redressing the communal representation of Muslim community in making new appointments ; if so, what steps he has taken to make up for the paucity of Muslims in the gazetted services of the Hydro-Electric Department ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** *First part.*—Yes.

*Second part.*—This resolution does not affect the Punjab or the policy of the Punjab Government in this matter, which was explained in 1927 and is still being acted upon.

**ASSISTANT COMMERCIAL OFFICER, HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.**

**\*4365. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that the post of the Assistant Commercial Officer, Hydro-Electric Department, which fell vacant in March, 1934, was filled up by a Hindu (Local Manager, getting about Rs. 260 or Rs. 280 or so) on a starting salary of Rs. 400, whereas the post advertised carried a pay of Rs. 520 ;
- (b) whether the Hindu gentleman had any commercial experience in Electrical Engineering before his promotion from Local Manager to Assistant Commercial Officer or whether he was given the necessary training after he was appointed as Assistant Commercial Officer ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) Before his promotion he had training under the present Commercial Officer in the year 1929—30.

**LOCAL MANAGER, HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.**

**\*4366. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that a Hindu Local Manager (1st grade) of Dhariwal had no academic qualifications in Electrical Engineering whatsoever ;
- (b) whether this officer proceeded on one year's leave ;
- (c) if so, the purpose for which he has proceeded on leave ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) The honourable member is referred to the answer given to his question No. \*49371.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

## ASSISTANT PROJECT ENGINEER, HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

**\*4367. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that recently a Hindu gentleman from Bengal has been appointed as Assistant Project Engineer in the grade of Rs. 200—20—600 at a starting salary of Rs. 440 in the Punjab Hydro-Electric Department ;
- (b) the reasons why he selected a Hindu from Bengal when candidates with high academic and professional qualifications were available in the Punjab ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) Because he was the best candidate available.

## CHIEF ENGINEER, HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

**\*4368. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the age of the Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Branch, and also the reasons why he is retained in service when he has passed the age limit of 55 ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The Chief Engineer, Electricity Branch, is 55 years and about 3 months of age. He is being retained as Chief Engineer in the interests of public service.

## CHIEF ENGINEER, HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

**\*4369. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the year in which the Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Branch, got the distinction of A.M.I.E.E., whether it was before he was promoted as Chief Engineer or some time after his appointment as Chief Engineer ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The Chief Engineer became an Associate Member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1918 and a full member in 1926—prior to his arrival in India.

## HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

**\*4370. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the academic and engineering qualifications of the following gentlemen :—

- (a) Mr. Ram Rattan Mehta, Secretary to the Chief Engineer ;
- (b) Mr. S. M. Blagg, Line Construction Engineer ;
- (c) Mr. B. N. Channa, Local Manager, Dhariwal ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Passed Matriculation examination of the Punjab University in 1911.

(b) Electrical training in the Royal Navy and 15 years' supervising experience in construction and maintenance of transmission lines.

(c) Diploma in Mechanical engineering from the Central Technological Institute, Bombay, and 4½ years' experience in construction of the Hydro-Electric Department.

DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

**\*4371. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that duly appointed agents of candidates in the Council elections are allowed to see the ballot papers being marked by the presiding officer at the time of polling ;
- (b) whether there is such a rule for district board elections ;
- (c) if not, the reason why, and whether the Government is now prepared to adopt the same principle for the district board elections ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Only to the extent and in the circumstances laid down in regulation 18 for nominations and elections (Punjab Legislative Council).

(b) No.

(c) Because it is considered desirable to preserve the secrecy of the ballot.

DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

**\*4372. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in many cases the polling stations for elections to the District Board, Lyallpur, are situated at very great distances ;
- (b) whether the question of distances is considered while fixing the polling stations ;
- (c) whether Government proposes to fix the polling stations in the coming Lyallpur district board election at distances so that no voter has to go more than three miles to record his vote ;
- (d) which of the district officials actually fix the polling stations ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a), (b) and (d) The honourable member is probably referring to the distance of each polling station from the villages of the voters. The Deputy Commissioner who fixes the polling stations selects those places which are easily accessible and are, as far as possible, in the centre of the electoral circles.

(c) No, as this will unduly increase the number of polling stations and put the board to unnecessary expense.

SAVINGS UNDER DISTRICT ESTABLISHMENT.

**\*4373. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the details of the saving of 1½ lakhs in the bill for district establishment mentioned on page 4 of the budget speech of the Finance Member.
- (b) whether it was the result of retrenchment, economy or re-organisation of the district offices ;
- (c) whether Government has ever considered the possibility of savings by various schemes of re-organisation ;
- (d) if so, what schemes have been considered and with what result ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Parts (a) and (b) The required information is given below :—

	<i>Per annum.</i> Rs.
(1) Savings on account of retrenchments in district offices approximately .. .. .	38,000
(2) Savings on account of the introduction of leave reserve in district offices due to re-organisation approximately .. .. .	48,500
(3) Savings on account of the appointment of copy clerks in district offices for the preparation of free Government copies instead of such copies being prepared by section copyists at section copying rates due to economy approximately .. .. .	46,500
Total .. .. .	1,33,000

(c) and (d) If the honourable member will specify the department or departments in regard to which he requires the information it will be collected and supplied to him.

#### INDUS WATERS.

**\*4374. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the views that are being put forward by the Punjab, Bahawalpur and Sind in support of their respective claims to the waters of the Indus, referred to in the Finance Member's Budget speech?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A committee convened by the Government of India has recently concluded its preliminary meeting in Delhi, where representatives of the interested parties discussed their respective claims to the Indus waters. It is regretted that no further information can be given to the honourable member at this stage.

#### EVASION OF STAMP DUTY.

**\*4375. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to lay on the table the report of the enquiry regarding the evasion of the Stamp Duty mentioned in his budget speech?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Government do not consider it in the public interest to supply this information.

#### SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT AND HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

**\*4376. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state the reasons for the difference between the ratio of the cumulative interest of 4.51 crores to the cumulative capital of 9.24 crores of the Sutlej Valley Project and the cumulative interest of 123 lakhs to the cost of 626 lakhs of the Hydro-Electric Scheme, mentioned in his budget speech?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Capital for the Sutlej Valley Project was borrowed during a period when rates of interest were higher than at the time of borrowings for the Hydro-Electric Scheme ; and interest charges on the Sutlej Valley Project have been accumulating over a longer period. The operation of financial rules also tends to reduce the interest in the case of the Hydro-Electric Scheme more than in the case of the Sutlej Valley Project.

#### RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4377. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to my question No. 997<sup>1</sup>, will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state--

- (a) whether the Government has seen the article of Mr. Mukand Lal Puri, M. L. C., published in the *Tribune*, dated 21st June, 1934, against retrospective effect being given to new rules of recognition as contained in notification No. 8723-G, dated 20th April, 1933 ;
- (b) whether the Government has arrived at any decision about retrospective effect being given to these rules ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that these rules have been incorporated in the Punjab Education Code, which are equally applicable to all the schools recognised ;
- (d) whether the Department of Education has issued any instructions to the Inspecting Officers not to apply these newly framed rules to schools recognised before 20th April ;
- (e) whether Government is aware that the incorporating of these rules in the Education Code does create an impression both in the mind of the Inspecting Officers and the general public that these rules are applicable to all the schools, old and new ;
- (f) whether in view of the above, he proposes to make it clear that these rules will not apply to schools recognised before these rules were notified ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (a) The honourable member is referred to my answer to part (a) of question No. 997<sup>1</sup>.

(b) and (c) The majority of these rules are old and have only been codified and published in the Punjab Education Code. The question of the retrospective application of the new rules, of which there are only a few, is under consideration.

(d) The inspecting officers are aware that the question whether or not the new rules of recognition will have retrospective effect is under the consideration of Government. In this connection the honourable member is also referred to the concluding sentence of my answer to part (ii) of question No. \*3119<sup>2</sup>.

(e) No.

(f) The case will receive most careful consideration at the hands of Government.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXV, page 484.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXIV, page 874.

**Mian Nurullah :** Speaking from memory I think that the answer to question referred to in part (a) of this question says that the article written by Mr. Puri has not been received or seen.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I believe it has been seen.

**Mian Nurullah :** Then the first answer is wrong.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Take it as wrong. I cannot say from memory whether Government has received a copy of this article or not. But does it make any difference ?

**Mian Nurullah :** If Government have seen it, have Government taken any action or not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Government does not take action on a newspaper article unless it finds it absolutely necessary to do so.

**Mian Nurullah :** Is it not the work of the office of the Director of Information Bureau to read newspapers and draw the attention of Government to important articles ? Was this article read by them and was the attention of Government drawn to it, or did they simply ignore it ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Is there anything in this article which is really worth taking notice of ; if so, will the honourable member please mention it.

**Mian Nurullah :** Certainly.

#### RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4378. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to resolution No. (1), dated 22nd October, 1933, passed by the Sanatan Dharam Education Board, Punjab, protesting against certain provisions of the newly framed Recognition Rules ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** There is no record of such a resolution having been received from the Sanatan Dharam Education Board. However, resolutions were received from the Sanatan Dharam Sabhas, Rawalpindi and Gujrat, and were duly considered, and to meet their protest against the admission of the depressed classes to the Sanatan Dharam schools, Article 245 of the Punjab Education Code has for the present been suspended.

#### RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4379. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolution passed by the Sikh Educational Conference, 1934, protesting against certain provisions of the newly framed Recognition Rules ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Yes. The amendments which are generally the same as those proposed by the Federation of Non-Government Schools are being considered.



RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4380. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to resolution No. 7, dated 8th November, 1934, of the Muffassil Schools Sub-Committee of the D.-A. V. College Managing Committee, protesting against newly framed Rules of Recognition as contained in notification No. 8723-G., dated 20th April, 1933 ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member presumably means resolution No. 7, dated the 8th November, 1933. If so, a copy of it was received by the Director of Public Instruction, but the resolution contained no specific suggestions.

RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4381. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether a deputation, on behalf of the Punjab Non-Government Schools' Federation of Teachers and Managers waited on the Assistant Director of Public Instruction on 20th November, 1933 ;

(b) whether a representative deputation headed by professor Jodh Singh of Khalsa College, Amritsar, consisting of Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, Headmaster, Mission High School, Lahore, Syed Ghulam Mustafa, Headmaster, Muslim High School, Lahore and the Secretary, Non-Government Schools' Federation, Punjab, waited upon the Director of Public Instruction in connection with the newly framed Recognition Rules as contained in notification No. 8723-G., dated 20th April, 1933, on 15th January, 1934 ;

(c) if so, what action the Department has taken on it ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Mr. Brij Lal and a few other gentlemen saw the Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, with a view to discuss certain points relating to the rules of recognition, before the representatives of the Federation waited on the Director of Public Instruction in order to place their representation before him.

(b) A deputation on behalf of the Non-Government Schools' Federation waited on Director of Public Instruction. There is, however, no record of the names of the gentlemen who formed the deputation.

(c) The points raised by the deputation are now under the consideration of Government.

RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4382. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether a deputation consisting of the President, the Punjab Non-Government Schools' Federation, S. Bishan Singh,

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M. L. C., waited on the Honourable Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction jointly, on 5th May, 1934, in connection with the newly framed Recognition Rules as contained in notification No. 8723-G., dated 20th April, 1938 ;

- (b) if so, what action the Government has taken on suggestions made by the deputation ?

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

(b) The amendments proposed by the Federation are under consideration.

#### RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**\*4383. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the newly framed Rules of Recognition of Schools were considered by the Inspectors of Schools in their Conference ;  
(b) if so, (i) when and (ii) what action has been taken on their recommendations ?

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

(b) (i) In April, 1934.

(ii) The matter is under consideration.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4384. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to resolution No. 3, dated 12th January, 1935, passed by the Standing Committee of the Non-Government Schools' Federation which runs as follows:—

“ This meeting of the Standing Committee notes with deep concern substantial fluctuations in grants-in-aid to aided schools from year to year which adversely affect the financial stability of the aided schools and draws the attention of the Director of Public Instruction to resolution No. 8 passed at the 7th Annual Conference of the Non-Government Schools' Federation suggesting among other modifications the system of triennial assessment of grants-in-aid and requests him to take an early action ” ;

- (b) what action, if any, has been taken by the Government on the above-mentioned resolution ?

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

(b) The question of introducing the system of triennial assessment of grants-in-aid in a few selected schools as an experiment is under consideration.

## EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4385. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to resolution No. 2, dated 26th February, 1927, passed by the Punjab Non-Government Schools' Federation in its annual session which runs as follows :—

“ This Conference re-affirms its opinion that the existing rules regarding grants-in-aid are, in several respects, defective and uncertain, and requests the Department to make alterations in them in the light of suggestions made by the Standing Committee of this Conference and submitted to the Honourable Minister for Education by its deputation in November, 1927 ” ;

- (b) if so, what action, if any, the Government has taken on this recommendation ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The honourable member presumably means resolution No. 2, dated the 26th February, 1928. If so, a copy of it was received by the Director of Public Instruction.

- (b) The honourable member is referred to my answer to part (b) of his question No. \*4384 (above).

## EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4386. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (i) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to resolution No. 5, dated the 24th February, 1929, which was repeated in the 5th session, dated 3rd May, 1931, and on 4th March, 1934, and which runs as follows :—

“ This Conference notes with deep concern the unsympathetic policy pursued by the Education Department regarding the award of grants-in-aid to denominational schools and draws the attention of the Honourable Minister for Education and the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, Lahore, that the existing rules for grants-in-aid are defective and uncertain in several respects, and requests that these be modified in the light of suggestions already submitted by the Standing Committee of the Conference. In particular the Conference is of opinion that—

- (a) the classification of schools in different grades should be abolished and grants calculated according to a uniform formula for all schools, if the work is satisfactory.

The formula being :—

(Expenditure— $\frac{1}{2}$  Fees)  $\frac{1}{2}$  ;

- (b) lump sums be sanctioned for special improvements as unconditional grants to schools, aided or unaided ;

[Mian Nurullah.]

- (c) rates per pupil in average attendance for the primary schools, primary departments of schools of higher grades, and elementary schools, be raised from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 in the I and II classes and from Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 in other classes ;
- (d) staff grants be allowed on a progressive scale for teachers of experience and long-standing in addition to the existing rates with a view to secure stability of service to such teachers in non-Government schools ;
- (e) in order to obviate hardship and inconvenience caused by delay in calculating and sanctioning of grants-in-aid, these may be calculated and allowed for three years, and copies of such calculations be supplied to the schools concerned " ;

(ii) if so, what action the Government has taken on these resolutions ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (i) Yes.

(ii) The rules of grant-in-aid obtaining in this province are fairly liberal, in fact more so than those obtaining in most of the other provinces. The honourable member will be interested to know that the Accountant-General in connection with the test audit of some of the aided schools has observed that several of them are still making a profit. It may, further, be added for the honourable member's information that it is a generally recognised principle, that while elementary education should be the concern of the State, secondary education, especially of the anglo-vernacular type, should be financed by the parents ; and yet in this province more than half the cost of secondary education is being borne by Government.

#### RESOLUTIONS OF NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FEDERATION, PUNJAB.

**\*4387. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolutions passed by the Non-Government Schools' Federation, Punjab, in its last session held on 4th March, 1934 ;

(b) if so, what action the Government has taken on these resolutions ?

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

(b) Those that can admit of any action by Government or the Department are being considered.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4388. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) what grant-in-aid has been paid to aided high schools in the province during the first half and the second half of the years 1932, 1933 and 1934 ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that under the present system of annual assessment there are great fluctuations as to the amounts of grants-in-aid paid during the first half and the second half of the year ;
- (c) whether the attention of the Department has been drawn by the Non-Government Schools' Federation, Punjab, to this difficulty in the assessment ;
- (d) what action Government proposes to take to remove this difficulty ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The totals of grants sanctioned during the first half and the second half of the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 are :—

Year.	Total amount of grants sanction- ed during the first six months.		Total amounts of grants sanction- ed during the last six months.	
	Rs.		Rs.	
1981-82 .. ..	5,09,616		4,10,078	
1982-83 .. ..	4,41,768		3,07,172	
1983-84 .. ..	3,43,654		3,45,012	

Information about individual schools is not available, but will be collected if the honourable member wants it.

- (b) Yes, in some cases.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) The question of introducing triennial assessment of grants-in-aid in a few selected anglo-vernacular aided schools as an experiment is under consideration.

#### DIVISIONAL ARBITRATION BOARDS, EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

**\*4389. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to resolution No. 12 passed at the 7th Annual Session of the Non-Government Schools' Federation, Punjab, which runs as follows :—

“ With a view to settle disputes arising between the managements of private schools and the members of the staff, this Conference recommends the appointment of divisional arbitration boards to be constituted as follows :—

- (i) Divisional Inspector of Schools, Chairman (*ex-officio*) ;
- (ii) two representatives of managing committees ;
- (iii) two representatives of teachers, one of whom to be a headmaster ” ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken in that connection ?

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

(b) Government has taken no action on the suggestion because the rules of recognition provide for a regular agreement between the teachers and the schools authorities, and this should considerably reduce the possibility of disputes between the two parties. In the event of a dispute the parties can go to a court of law or have it decided by arbitration. A divisional arbitration board as proposed by the Federation besides drawing on the time of the Divisional Inspector who is already fully occupied might not be acceptable to all managing bodies and teachers and may otherwise be difficult to work. It is in the interests of administration of these schools that such disputes should ordinarily be settled by the two parties concerned without Government interference.

#### DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES.

**\*4390. Khan Bahadur Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether the Punjab Government has supported any changes in the matter of delimitation of constituencies in the light of the suggestions made by the members while discussing the Punjab Franchise Committee report, particularly with respect to the inclusion of Baghbanpura in the Muslim women's seat of Lahore district?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The points raised during the discussion have not yet been considered by Government. But they have been noted, and will be considered before constituencies are finally delimited.

#### AGRICULTURISTS IN VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4391. Khan Bahadur Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daulatana :** With reference to question No. \*4088<sup>1</sup>, replied to on 28th February, 1935, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government sent up to the Public Service Commission names of several candidates for selection for the seven posts in the Provincial Veterinary Service, Class I;
- (b) if so, the names, qualifications and particulars of the candidates whose names were sent up;
- (c) the percentage of agriculturists amongst the seven selected candidates;
- (d) whether the Public Service Commission was informed of the accepted policy of Government as announced in the Government Resolution of October, 1919, with regard to the percentage of agriculturists in the Veterinary Department; if so, whether in view of this the Public Service Commission have made any recommendation to the Punjab Government regarding the use of their discretion in modifying the selection suggested by the Public Service Commission;

- (e) if the percentage of agriculturists in the selected list of Public Service Commission is less than the percentage announced by Government resolution cited in (d) above, what action Government proposes to take in the matter of making up the paucity of agriculturists in the Veterinary Department?

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

- (b) It is not in the public interest to publish this information.

(c) 28.5. But the Public Service Commission approved eight candidates and this raises the percentage to 37.5.

(d) The Public Service Commission was not informed of the percentage fixed in the resolution ; but they were informed that in view of the fact that the Veterinary Department was closely allied to agriculture, the Punjab Government would prefer the appointment of such Punjabi candidates to the Punjab Veterinary Service, Class I, as are statutory agriculturists. The Public Service Commission did not make any recommendation, but stated the conditions on which the Local Government could modify the selection. Government decided to accept the selection made by the Public Service Commission.

- (e) None so far as these seven posts are concerned.

#### APPOINTMENT TO VETERINARY SERVICES.

**\*4392. Khan Bahadur Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daulatana :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether in forwarding the cases of the candidates mentioned in question No. \*4088<sup>1</sup> replied to on 28th February, 1935, it was specifically brought to the notice of the Public Service Commission that two of the candidates were late Government of India State Veterinary scholars and that one of them was also a statutory agriculturist ; if not, why not ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government of India scholars referred to in (a) above were given a definite promise to the effect that they would be given preference at the time of making appointments in the Veterinary Services ; if so, whether that pledge has been fulfilled in making the appointments ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) It was not stated that two of the candidates were late Government of India State Veterinary scholars ; but the fact, that one of them was a statutory agriculturist, was specifically brought to the notice of the Public Service Commission.

(b) No definite promise was given. They were given to understand that they would have a preferential claim for employment in the Indian Civil Veterinary Department. One of them is being appointed. The other is not yet considered suitable for appointment in Punjab Veterinary Service, Class I.

## NEW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER BUILDING.

**\*4393. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) when the drawings of the proposed Legislative Council Chamber building were ready in the Superintendent Architect's office ;
- (b) when the advertisement calling for tenders appeared in the papers ;
- (c) the interval between the first insertion of advertisement calling for tenders and the date by which the contractors were required to submit the tenders ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the drawings were prepared without the foundation drawings ; if so, what was the object ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the contractors were to design the foundations and submit the drawings ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent, Architect, who prepared the designs and the drawings for the two floors of the building would not take responsibility for the designs of the foundations ;
- (g) whether it is a fact that out of five firms, only one firm Messrs. Gammon and Company, has submitted a tender ;
- (h) whether it is a fact that certain other firms requested the Superintendent, Architect, for an extension of time for the submission of the tender, but the Architect refused to do so ;
- (i) whether it is a fact that the Government's idea in calling for the designs of foundations from the contractors and other firms was to get various alternative designs and select the best design ;
- (j) whether it is a fact that by the submission of a tender by one firm only, that object was not served ;
- (k) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Gammon and Company had knowledge of the drawings before the insertion for calling the tenders appeared in papers ; if so, for how long ;
- (l) whether it is a fact that the policy of calling for tenders and quotations from different firms is to receive competition rates and, therefore, is economical ;
- (m) whether it is a fact that as only one tender has been received, the idea of getting competitive rates has not been served ;
- (n) whether the tender of Messrs. Gammon and Company has been accepted or not ;
- (o) whether Government now intends giving reasonable time to other firms to submit their designs and tenders so that before deciding the question of foundations for this building, the Government should have alternative drawings from various firms of repute ;
- (p) the allotment for this work in the Budget for the financial year ;
- (q) if this allotment is not spent in this current year, whether Government proposes to transfer the amount to the budget of the next financial year ?



**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Working drawings and estimate for the substructure were ready in April, 1934. Working drawings and estimate for the superstructure are nearing completion.

(b) Tenders were not called for in the press, but on February 1st, 1935, were posted on the Divisional Office public notice boards.

(c) Ten clear days.

(d) No. Detailed drawings of foundations were prepared in the Architectural Circle Office.

(e) Yes. The contractors were asked to submit rough proposals which were to be detailed later by the accepted tenderer.

(f) No.

(g) In the first instance two specialist firms were invited to submit quotations, of which Messrs. Gammon & Co. was one. Messrs. Gammon & Co's. quotation was considerably the lower of the two, and the detailed estimate was modified in accordance therewith. When finally tenders were called for Messrs. Gammon & Co. was the only firm that replied.

(h) Two firms asked for an extension which was refused.

(i) Yes, consistent with economy.

(j) No.

(k) (i) Yes. See reply to (g).

(ii) About eleven months, as the estimate itself was being revised in accordance with their quotations.

(l) Yes.

(m) First part, Yes.

Second part, No.

(n) Yes.

(o) Does not arise. See (n).

(p) Rs. 3,00,000 of which the modified grant is Rs. 90,000.

(q) Yes.

BADMASHES, GURU HAR SAHAI.

**\*4394. Guru Jaswant Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) the number of *badmashes* on Register No. 10 of the Police thana Guru Har Sahai at the time when the said police station was first established and the number of the same at present ;

(b) the number of *badmashes*—

(i) whose names have been removed from Register No. 10 ;

(ii) who have been challaned ;

(iii) who have been convicted and the nature of punishment awarded in each case, ever since the establishment of the thana at Guru Har Sahai ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Thirty-eight when the new police station was opened and 87 at present ;

(b) (i) Seventy-five ;

(ii) Seventy-seven ;

(iii) Seventy-seven—2 restricted for 2 years ;

8 restricted for 1½ years ;

18 restricted for 1 year ;

25 ordered to furnish security of Rs. 1,000 for 1 year ;

1 ordered to furnish security of Rs. 500 for 2 years.

28 ordered to furnish security of Rs. 500 for 1 year.

#### CATTLE CENSUSES.

**\*4395. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

(a) the years in which the last two cattle censuses took place ;

(b) the number of cows, bullocks, camels, she-buffaloes, goats and sheep in the districts of Rohtak and Hissar at each of these censuses ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) 1930 and 1935.

(b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of cows, bullocks, camels, she-buffaloes, goats and sheep in the Hissar and Rohtak districts at each of the censuses taken in the years 1930 and 1935.*

Years in which censuses took place.	HISSAR.					
	Cows.	Bullocks.	Camels.	She-buffaloes.	Goats.	Sheep.
	2	3	4	5	6	7
1930 .. ..	93,981	78,245	40,009	67,121	124,180	195,810
1935* .. ..	121,397	101,914	42,142	90,854	206,483	161,725

Years in which censuses took place.	ROHTAK.					
	Cows.	Bullocks.	Camels.	She-buffaloes.	Goats.	Sheep.
	8	9	10	11	12	13
1930 .. ..	72,562	122,144	2,487	76,809	76,882	54,675
1935* .. ..	87,467	127,726	3,509	92,366	84,721	50,384

\*The report of cattle census for 1935 is not yet ready and the figures are subject to revision.

## SUSPENSION OF LAND REVENUE IN HISSAR AND ROHTAK DISTRICTS.

**\*4396. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) the amount of land revenue which has remained under suspension for more than three harvests in the Hissar and Rohtak districts ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the last *kharif* in the districts of Rohtak and Hissar was below the average ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the *rabi* sowings in the current harvest in the districts of Hissar and Rohtak are below the average ;
- (d) the reasons why the land-revenue referred to in (a) has not been remitted and whether and when Government proposes to remit it ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :—**

	Rs.		Rs.
(a) Hissar ..	2,06,891	Rohtak ..	55,264
(b) Hissar ..	Yes.	Rohtak ..	No.
(c) Hissar ..	Yes.	Rohtak ..	Sowings were below average in <i>b a r a n i</i> areas only.

The attention of the honourable member is invited to paragraph 576 of the Punjab Land Administration Manual. With the exception of the Sirsa tahsil, remissions in the Hissar district are given after four harvests under the special rules laid down in part D of the Appendix C to the Final Settlement Report of the Third Revised Settlement as amended by correction slip, dated the 20th October, 1933.

The case of each village will be considered in *rabi* 1935 and the remissions will be given where found necessary.

## PROSECUTING INSPECTORS.

**\*4397. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state in respect of the whole province—

- (a) the number of Khattris, Hindu Jats and Hindu Rajputs among the prosecuting inspectors and prosecuting sub-inspectors, respectively ;
- (b) the population of each of the three classes referred to in (a) ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

	Hindu Khatri.	Hindu Jats.	Hindu Rajputs.
Prosecuting Inspectors ..	14	..	2
Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors ..	18	1	2
Population ..	417,216	772,546	394,428

## ATTACHMENT OF PROPERTY.

**\*4398. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

- (a) whether the attention of the Local Government has been drawn to a ruling of the Punjab High Court reported at page 114 of the All-India Reporter, Lahore (1934) ;
- (b) whether in view of the interpretation of the law as given in the ruling quoted in (a) the local Government intends to take any steps to have the law so modified as to make it obligatory on the decree-holder to produce more evidence than his own bare statement to prove that the property sought to be attached belongs to the judgment-debtor before it is attached and to exempt from attachment all agricultural land which revenue records do not prove to belong to the judgment-debtor ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I understand that the honourable member refers to the year 1935 and not to 1934.

Government have now seen the ruling, and will carefully watch its effects. They are not at present satisfied that there is reason to change the law.

## BENAMI TRANSACTIONS.

**\*4399. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the numerous transactions of *benami* in respect of land belonging to statutory agriculturists which are alleged to have taken place in the districts of Rohtak and Karnal during the last few years ; if so, what steps it proposes to take to prevent the recurrence of these transactions ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Cases of attempted evasions of the Alienation of Land Act are reported from the Karnal and Rohtak districts. The Deputy Commissioners concerned are taking necessary steps in the matter.

## COTTAGE INDUSTRIES AND VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

**\*4400. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) the steps which have been taken by the local Government to promote cottage industries in rural areas ;
- (b) the steps which have been taken to promote the establishment and to supervise the working of village panchayats in the province ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to question \*2269<sup>1</sup> and to the last two annual reviews on the working of Panchayats in the Punjab.

*Statement.*

There are at present 23 Government industrial schools of which one, viz., at Rewari in the Gurgaon district, is situated in the rural part of the locality and attracts more rural than urban boys. The school at Kulu attracts almost all boys from rural parts. The rest of the schools as well as institutes are situated in towns, but in most of these institutions special provision has been made for the education of artisans who hail mostly from rural areas and set up work on cottage lines after training.

2. During the year ending 31st March, 1934, the number of artisans, agriculturists and others in the Government industrial schools and Institutes were as under—

Artizans	..	..	..	..	921
Agriculturists	..	..	..	..	553
Others	..	..	..	..	897

The crafts taught in these institutions, e.g., carpentry, smithy, weaving, lacquer work, dyeing and calico printing, tanning and leather, cater mainly for the needs of cottage industries and rural areas. And it may be mentioned in this connection that in the Government Industrial School at Lyallpur the manufacture of simple agricultural implements has recently been started with a view to meet the needs of the agricultural community in rural areas. As will be observed from the foregoing figures, artisans and agriculturists are particularly well represented in these institutions. Boarding houses are attached to most of these institutions in which boys from rural areas come and stay as boarders.

3. There are at present two peripatetic demonstration parties, viz., Travelling Weaving Demonstration Party at Haiderabad, a village in the Mianwali district, and Wool Spinning and Weaving Demonstration Party at Hissar. The party at Haiderabad started functioning in August, 1934, with a view to demonstrate the use of improved appliances and up-to-date methods in handloom weaving to cottage workers, particularly in the production of woollen goods for which raw materials are available there in abundance. The party has during this short period done very useful work, and is very popular at Haiderabad. The party at Hissar started work in March last to instruct people in that district where famine conditions are liable to appear in dry year, in the utilization of wool which is available there in large quantities. Instruction is given by means of regular classes with a course of nine months' duration which comprises spinning of yarn and manufacture of blankets and tweeds and milling and finishing by hand. This party is equally popular, and the demand for demonstration by the party in other parts of the district is increasing.

4. There are adult weaving classes for weavers in six of the Government industrial schools besides classes for artisans in Hosiery Institute, Ludhiana, Central Weaving Institute, Amritsar, Institute of Dyeing and Calico Printing, Shahdara, Government Demonstration Weaving Factory, Shahdara, Wood Working Institute, Jullundur, etc. The Government of India have recently made a grant of Rs. 17,000 for the current year and Rs. 38,000 for next year for help to handloom cotton weaving industry in the Punjab. The details of the scheme have been worked out, and it will be enforced very shortly. It is hoped that cottage workers and weavers belonging to rural areas will primarily benefit from this assistance.

5. Practical demonstrations are arranged by the Industries Department in the working of up-to-date tools and appliances, hosiery machines and dyeing of fast colours at various local fairs, festivals and exhibitions visited by agriculturists and persons belonging to rural areas.

6. The Textile Inspector of the Department tours round the centres where handloom weaving is carried on with a view to advise the handloom weaver in the use of improved appliances. The Arts and Crafts Depot exists at Lahore to help art craft workers which include workers in rural areas, in the production of articles of artistic value and such designs as would meet the demands of the present day market.

7. With a view to develop the tanning industry of the province on scientific lines a Travelling Demonstration Party was started in 1928 to educate the village tanner in up-to-date methods of tanning at his very door. The areas visited were mainly rural areas. This party gave demonstrations in the districts of Sialkot, Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, Hissar, Jhelum, Ambala, and Karnal. While working in the Ambala and Karnal districts the party arranged special demonstrations for members of criminal tribes who are reported to have benefited considerably from this training. From the 1st of April, 1934, a Central Tanning Institute has been located at Jullundur. It still continues to give training to *chamars* who are mainly drawn from rural areas besides a certain number of educated persons.

8. An investigation was undertaken by the Industries Department into the possibilities of hemp fibre. A useful report was produced. It was found that some further research was necessary to devise appliances for extraction of fibre, etc. But the work had to be given up owing to financial stringency. Some research in connection with hemp is, however, in progress in the Government Industrial School, Hoshiarpur.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

9. A loan of nearly Rs. 1 lakh has been given for the furtherance of industries in rural areas, such as weaving, jam making, tanning, cutlery, sugar, toy-making, oil milling, etc.

10. An investigation into the possibilities of development of lac industry in rural areas has been undertaken by the Department. Work on the manufacture of such chemical articles of utility in rural areas as glue, oil seed pressing and textile sizing materials is in hand at the Industrial Research Laboratory, Shahdara. The result of these researches is likely to prove beneficial to cottage workers in rural areas.

11. In the schedule of New Expenditure provision has been included for a Women's Travelling Demonstration Party for Training in Handicrafts. This Party will start work in a rural area in order to train women in such handicrafts as embroidery and needle-work.

12. The Government has under its consideration the development of sericulture, which will help the agriculturists and other rearers of silk worm in rural areas. Certain other proposals regarding the development of cotton industries in the Punjab are also under consideration, e.g., pottery, gut making, wool spinning, etc.

#### STATUTORY AGRICULTURIST STUDENTS, RASUL ENGINEERING SCHOOL.

**\*4401. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state the number of statutory agriculturists who secured admission to the Rasul School of Engineering in 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, and the number of statutory agriculturists who passed out of this school in the same years and the number of them who obtained Government service ?

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

#### Statement.

Year.	Number of statutory agriculturists who secured admission.	Number of statutory agriculturists who passed out.	Number who obtained perma- nent posts.
1931 .. ..	28	11 A Grade .. 13 — B .. 24	7
1932 .. ..	21	7 A Grade .. 5 — B .. 12	8
1933 .. ..	15	14 A Grade .. 10 — B .. 24	7
1934 .. ..	15	14 A Grade .. 6 — B .. 20	7

## CATTLE BREEDING.

**\*4402. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether Government has laid down a programme for the improvement of cattle breeding in the province;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a live stock expert was appointed a few years ago;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the post of live stock expert was brought under reduction in pursuance of a policy of retrenchment;
- (d) whether it is a fact that during the last two years the provincial budget has shown a balance to the right side;
- (e) whether Government proposes to revive the post of live stock expert; and if not, why not?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) No, the post has been held in abeyance indefinitely.

(d) Yes.

(e) The matter will be considered. Personally I should like to revive the post.

## LAWRENCE GARDEN.

**\*4403. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the annual expenditure on the maintenance of the Lawrence Garden;
- (b) the total strength of the establishment entertained for the Lawrence Garden and the annual salary bill of that establishment?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) The expenditure on the maintenance of the Gardens during the year 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 87,115 gross; or Rs. 20,574 net if the income of Rs. 16,541 is taken into consideration;

(b) The total strength of the establishment entertained for the Gardens was one Superintendent, one overseer, three clerks and 72 malis, beldars, sweepers, bhists and menials during 1933-34. The salary bill of this establishment amounted to Rs. 25,890-11-0 during that year.

## CATTLE FARM, HISSAR.

**\*4404. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state, in respect of the cattle farm at Hissar—

- (a) the average annual areas sown with fodder and other crops;
- (b) the annual salary bill of the establishment entertained for direct cultivation;
- (c) the number of bullocks meant for the purpose of cultivation;

[R. B. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

- (d) the total expenditure of upkeep of bullocks ;
- (e) the cost of seed ;
- (f) the cost of manure ;
- (g) the cost of seasonal labour engaged for the purpose of guarding and reaping crops ;
- (h) the average cost of production per acre as disclosed by the various items of expenditure indicated above ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Average for the last three years 4,839·6 acres.

- (b) The annual salary bill charged to direct cultivation Rs. 41,899-1-0.
- (c) Bullocks 355.
- (d) Rs. 26,939-2-0 during 1933-34.
- (e) Rs. 9,300-2-0 during 1933-34.
- (f) None.
- (g) The cost of casual labour employed for cultivation amounted to Rs. 19,936-7-0.
- (h) As the above items do not cover all expenditure on direct cultivation, the cost of production worked out from them would not be reliable. Actual figures for the year 1933-34 are as follows :—

The total area under direct cultivation was 3,798 acres and the total expenditure was Rs. 1,42,897-3-6, viz., Rs. 37·6 per acre.

#### SIKH AGRICULTURISTS IN PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

**\*4405. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of statutory Sikh agriculturists in the Provincial Educational Service ;
- (b) the number of statutory Sikh agriculturists in the Subordinate Educational Service (Anglo-Vernacular Section) ;
- (c) the number of Sikhs appointed to posts in Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, during the last three years and the number of statutory agriculturists among them ;
- (d) the number of Sikhs in the inspecting line and the number of statutory agriculturists among them ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) and (b) The honourable member is referred to the consolidated statements showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government for the last three years.

(c) The number of Sikhs appointed to posts in Subordinate Educational Service (Anglo-Vernacular Section), Men's and Women's branches, during the last three years is three, out of whom two are statutory agriculturists.

(d) The number of Sikhs in the inspection line is thirty-five, out of whom eighteen are statutory agriculturists.



## STANDING COMMITTEES ON POLICE AND JAILS.

**\*4406. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state the number of meetings held during each of the last three years of the Standing Council Committees on Police and Jails.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** One meeting of the Standing Committee on Jails was held in 1932-33 and one in 1934-35. No meeting of the Committee on Police was held.

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

**\*4407. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state the number of meetings of the Standing Committees relating to his departments held during each of the last three years ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

Name of Standing Committee.	NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD DURING THE YEAR.		
	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
1. Land Revenue ..	2	..	1
2. Canals .. ..	1	2	1 (to be held on 27th March, 1935.)

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

**\*4408. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the number of meetings of the Standing Council Committees relating to his departments held during each of the last three years ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** One meeting of the Education Standing Committee was held in 1932-33, three in 1933-34 and one in 1934-35, and no meeting of the Public Health Standing Committee was held in those years. I may observe that all the important urban sanitary and rural water supply schemes put up by the Public Health Department are considered by the Sanitary Board, which meets several times a year, which consists of 7 non-official and 8 official members of the Legislative Council.

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

**\*4409. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state the number of meetings of the Standing Council Committees relating to his departments held during each of the last three years ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The information required is as follows :—

YEAR.	Standing Committee on Agriculture.	Standing Committee on Co-operation.	Standing Committee on Excise.
1932-33 .. ..	1	1	1
1933-34 .. ..	1	..	1
1934-35 .. ..	1	1	1

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

**\*4410. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the number of meetings of the Standing Council Committees relating to his departments held during each of the last three years ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The number of meetings of the Standing Committees held during the last three years is as follows :—

<i>Local Self-Government Standing Committee.</i>				<i>Standing Committee on Industries.</i>			
1932	..	..	Nil	1932	..	..	1
1933	..	..	7	1933	..	..	1
1934	..	..	2	1934	..	..	1

#### COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCE ON SHIV NATH.

**\*4411. Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- whether Government have commuted the death sentence passed on one Shiv Nath, son of Jawala Singh, of Ludhiana, who was found guilty of "a brutal murder" as remarked by the High Court ;
- the reasons for the commutation of the sentence ;
- whether the Prisoners' Aid Society made any recommendation in this connection ;
- the number of death sentences commuted by the Punjab Government during the last three years on the ground of youth of the culprits ;
- whether it is a fact that prisoner Shiv Nath (referred to in (a) above) while in jail has been found guilty of attacking a fellow prisoner with knife ;
- in which jail he is imprisoned at the present time and whether he has been there continuously since his conviction ;
- whether efforts are being made to secure amnesty for him on the occasion of King Emperor's Silver Jubilee Celebrations ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) The youth of the prisoner.

(c) No.

(d) Eight.

(e) No.

(f) Inmate Shiv Nath was admitted to the District Jail, Ludhiana, on conviction, but is now confined in the Borstal Jail, Lahore. He has been in that jail since the 3rd of February 1935.

(g) Government are not aware of any such effort.

PIECE WORKERS, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

**\*4412. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that all the piece workers in the Government Press, Lahore, remain idle for hours for want of type and materials and they are not given wages for the time they sit idle ;

(b) if so, why they are not allowed wages for the time they do not do any work ;

(c) why they are not given enough material to do their work when they abide by all the rules and regulations of the press and attend their duties in time ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

COMPOSING, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

**\*4413. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that hand composing with good faces of types is much cheaper and quicker than machine composing ;

(b) if so, why expensive composing machines were purchased by the Government Press, Lahore, which become out of service after some years ;

(c) the cost of all the Mono and Line machines including Mono Key Boards when they were originally purchased by the Government Press, Lahore ;

(d) the maintenance charges of Mechanical Composing Department ;

(e) what staff will be necessary if all work is done by hand composing instead of machine composing ;

(f) what will be the maintenance charges of this department in comparison to machine composing department ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Rs. 1,49,377.

(d) Rs. 24,269 per year.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

(e) For the quantity of work at present carried out by the mechanical process, at least *three* more sections, each comprising of about 35 compositors, and one distributing section, will be required. Excluding the compositors who will be paid at piece-work rates, the following staff will be necessary in addition to a building half as large as the present composing and distributing sections :—

- 1 Assistant general foreman.
  - 3 Section holders.
  - 3 Assistant section holders.
  - 3 Galley proof pressman.
  - 1 Head distributor.
  - 3 Type suppliers.
  - 12 Distributors.
  - 1 Assistant type storekeeper.
- (f) Rs. 30,900 per annum.

#### SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

**\*4414. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a few months ago an application was made by the Piece Workers' Union of the Government Press, Lahore, to the Government regarding the present Superintendent of the Punjab Government Press ;
- (b) whether the Government will lay a copy of that application on the table ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### POLICE SURVEILLANCE OF MAULANA ABDUR RAHIM.

**\*4415. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Maulana Abdur Rahim of Nakodar is kept under police surveillance ; if so, why ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It is not in the public interest to supply the information asked for by the honourable member.

#### DRAINAGE SCHEME, ILAQA BEIT.

**\*4416. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Beit Dasuya and Beit Garhshankar, district Hoshiarpur, are the most malarial parts of the province ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the drainage scheme in tahsil Dasuya has been taken in hand ;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to act upon the same device in ilaqa Beit, Garhshankar ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Beit Dasuya is one of the most malarious parts of the provinces ; but Beit Garshankar is not so.

(b) Yes.

(c) Problems in each tract must be dealt with on merits.

#### RELIEF TO INHABITANTS OF ATARI.

**\*4417. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to my question No. \*3660, dated 25th October, 1934, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state what relief, if any, was given to the inhabitants of the ilaqa Atari, tahsil Garhshankar ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

**\*4418. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to question No. \*3748, dated 25th October, 1934, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Co-operative Bank, Ludhiana, is under the control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, and all the proceedings are subject to his approval ;

(b) whether the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, is under the control of the Government ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) No. The Registrar has certain statutory powers of audit and supervision, and can order an enquiry into the working of the Bank, but the ordinary proceedings of the Bank are not subject to his approval.

(b) Yes.

#### MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, MULTAN.

**\*4419. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Committee, Multan, is charging fees for forms of applications of sanctions for building and other applications ;

(b) if so, since how long ;

(c) the rate which the committee is charging for such forms ;

(d) whether the Municipal Committee is empowered by law to charge such fees ;

(e) if not, what action Government intends to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes, the Committee charges for the supply of such forms. The charge is apparently on account of the price of forms supplied and cannot be described as a fee.

(b) Since December 1925.

<sup>1</sup>Vol. XXV, page 522.

<sup>2</sup>Vol. XXV, page 584.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

(c) The rates at which the Committee is charging for such forms are as follows :—

	Re. a. p.
(i) Building application, forms A and B ..	0 2 0 per form.
(ii) Application forms for licences for dangerous and offensive trades ..	0 2 0 per form.
(iii) Application forms for licences of hackney carriages and bullock carts ..	0 1 0 per form.
(iv) Application forms for licences of street sweeping. ..	0 1 0 per form.

(d) There is apparently no legal objection to a charge for such forms being made.

(e) Does not arise.

#### ELECTRICITY RATES IN MULTAN.

\*4420. **Lala Chetan Anand** : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- the rates which the Multan Electric Supply Company is charging from private consumers ;
- what rebate the said company is allowing for prompt payment ;
- whether it is a fact that private consumers of electricity of Multan have to pay higher rates than at Lahore or Amritsar ;
- whether the Government has received any representation from the public of Multan City and Multan Cantonment to lower the rates ;
- whether the Government proposes to take any action in the matter ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** : (a) and (b) A statement marked A is laid on the table.

(c) A statement marked B is laid on the table.

(d) Yes.

(e) Not at present. The matter will be considered again next autumn.

A.

*Statement showing the rates charged by the Multan Electric Supply Company, Limited, from private consumers.*

	Rate per unit	Discount.
	Ra.	Ra.
1. <i>For domestic supply—</i>		
(i) Up to and including 25 units per mensem ..	0 8 0	12½%
(ii) For all units thereafter up to and including 50 units per mensem ..	0 7 9	12½%
(iii) For all units thereafter up to and including 75 units per mensem ..	0 7 6	12½%
(iv) For all units thereafter up to and including 100 units per mensem ..	0 7 3	12½%
(v) For all units above 100 units per mensem ..	0 7 0	12½%
2. <i>For industrial purposes—</i>		
(i) For unrestricted hours' supply ..	0 3 6	Re. 0-1-0 per unit.
(ii) For restricted hours' supply ..	From two to three annas per unit according to load factor.	Re. 0-1-0 per unit.

B.

*A comparative statement showing the rates charged by the Multan Electric Supply Company, Limited, the Lahore Electric Supply Company, Limited, and the Municipal Committee, Amritsar.*

	MULTAN ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED.			LAHORE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED.			MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, AMRITSAR.		
	Gross rate per unit.	Discount.	Net rate.	Gross rate per unit.	Discount.	Net rate.	Gross rate per unit.	Discount.	Net rate.
I For domestic supply—	Ra. A. P.	Per cent.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Per cent.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Per cent.	Ra. A. P.
(i) Up to and including 25 units per month.	0 8 0	12½	0 7 0						
(ii) For all units thereafter up to and including 50 units per month.	0 7 9	12½	0 6 9½						
(iii) For all units thereafter up to and including 75 units per month.	0 7 6	12½	0 6 6½	0 5 4	25	0 4 0	0 8 0	25	0 6 0
(iv) For all units thereafter up to and including 100 units per month.	0 7 3	12½	0 6 4½						
(v) For all units above 100 units per month.	0 7 0	12½	0 6 1½						
II For heating purposes	No separate rates allowed			0 2 0	25	0 1 6	0 2 3	25	0 2 0
III For churches and decorations.	No separate rates allowed			No separate rates allowed.			0 4 0	..	0 4 0

\*The Committee has passed a resolution that from 1st April, 1931, the rates will be 0-4-0 per unit less 25 per cent discount.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

*A comparative statement showing the rates charged by the Multan Electric Supply Company, Limited, the Lahore Electric Supply Company, Limited, and the Municipal Committee, Amritsar—concluded.*

	MULTAN ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED.			LAHORE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED.			MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, AMRITSAR.		
	Gross rate per unit.	Discount.	Net rate.	Gross rate per unit.	Discount.	Net rate.	Gross rate per unit.	Discount.	Net rate.
IV. For industrial purposes— (i) For unrestricted hours supply.	Rs. A. P. 0 3 8	Rs. A. P. 0 1 0 per unit.	Rs. A. P. 0 2 6	Rs. A. P. (i) For consumption up to 5 KW.— Rs. 0-3-4 per unit. (ii) For consumption between 5 KW. and 25 KW.— Rs. 8 per KW. of maximum demand per month plus Rs. 0-0-10 per unit.	Per cent. 25	Rs. A. P. 0 1 9  Rate per unit would vary according to the maximum demand which is registered on the maximum demand indicator.	Rs. A. P. (i) For all units up to and including 90 per mensem— Rs. 0-4-0 per unit. (ii) For all units above 90 per mensem— Rs. 0-3-6 per unit.	Per cent. Nil  Nil	Rs. A. P. 0 4 0  0 3 6
(ii) For restricted hours supply.	0 2 0 to 3 0 according to load factor.	0 1 0 per unit.	0 1 0 to 2 0 according to load factor.	(i) As in (i) above— Rate Rs. 0-1-4 per unit. (ii) As in (ii) above— Rate Rs. 2 per KW. of maximum demand per men-sem plus, Rs. 0-1-0 per unit.	25	0 1 0  Rate per unit would vary according to the maximum demand which is registered on the maximum demand indicator.	(i) For all units up to and including 45 per mensem— Rs. 0-2-0 per unit. (ii) For all units over 45 units per men-sem— Rs. 0-1-9 per unit. (iii) For all units above 90 units per men-sem— Rs. 0-1-6 per unit.	Nil  Nil  Nil	0 2 0  0 1 9  0 1 6



## MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, LUDHIANA.

**\*4421. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, on 2nd February, 1984, enquiring the grade to be fixed for the Steno-Typist ;
- (b) whether the Deputy Commissioner directed the Executive Officer in his reply, dated 22nd February, 1984, to refer to section 39 of the Municipal Act under which the Municipal Committee was competent to fix the grades of its employees ;
- (c) whether the Ludhiana Municipality passed a resolution on 7th March, 1984, deciding that the grades of all the employees be revised on a uniform basis ;
- (d) whether a list of revised grades based on principles in force in Government Offices was finally approved by the Committee on 22nd December, 1984 (laying on the table a copy of this revised list of grades) ;
- (e) whether on 25th January, 1985, the Deputy Commissioner suspended the Committee's resolution as mentioned above (laying on the table copies of Deputy Commissioner's order and the Committee's explanation under section 232 of the Municipal Act) ;
- (f) what measures the Honourable Minister is prepared to take to safeguard the constitutional liberty of the local bodies in such matters ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The list of revised grades finally approved by the Committee was not based on the principles in force in Government offices. A copy of the list of revised grades is placed on the table.

(e) Yes. Copies of the Deputy Commissioner's order under section 232 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, and of the Committee's explanation under section 235 of the said Act are placed on the table.

(f) The Commissioner is empowered to confirm, modify or rescind the order of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, under section 235 of the Act, after considering the Deputy Commissioner's statement of reasons, and the Committee's explanation. No measures on the part of Government appear to be necessary as it does not appear that the local officers' action was illegal.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

*Comparative Statement of old and new grades.*

Name of employees (post).	Old grade.	New grades.
	Rs.	Rs.
Head Clerk, Municipal Office ..	80—5—120	75—5—100—5—125.
Head Clerk, Public Health Department ..	60—4—100	75—5—100—5—125.
Superintendent, Terminal Tax ..	70—5—120	75—5—100—5—125.
Accountant ..	60—4—120	75—5—100—5—125.
Superintendent, Vaccination ..	45—2—35	40—2—60—3—90.
Head Mistri, Water-works ..	55—5—80	40—2—60—3—90.
School Attendance Officer ..	55—3—70	40—2—60—3—90.
Drivers (Water-works) ..	50—2—70	40—2—60—3—90.
Reader ..	50—2—70	40—2—60—3—90.
Terminal Tax Inspector ..	40—2—65	40—2—60—3—90.
Despatcher ..	40—2—60	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Treasurer ..	40—2—60	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Record-Keeper ..	35—2—50	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Store-Keeper ..	25—1½—40	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Clerk, Zenana Schools ..	30—1—50	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Librarian ..	25—2—35	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Treasurer, Terminal Tax ..	25—1—30	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Vaccinator ..	25—2—40	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Mistri-Distribution ..	50—1—60	30—1—40—2—60—2—70.
Overseer ..	50—2—70	50—3—80.
Naib Daroghas ..	20—1—25	18—1—28.
Superintendent, Water Works ..	230—10—300	200—10—300.
Hindi Moharrirs ..	25—1—35	18—1—28.
Secretary ..	Fixed pay Rs. 200	160—10—200—5—225.

*Order of the President, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana.*

In pursuance of Committee's resolution No. 62, dated 14th May, 1934, the municipal employees for the purpose of grades are classified as follows with effect from 15th October, 1934 :—

- (1) Rs. 20—1—40—2—80—2—70 with efficiency bar at Rs. 40 and Rs. 60.
- (2) Rs. 40—2—60—3—90 with efficiency bar at Rs. 60.
- (3) Rs. 75—5—100—5—125 with efficiency bar at Rs. 100.

2. Ordinarily all employees will be recruited in the grade No. (1) and recruitment to other grades will be only by selection from this grade, but no one can go directly from No. (1) to No. (3). Such promotions only will be made when there is a permanent vacancy in the higher grade.

3. There will be only four posts in No. (3) grade, Head Clerk, Municipal Committee, Head Clerk, Public Health Office, Superintendent, Terminal Tax and Accountant.

In No. (2) there will be 7 posts comprising of the following :—

- (1) Case-Conductor.
- (2) One Terminal Tax Inspector.
- (3) Superintendent, Vaccination.
- (4) Head Mistri, Water-works.
- (5) School Attendance Officer.
- (6) Two drivers (Water Works).
- (7) Reader.

All other employees, whose details are given below shall be in grade No. (1) :—

- (1) Two Terminal Tax Inspectors.
- (2) Despatcher.
- (3) Steno-Typist.
- (4) Treasurer.
- (5) Record Keeper.
- (6) Store-keeper.
- (7) Tonga Inspector.
- (8) Clerk, 7enana Schools.
- (9) Librarian.
- (10) Births and Deaths Moharrir.
- (11) Treasurer.
- (12) Vaccinator.
- (13) Mistri-Distribution.
- (14) Assistant Accountant.
- (15) Inspector, Water-works.

4. The grade of the Sanitary Inspectors will be the same as fixed by the Government. The Slaughter House Inspector will also be of the same qualifications as the Sanitary Inspectors and will have the same grade.

Overseer will be in the grade of Rs. 50—3—80. Draftsman will be in the grade of Rs. 40—3—70. Naib-Daroghas will be in the grade of Rs. 18—1—28. Peons, sweepers and Babchitties will be employed on fixed pay of Rs. 14, Rs. 15 and Rs. 8 per mensem, respectively.

5. Superintendent, Water-works, will have a grade of Rs. 200—10—300 and fireman will be in the grade of Rs. 20—1—30.

6. All Moharrirs (Terminal Tax, Tehbazari, etc., including Hindi Moharrirs and Railway Receipt Clerk) will be in the grade of Rs. 18—1—28.

7. The pay or the grade of the Municipal Medical Officer of Health and the Executive Officer shall not be touched, as they have been fixed with the approval of higher authorities. The grade of the Secretary will be Rs. 150—10—200—5—225 with efficiency bar at Rs. 200.

8. All employees will in future draw their annual increments on 1st January of each year. In this year also all employees will draw their increments on 1st January, 1935, provided that, if any employee on 1st January, 1935, has not completed one year since he drew his last increment, his increment shall be held over till 1st January, 1936. All other increments, also, if they fall due before 1st January, 1935, shall be withheld till that date.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

*Examples.*

- (i) A drew his increment on 1st March, 1934. He shall have no increment on 1st January, 1935, but shall get an increment on 1st January, 1936.  
 (ii) B has his increment due on 1st July, 1934. It shall be held over till January, 1935.

9. All appointments made will be on a probation of six months after which confirmation will be made.

10. No increment will accrue if from the date of confirmation to 1st January next succeeding the date of confirmation the period is less than one year. In such cases increments will be held over till the 1st of January, succeeding the 1st January after the date of confirmation.

11. All employees will come into the respective grades fixed for them on 1st of January, 1935, by adjustment of increments.

*Examples.*

- (i) Head Clerk, Public Health Office, is in the grade of Rs. 75-5-125. If his present pay is Rs. 84, he shall draw on 1st January, 1935, an increment of Rs. 6 to bring him into the grade of Rs. 75-5-125.

- (ii) If the Store-keeper is drawing now Rs. 31½ he shall draw an increment of another 1½ to bring him into the grade of Rs. 30-1-40-2-60-2-70.

12. No grade of an individual employee can be revised hereafter.

13. It may be added that similar are the grades fixed in the Deputy Commissioner's Office also, hence are very liberal for municipal employees.

14. The grades of teachers and teachresses are fixed as follows:—

Junior Vernacular Teachers	Rs. 20-1-30-1-35-2-45, efficiency bar at Rs. 30 and Rs. 35.
Junior-Vernacular Mistresses, Primary pass.	Rs. 22-1-27-1-32, efficiency bar at Rs. 27.
Junior-Vernacular Mistresses, Middle pass.	Rs. 25-1-30-1-35, efficiency bar at Rs. 30.
Senior Vernacular Teachers	Government grade Rs. 35-3-50.
Persian Teacher	Rs. 30-2-50.
Pandit	Rs. 30-2-50.
Domestic Science Teachress.	Rs. 30-2-50.
Head Mistrees, Industries	Rs. 35-2-55.
Assistant Mistress, Industries	Rs. 25-1-35.

*Order of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, dated the 19th/23rd of January, 1935.*

The Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, have by their resolution No. 904, dated the 22nd of December, 1934, approved of the new grades of the municipal employees, prepared by the President, —vide his note, dated 21st. I find that the grades proposed by the President are not based on any principle. While in some cases the grades are too liberal, in others they have been deliberized. The existing scales and grades, which were revised only recently and the oldest grade is of 1925, are already too liberal and are working quite satisfactorily. The revision of grades, therefore, will be an unnecessary burden on the municipal funds. As the committee's resolution No. 904, dated the 22nd of December, 1934, is likely to cause waste of the municipal funds, I suspend it under section 232 of the Punjab Municipal Act, and ask the Committee to furnish any explanation which they may desire to give within a fortnight from the date of receipt of this order in the municipal office, failing which it will be assumed that the Committee have no explanation to offer and the Commissioner will be informed accordingly.

*Ludhiana Municipality.*

*Copy of resolution No. 928 passed at an Ordinary Meeting of the Ludhiana Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, on the 28th of January, 1935, in the Town Hall.*

928. Taken with special permission of the chair and the house.

In continuation of resolution No. 904, dated 22nd December, 1934, read Deputy Commissioner's order, dated 23rd January, 1935, communicated to this office under No. 727 pointing out that the grades proposed by the President are not based on any principle. In some cases the grades are too liberal while in others they have been deliberized. The existing scale and grades, which were revised only recently and the oldest grade is of 1925, are already too liberal and are working quite satisfactorily. The revision of grades therefore will be an unnecessary burden on the municipal funds. As the resolution is likely to cause waste of the municipal funds, it is suspended under section 232 of the Punjab Municipal Act and the Committee is asked to furnish any explanation which they may desire to give within a fortnight from the date of receipt of this order in the municipal office.

With proposal of Mr. Sarb Krishen, seconded by Pandit Harbhagat Ram, that the order of the Deputy Commissioner, dated 23rd January, 1935, which was received in the Municipal Office on 25th January, 1935, has been specially laid before the House without having been entered in the agenda. However, the House has acquiesced to take it. The Committee agrees with the order *in toto*, action be taken accordingly. In the presence of this order there is no need of any new gradation.

Proposal of Khwaja Muhammad Azam, seconded by Lala Tilak Ram, that the Committee revised the grades of its employees,—vide resolution No. 904, dated the 22nd December 1934, for the following reasons:—

M. Muhammad Abdullah entered at this stage.

- (1) The grades were as old as 1925 and were not based on any principle as some of the employees had an eight-years' grade, others ten-years' grade, some 20-years' grade and some had no grades at all. Every employee had a separate grade on account of which each one of them was stationary for a particular post and kept on sticking to it, and thus could not acquaint himself with the work of any other department of the Committee. If the post became vacant the work could not be done satisfactorily because every employee having a separate grade could not be transferred to the other post and thus gain knowledge thereof. Besides the previous grades were not in keeping with the office and responsibilities, but were fixed for the persons holding the posts. The Committee therefore felt the necessity of their revision and authorised the President,—vide resolution No. 62, dated the 14th May, 1934,—to prepare the scheme which was approved finally by resolution No. 904, dated the 22nd December, 1934. The Committee is competent to fix the salaries and grades of its employees according to section 39 of the Punjab Municipal Act and these grades do not differ from the grades recently prepared by the Punjab Government for its various departments and the ones which are in force in the Deputy Commissioner's Office.

It is not understood why the grades admissible in the Government offices are termed excessive for the municipal employees.

The grade of each employee has been fixed for a period of 10 years, after which bar has been put up. These grades have been fixed according to the post and responsibilities attached to it. Besides the difficulties which had to be faced for the purposes of transfers have also been entirely overcome. Moreover, expenditure in connection with the enforcement of new grades, departmentally and collectively, will be much less than that if the old grades are kept in force, as is apparent from the comparative statement enclosed herewith.

On being put to votes the proposal of Mr. Sarb Krishen was dropped (2 for and 7 against) and that of Khwaja Muhammad Azam was carried by a majority of 8 for and 3 against.

The Committee is of opinion that on such cases, which are covered by section 39 of the Municipal Act, section 232 is not applicable because there is no waste of municipal funds, nor is there any extravagance in establishment.

This was dissented by Pandit Harbhagat Ram, Mr. Sarb Krishen and M. Muhammad Abdullah.

It is further pointed out that the Executive Officer enquired from the Deputy Commissioner's office regarding the fixation of the grade of the Steno-Typist when he replied as per letter No. 1243-D., dated 22nd February, 1934, inviting attention to section 39 and saying that the Committee were themselves competent to decide this question.

At this stage Lala Sant Dass and Khan Sahib Dr. Noor Muhammad entered.

#### MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, LUDHIANA.

\*4422. **Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon:** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly—

(i) lay on the table copies of the notes in paragraphs 15 (1), (2), (8), and 4 (b) given on page 2 of the Audit Note re Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, for the year 1933-34 by the Examiner, Local Fund Accounts, Punjab;

(ii) state—

- (a) whether in many other cases various orders and resolutions of the Committee have not been complied with in spite of the fact that attention of the officials concerned was drawn by the Committee towards non-compliance of these orders;

[S. Jawahar Singh Dhillon.]

- (b) whether the Secretary and the typist were at one time suspended under the Committee's resolutions which were suspended by the Deputy Commissioner ;
- (c) whether on another occasion the Committee by a resolution transferred the Superintendent, Terminal Tax, with the result that the income of that Department increased a great deal after this transfer, but this resolution was also suspended by the Deputy Commissioner ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### ROAD EMBANKMENT IN LUDHIANA.

**\*4423. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, passed a resolution to construct an embankment near the railway under-bridge at Ludhiana on the road connecting the Grand Trunk Road with the Lahore-Ferozepore Road ;
- (b) when the resolution sanctioning the construction was passed and what has been done so far ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) The resolution sanctioning the construction was passed on 15th December, 1934. The work is in progress and will be completed within a fortnight.

#### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

##### GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, FEROZEPORE.

**1107. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Education Department intends to open a Government High School for girls at Ferozepore ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there are already three high schools, viz., Dev Samaj's Girls' High School, Sikh Kanya Maha Vidyalaya and the Hindu Girls' School, in Ferozepore ;
- (c) whether Government is aware that girls of all classes and creeds are admitted in these schools ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that there is also a Municipal Urdu Middle School for girls ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that Miss Stratford, retired Deputy Directress, gave her opinion that there was no need to open a girls' high school at Ferozepore ;
- (f) if the above facts are true, whether Government still considers the desirability of opening a Government High School for girls at Ferozepore ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## STRIKE IN GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, GUJRANWALA.

**1108. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there has been a strike of students in the Government Industrial School, Gujranwala ;
- (b) if so, the reasons for that strike and the allegations of the strikers ;
- (c) whether action has been taken against any students or teachers ; if so, on what grounds ;
- (d) whether the number of students and teachers of any community has decreased ; if so, to what extent ;
- (e) whether Government has taken any steps to redress the grievances of the strikers ; if so, what ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) No. Only 12 students left the school after the first roll-call on 3rd January, 1935.

(b) No allegations were made by the students. It is believed that two of the dissatisfied Muslim teachers persuaded the students to absent themselves from the school.

(c) No action was taken against the students who returned to school voluntarily on 8th January, 1935. One of the teachers at fault has since been transferred. The services of the other teacher, who was on probation and who had been transferred to Gujranwala after unsatisfactory work in the Metal Works Institute, Ambala city, so as to give him another opportunity to show his work and worth, have been dispensed with.

(d) There has been a decrease of 6 Muslims and 1 Hindu students during the last six months.

(e) The question does not arise.

## STRIKE IN GOVERNMENT INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE, HOSHIARPUR.

**1109. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the number of students on the rolls of the Government Intermediate College, Hoshiarpur, has decreased during recent years ;
- (b) if so, the reasons for that decrease ;
- (c) whether there have been strikes of students during recent years, and whether there has been a strike very recently ;
- (d) the reasons for the strikes, if any, and the allegations of the strikers ;
- (e) what action was taken by the Government previously and what has been or is proposed to be taken presently ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) and (b) The honourable member is referred to my answer to parts (a) —(e) of Council question No. \*3488<sup>1</sup> asked in the Council session of June, 1934.

(c) There has been only one strike during recent years (during the last seven years), viz., on the 21st February, 1935.

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

(d) There was a scuffle between some Hindu and some Muslim students on the 20th February, 1935. Both parties maintained that members of the other had used vulgar and provocative language. The Principal held an enquiry and fined five Muslim and three Hindu boys. The Muslim students while not denying their having taken part in the scuffle, pleaded that they had done so as the result of provocation given by the Hindu boys. The Muslim boys who had been fined enlisted the sympathy of the other Muslim boys, with the result that almost all the Muslim boys of the college went on strike on the 21st February, 1935. On the same evening about a dozen leading Muslim gentlemen of the town approached the Principal and represented to him that the Muslim boys had resorted to this action as the result of several grievances which had previously existed, such as inadequate representation of the Muslim community on the teaching and the menial staff of the college. Further they added that they had the fullest confidence in the Principal and wished him to forgive and forget. The Principal assured them that he would give fullest consideration to their views and remit the fine imposed if there was no further trouble for some time. As the result of this sympathetic attitude of the Principal, the strike was called off the very next morning.

No allegations were made to the Principal by the strikers themselves.

(e) Government is considering what measures should be taken to popularise the college.

SARDAR IQBAL SINGH.

**1110. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Sikh gentleman, Sardar Iqbal Singh, was appointed to the Provincial Educational Service direct more than a year ago ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the 15 per cent. cut in salary was not applied to him ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that he was over 30 years of age at the time of recruitment to the Provincial Educational Service ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that this period has been condoned ;
- (e) what are his qualifications ;
- (f) whether he holds any degree from the London University ;
- (g) whether he possesses the degrees which appear against his name on the title page of the Geography book written by him and submitted to the Punjab University for approval as a text-book for Matriculation ;
- (h) whether he obtained permission for undergoing training last summer in Practical Geography at the Aligarh University ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.



(d) He is at present on probation. Therefore the question of waiving the age restrictions in his case has not yet arisen.

(e) B. Sc., (Punjab University) II Class, with Botany and Chemistry. S. A. V. He studied B. Sc. (Hons.) Course in the University of London and got the Diploma in Geography.

(f) He holds a diploma of the London University.

(g) He is shown as B. Sc. Geography (London).

(h) During the last summer vacation Sardar Iqbal Singh happened to visit Aligarh and attended the Practical Geography classes at the Muslim University for a few days in order to refresh his knowledge. This is considered commendable. He did not obtain the Principal's permission because the college being closed for the vacation he did not consider it necessary. He was appointed on the recommendation of a Selection Board.

#### PROVINCIALIZATION OF HIGH SCHOOLS.

**1111. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) the names of persons recruited to the Subordinate Educational Service under the scheme of provincialization of high schools since 1922 ;

(b) the names of such recruits promoted to P. E. S., class II and class I, since then ;

(c) whether he will lay a statement showing (i) the length of Government service of such officials, (ii) the pay they started on, and (iii) the pay they are drawing at present ;

(d) whether these rapid promotions to Provincial Educational Service were entirely due to a high start allowed to them at the time of entering Government service and not to better academic qualifications ;

(e) whether the officials who joined the Education Department in the ordinary course have been ignored so far as such promotions are concerned, simply because they were given a low start even though they have been putting in excellent work ;

(f) what steps Government proposes to take to remove this injustice and heart-burning ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The honourable member is referred to the departmental lists placed on the table.<sup>1</sup>

(b) and (c) (i) and (iii) The honourable member is referred to the Punjab Civil List and the History of Gazetted Officers, copies of which are in the Council Library.

(c) (ii) They were all placed in the grade of Rs. 140/190.

(d) No. Promotions to the Punjab Educational Service, Class II and Class I are made strictly by selection.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

<sup>1</sup>Placed in the Library.

LALA SHAMSHER BAHADUR, AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

**1112. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state, with reference to the reply given to question No. \*8881—

- (a) whether the order of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gurdaspur, promoting Lala Shamsheer Bahadur to the grade of Rs. 75—5—100/5—125 in October, 1931, was passed in contravention of the Director of Agriculture's instructions referred to in part (a) of the question ;
- (b) whether Lala Shamsheer Bahadur is still on probation in the senior grade referred to in part (a) above ;
- (c) whether there is any objection from the rules point of view to revert him to his substantive appointment in the junior grade ;
- (d) what Government proposes to do in the matter ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) No instructions were issued by the Director of Agriculture to the effect that Lala Shamsheer Bahadur should not be promoted to the Rs. 75—5—100/5—125 grade.

(b) Yes.

(c) There is nothing in the rules to prevent his being reverted to his substantive appointment in the junior grade.

(d) Nothing at present in view of the satisfactory reports given on his work so far as by the Superintendent, Government Gardens, under whom he is employed.

### STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

#### ACTION AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS.

**Secretary :** Statement showing the action taken against corrupt officials in the Punjab for the year ending 31st March, 1934, is laid on the table.

*Statement showing action taken against corrupt officials in the Punjab for the year ending 31st March, 1934.*

Head of Department or Office.	Number and designation of officer punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.	Offence.
1	2	3	4
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.	One Patwari ..	Dismissed ..	Non-inclusion of a Khata in the Demand statement.
	One Munshi. (acting).	Reverted to patwari and his pay reduced by Rs. 2.	Ditto.
	One Patwari ..	Dismissed ..	Concealment of irrigation.

# ACTION AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS.

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Head of Department or Office.	Number and designation of officer punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.	Offence.
1	2	3	4
Chief Conservator of Forests, Punjab—			
Kangra Forest Division.	One Forest Ranger..	Dismissed. Is also being tried in court.	Embezzlement of Government revenue.
Upper Bashahr Forest Division.	One Forest Guard..	Dismissed ..	Ditto.
Kangra Forest Division.	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Inspector-General of Police, Punjab—			
Superintendent of Police, Jullundur.	One Foot Constable	Increment stopped by the Superintendent of Police for three years. Has been called upon by the Deputy Inspector-General to show cause why he should not be dismissed.	Negotiating a bribe for his sub-inspector.
Senior Superintendent of Police, Lahore.	Ditto	Reverted from Selection Grade to Time-scale.	Extorting money.
Superintendent of Police, Lyallpur.	Two Foot Constables	Warned ..	Ditto.
	One Head Constable	Dismissed ..	Accepting illegal gratification.
	Ditto	Increment stopped for one year.	Ditto.
Superintendent of Police, Jhang.	One Foot Constable	Dismissed ..	Attempting to obtain illegal gratification.
Superintendent of Police, Shahpur.	Ditto	Reduced to Rs. 17 for two years.	Corruption
Superintendent of Police, Attock.	Ditto	Increment withheld for three years with effect on subsequent increments.	Ditto.
Deputy Commissioner for Criminal Tribes, Punjab.	One Offg. Superintendent, Agricultural Settlement.	Dismissed ..	Defalcation of funds entrusted to him.
Reclamation Officer, Punjab.	One Assistant Probation and Criminal Tribes Officer.	Ditto ..	Dishonesty and corruption.

## [Secretary.]

Head of Department of Office.	Number and designation of officer punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.	Offence.
1	2	3	4
Inspector-General of Prisons, Punjab—			
Central Jail, Montgomery.	Two Warders ..	Dismissed ..	Introducing prohibited articles into the jail.
Borstal Institution, Lahore.	One Gate-keeper ..	Ditto ..	Receiving illegal gratification.
District Jail, Sialkot	One Warder ..	Dismissed from service and fined Rs. 20 by court.	Introducing prohibited articles into the jail.
District Jail, Jhelum.	Ditto ..	Suspended for three months.	Ditto.
District Jail, Campbellpur.	Ditto ..	Reduced from Rs. 18 to Rs. 17 for six months.	Receiving illegal gratification.
Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto.
District Jail, Amritsar.	One Matron ..	Suspended for two months without pay.	Ditto.
District Jail, Delhi	One Warder ..	Dismissed and fined Rs. 15 by court.	Attempting to introduce prohibited article inside jail.
Financial Commissioners—			
Ambala Division ..	One Patwari ..	Dismissed ..	Bribery and falsification of accounts.
Jullundur Division	One Offg. Tahsildar	Ditto ..	Corruption.
	One Motor Taxation Clerk	Ditto ..	Defalcation of motor tax money.
	One Treasurer's agent	Ditto ..	Defalcation.
Lahore Division ..	One Assistant Nazir	Convicted and dismissed.	Embezzlement of Government money.
	One tahsil peon ..	Dismissed ..	Fraud.
Rawalpindi Division.	One Patwari ..	Degraded ..	Corruption.
	One Field Kanungo	An adverse remark was made in his character roll.	Ditto.
	Four Patwaris ..	Dismissed ..	Embezzlement, etc.

Head of Department of Office.	Number and designation of officer punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.	Offence.
1	2	3	4
Financial Commissioners—concl'd.—			
Multan Division ..	One Clerk ..	Dismissed ..	Corruption.
	Two tahsil Chaprasis	One dismissed and one retired.	Ditto.
	One Colony Kanungo	Fined Rs. 10 and transferred.	Taking illegal gratification.
Financial Commissioners' Office, Punjab.	One Restorer ..	Dismissed ..	Embezzlement of Government money.
High Court, Punjab—			
District Judge, Karnal Division.	One Reader ..	Ditto ..	Corruption.
District Judge, Ferozepore.	One Ahimad and one Inspection Moharrir.	Fined Rs. 10 and increment stopped for one year, each postponing their future increments as well.	Misconduct.
District Judge, Montgomery at Lahore.	One Offg. Madad Naib-Nazir.	Dismissed ..	Bribery.
Senior Sub-Judge, Sheikhpura.	One process-server ..	Ditto ..	Corruption.

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

## AGRICULTURE.

*Agriculture, Veterinary and Co-operative Departments.*

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the demand for agriculture.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture) : I listened with great pleasure and encouragement to the speeches from all sides of the House. The discussion that took place is a direct evidence of the faith of the honourable members in the potential power of the departments of agriculture, co-operation and veterinary in increasing the well-being of the people of the Punjab. It is undeniable that agriculture is our primary industry, and it is in the development of agriculture and in instilling a spirit of co-operation on which Chaudhri Afzal Haq laid good deal of emphasis that the prosperity of the Punjab depends. There can be no question that it is in our work in improving agricultural conditions that we can secure a place in the hearts

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

and homes of the people. I can assure honourable members that the departments of agriculture, co-operation and veterinary will continue their efforts with renewed vigour with the support of this House, and I hope will achieve substantial results.

I was also glad to hear that the disease of communalism was beginning to receive attention from this House. I can only say :—

ابتداءً مرض ہے روتا ہے کیا آگے آگے دیکھتے ہوتا ہے کیا

Why weepst thou, it is only the beginning of disease.

But it gives me hope that, now that attention of the House is turning to this disease we will seek remedies to cure it. I am sure our differences are capable of adjustment. A great number of questions are asked on communal representation in the services in every Session of the Council. So far as I and my colleagues are concerned, we are prepared to fix a proportion for the recruitment of each community and carry it out in the transferred departments in all new recruitments, if we receive the sanction of this House. (Sardar Bahadur Sardar Buta Singh : Why do you not do it ?) We are awaiting a mandate from the House. May I quote one more line on the point—

خشت اول چون نہ دیکھد کج تا ثریا سے رود دیوار کج

When the mason lays the first brick untrue, the wall rises untrue to the top.

I think those who are laying the foundation-stone of the new constitution should be careful that the first brick that is being laid of this structure is laid well and truly. If I may hazard an opinion, I think the Sikhs and the Hindus should accept the claims of the Muslims for representation of their population in the electorate and the Muslims, on the other hand, should join hands with their Hindu and Sikh brethren in consolidating the foundation of the new constitution in joint electorates.

Now coming to the points raised by honourable members during the course of the discussion, I may say that Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan's words of wisdom carry the aroma of his personality with them. I will not go into details as Mr. Wace in his lucid speech answered all the objections raised by him. Mr. Wace dealt with the whole problem of co-operation with such clearness that there is nothing that I can add to what he has said. Raja Narendra Nath complained that the department of agriculture did not give publicity to the conclusions that it had reached regarding *kallar* and *thur* lands. The fact is that the department has to be absolutely certain of its conclusions, before the department can confidently recommend its methods to the people. I am glad to say that the department has now reached definite conclusions, and it has been decided to demonstrate the methods of curing *kallar* lands in the villages on the plots of the cultivators themselves. Perhaps the Raja Sahib is not aware that the department publishes "Seasonal Notes" both in English and Urdu. I would invite the attention of the honourable members to this periodical publication which contain a great deal of useful information. Another point

raised was regarding the charge made for the analysis of soils. My honourable friend the Finance Member has agreed that we should wipe off these charges and in future carry out all analysis free of charge. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram with whom the interests of zamindars have become a religion and whose efforts in the cause of zamindars have secured both relief and advantage to the zamindars, dwelt on the raising of the standard of admission to the Veterinary College. Perhaps he is not aware that this decision has never been given effect to, and it has been decided to continue the old practice till sufficient number of zamindars fully qualified becomes available. Regarding there being no change in proportion of zamindars in services, he knows that during the last five years we have been reducing rather than making fresh recruitments, therefore no change was possible. The main cause of agricultural depression is agricultural prices, and the other day when I turned to my honourable friend Mr. Manohar Lal, who is an authority in the Punjab on economic matters and keeps himself in touch with economic thought, he turned on me and accused Government of doing nothing to improve industries. I can only say to him—

سر دو گان سلامت کہ تو خنجر آزمائی

It is only on your friends that you try your sword. He avoided the main question which I had put to him, as to what we in the province can do in the matter of improving prices. We have now heard that duty on wheat has been lowered. It is difficult to say what effect it will have and what is going to be the future policy of the Government of India in sustaining and stabilising agricultural prices. It seems to me that in any case we in the province will have greatly to depend on our own efforts to utilize our raw produce and turn it into manufactured articles (*hear, hear*). Mr. Manohar Lal complained that the Ministries had done little in the way of development. He perhaps was not aware that on the agriculture side, in creating power and in bringing new areas under irrigation, the Punjab Government within the last ten years has had the courage and the enterprise to spend at least 20 crores of rupees. I have no doubt that if any carefully considered scheme of industrial development is placed by the House before the Government it will not fail to receive very careful consideration.

**Sardar Arjan Singh :** Mr. Manohar Lal's point was that production has not been increasing with the increase of population.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Just one final word and I have done. Punjab will prosper if we try to get at the real heart and mind of the people and awaken the most upright sentiments and most upright thought by bringing about unity. I pray that a deeper and higher patriotism may grow and lead us along the path of service to enable us to banish poverty and hunger and to walk steadfastly on the path of righteousness (*cheers*).

**Professor W. Roberts** (Nominated non-official): I am sorry to have to speak so late, but I wish to say something in favour of this grant. Listening to the criticism of the agriculture, co-operation and veterinary departments, it struck me that while it is true that every country gets the government that it deserves,—

(*Interruption and loud talking on the Opposition benches*).

**Mr. President :** I request the honourable members to converse in whispers.

**Professor W. Roberts :** I was saying that a country gets the government that it deserves and it also gets the departments that it deserves. One of my honourable friends, Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan asks for much greater employment of mukkadams. That would be an extremely wasteful process, because without proper guidance these men can do a great deal of harm to the farmers. I have been engaged for the last 14 years in agriculture, and it has been not only a matter of interest but also a matter of profit to visit Lyallpur very regularly and I have been much instructed by discussions with my old colleagues and especially with the young investigators carrying on work there (*hear, hear*). As regards the future progress of the Punjab, one of the most encouraging things is the work that is being carried out by these young men. All communities share in this work. There are Hindu Jats, doing excellent work, Sikhs, Muslims and Hindu non-agriculturists. I have often heard on this side of the House the question of Land Alienation Act coming up. Looking into the distant future some of these men who are non-agriculturists are forging claims which the province will in time recognize. I do not say for a moment that I would advocate the repeal of the Land Alienation Act, but I do think that the future of the Punjab will not hold the law as it is at present. The only suggestion that I should like to make to the Honourable Minister is with regard to botanical work of the department. I think with the Central Cotton Committee financing one branch of the work and with the Government of the Punjab having crop specialists and when the tendencies of Universities these days are to take more interest in technical matters, the time has come for more co-ordination and consolidation of the work, and I should like to suggest that a very excellent thing would be if a University lecturer or such authority can be imported for six months, a man who is thoroughly acquainted with the teaching as well as the research side of the work. I think it would have a very good effect on the work of the department and would help in consolidating the work that is being done. Again these district farms could have some experimental work done on them. I think a good deal of useful experimental work in the districts is being lost in not making use of these district farms. (*Cheers*).

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,44,200 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 1936, in respect of Agriculture (Transferred)!

*The motion was carried.*

#### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): I beg to move—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 50,52,000 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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 1936, in respect of Medical (Reserved and Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 50,52,000 be granted to the Governor in Council and 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 1936, in respect of Medical (Reserved and Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).



## CIVIL SURGEONS.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** (North-East Towns, non-Muhammadian, Urban) (*Urdu*): I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,83,700, District Medical Officers.

I need not say that the object of one rupee and one hundred rupees cuts is to draw the attention of the Government to the grievances of the public and to point out to the Government which of its departments are starving and which of them are being over-fed and also to suggest where and what necessary changes should be introduced in the administration of these departments. It is with that object that I have moved this cut. I may say at the very outset, and this is what I said in one of my speeches last year that unless and until high-salaried officers of the Government are removed from service or their salaries are substantially cut down, there is no hope of India marching forward on the path of progress. Unless the services of such officers who are in receipt of fat salaries are dispensed with, the question of unemployment cannot be solved nor can this poverty of the people be removed. These civil surgeons belong to that class of officers and sooner their services are dispensed with the better it is for the country. I admit that hospitals under the charge of these civil surgeons have been opened and are being maintained for the benefit of the poor and not for the rich who can afford to avail of the services of private practitioners and who seldom make use of the services of these civil surgeons. I recognise also that it is necessary that these hospitals should continue to be maintained. But I feel that these hospitals can be maintained without these civil surgeons. They can be run by men with much less pay and I, therefore, fail to understand why the taxpayers should be made to pay as much as Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 2,500 to these civil surgeons. As if this fat salary is not sufficient, they have the permission of the Government to practice privately and earn more income thereby. This is a thing to which I take strong objection. Over and above that the rules permit these civil surgeons to charge fees for giving certificates of fitness to the Government servants (*honourable members*: No, no. Rules do not permit that). Then it is all the more objectionable that they should charge fees for giving such certificates. In addition to that I have seen these civil surgeons charging fee from Government servants who go to them with a request that they may be placed on the sick list and recommended leave for a certain period. Perhaps the Government is not aware that these fees tempt these civil surgeons and in not a few cases false certificates of unfitness are given to Government servants who want to go on leave. These are surely practices which should not be encouraged. In many cases false medical certificates are given and these lead to a good deal of litigation. The civil surgeons grant false medical certificates because they are allowed private practice. They give such certificates in order to make wrongful gain by accepting fees privately from people. A civil surgeon would charge Rs. 16 from a patient for medical examination or grant of a certificate. A civil surgeon should not be allowed to charge any fees from any person. He being a Government servant is a public servant and is paid from the public funds. Why should he be allowed to charge extra fees from persons when

<sup>1</sup>To discuss and draw the attention of the Government to the uselessness of Civil Surgeons in the Department.

[Shrimati Lekhwati Jain.]

he is already paid from the public purse ? It can be argued that if Government disallowed the civil surgeons from charging fees, then every person would like to be medically examined by the civil surgeon. No doubt such a thing is possible but this tendency would not be so harmful as the present practice which is generally followed in the hospitals. A civil surgeon seldom takes interest in a patient who comes to him in the hospital. But if a patient calls on him at his house the civil surgeon would examine him very carefully and will also take pains in his treatment. As such it is but necessary that the civil surgeons should not be allowed private practice. The Government pays a fat salary to a civil surgeon, something like Rs. 2,000 and he gets something like Rs. 1,000 from private practice. Moreover, Government never allows Government servant in other departments to carry on some private work but it does allow the civil surgeons to carry on their private practice and consequently the public suffers a good deal. Civil surgeons attend more often to their private practice than to their work in the hospitals. If ever they go to hospitals it is for a very short time and that also perhaps twice or thrice a week. On such occasions when they go to the hospitals they give little time to the patients. They either spend it on their lunch or thinking over the necessities and requirements of their families. Sometimes they keep waiting in the hospitals for a tailor patient so that they can tell him to stitch their children's clothes without charging anything. Sometime they keep waiting for a patient dealing in cloth so that they can ask him to send some cloth free of cost to their houses for shirts of their children. When a civil surgeon falls a victim to this kind of greed the staff working under him follows suit. In this way all the people working in a hospital become corrupt from top to bottom. If the Government were to abolish the posts of civil surgeons much saving can be made. On the average each civil surgeon gets something like Rs. 2,500 a month. If these posts are abolished much money can be saved and with this money you can open many more hospitals in the villages. Such a step would relieve unemployment as well as save people from diseases. If with the money that can be saved by abolishing the posts of civil surgeons Government opens rural dispensaries it would decrease unemployment because for each dispensary at least two bhangies, two water-men, two nurses, a doctor and a lady doctor will have to be employed. And the maintenance charges of all these dispensaries can be met by the money that can be saved by abolishing the posts of civil surgeons. The Government hesitates to effect a reduction in the posts or salaries of big officers but it readily falls on the small officers whose pay is very small. In the Ambala dispensary there used to be only one nurse and she single handed could not attend to the women patients of that city. And then she could only do the compounder's work or could tie bandages. She was not a doctor. On account of the great need that was felt for a lady doctor the authorities were approached but for a sufficiently long period no lady doctor was given to this hospital. Only recently a lady doctor has been appointed to this hospital. The Government can afford to keep civil surgeons with such fat salaries but it cannot afford to employ lady doctors for the benefit of women patients.

Moreover, in the hospitals the patients are given two meals daily. In jails even prisoners are fed thrice a day. Two meals a day for a patient are

not sufficient. A prisoner in a jail is much better off than a patient in a hospital. I want to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister particularly to this grievance of the patients.

The next point I want to take up is this. In the hospitals only allopathic medicines are used. Vedic and Unani medicines are not used. Previously Englishmen were in charge of this department and consequently they encouraged the use of the allopathic medicines. Now so far as the Medical Department is concerned Indians are at the helm of affairs. They can very well understand the utility of Vedic and Unani medicines for the Indians. They should popularise the use of these Vedic and Unani medicines in the dispensaries. This would again mean less expenditure and also a decrease in the money that is sent to foreign countries for the purchase of allopathic medicines.

Next I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to another fact and it is about advertisement of quack medicines.

**Mr. President :** May I request the honourable member to speak to the motion ?

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Very well, Sir, I was saying that in the hospitals Vedic and Unani medicines should also be used. This would effect economy. In the interests of economy the posts carrying fat salaries should be abolished and in their place such posts that may carry small salaries should be created.

**Mr. President :** May I invite the honourable member's attention to the fact that the object of her motion, according to her own remarks, is to discuss and draw the attention of the Government to the uselessness of civil surgeons ? Neither the system of medicine nor any other branch of the Medical Department is under discussion.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** I mentioned all these things to show the uselessness of civil surgeons. But if you, Mr. President, order that I should not make mention of these things, then I will not. I referred to the salaries of civil surgeons because they were too big and by effecting a reduction in them a good deal of saving could be made by which more officers with small pays could be employed. I referred to the Vedic medicines because if they are used in the hospitals their demand will increase and as such some more people would engage themselves in preparing them. Mahatama Gandhi's village movement aims at this very thing, namely, popularising hand-made things, for when articles are prepared by hand more men are required to prepare them but when they were made with the help of machines only a few men are required to work the machines. With machinery unemployment increases. Moreover, all the profit is shared between the proprietor and the foreign country which supplies the machines.

**Mr. President :** I may again request the honourable member to speak to the motion. The question of machinery or its preparation is not under discussion.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** I hope the purpose of this cut must have by now become clear to the House. It will kindly see its way to support this motion. I may once again draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to the great necessity of, in the first place, abolishing the posts of civil

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surgeons, and if not, at least reducing their pay by one half. I hope the Honourable Minister in charge of the Medical Department will kindly give some attention to this matter.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,83,700, District Medical Officers.

**Chaudhri Ram Sarup** (North-West Rohtak, non-Muhammadan (Rural) (Urdu) : It was not my intention to speak on this motion but after hearing what the honourable lady member has said I felt constrained to make a few observations. She urged that the civil surgeons should not be permitted to carry on their private practice. There is no order of the Government prohibiting them from private practice. It is not they who are responsible for this. It is the public which is responsible for their private practice. The public invites them and they have to attend. It is not the civil surgeons who want it but it is the public who want them to engage in private practice. If the daughter or son of a well-to-do man is ill he sends for the civil surgeon of his own accord. Neither the Government nor the civil surgeon asks him to do that. He is rich and can afford to get excellent medical advice. It does not lie in the mouth of anybody and for the matter of that of Shrimati Lekhwati Jain to ask people to desist from consulting the civil surgeon. Evidently people do not consult the civil surgeon to oblige him or in order to do a kind turn to the Government. Therefore, it is idle to ask the Government to take any action in this matter. It is characteristic of the honourable lady member to blow hot and cold in the same breath and she has given ample proof of this tendency in the speech which she has just finished. On the one hand she proposes that the post of civil surgeon should be brought under reduction and on the other urges upon the Government that a lady doctor should be appointed in every district.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Appointment of a lady doctor is necessary, you do not know.

**Chaudhri Ram Sarup :** I shall come to know by and by (*Laughter*). But she has not told us if she would like to see a European lady doctor appointed or an Indian lady doctor.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Evidently I should like to see an Indian Lady Doctor appointed.

**Chaudhri Ram Sarup :** All the objections raised by the honourable lady member are hopelessly flimsy and I do not think that the House will be well advised to adopt the motion moved by her. With these words I strongly oppose her cut motion.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala Division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : The honourable lady member has said very pertinent things and the House has to consider them carefully. It is not right for honourable members to take things lightly. I will explain my point. Civil surgeons are necessary for Government servants. When they are to be confirmed they are required to produce a certificate of fitness from a civil surgeon, and it cannot be denied that until they produce such certificates they are not confirmed in service. A certain Government servant went to a civil surgeon and asked him if he would give him a certificate. The civil

surgeon said, "Your eyes are bad, let me examine them". This man at once offered him Rs. 16. "What should I write before your name", asked the civil surgeon Munshi, Chaudhri or Khan Sahib"? Then he wrote out the certificate without examining the eyes. I have given a specific instance. This rule of allowing them to charge fees is very outrageous.

There are a number of civil surgeons in Lahore and those of you who have had an experience of the Mayo Hospital know how those who go there for treatment are exploited by the civil surgeons. (*An honourable member*: There is only one civil surgeon). They are generally called civil surgeons by common people, and those who have had experience of the Mayo Hospital will endorse every word of what I say that it is a regular den of exploiters in that hospital. If you see a doctor, he will advise you to go and see such and such a doctor because he is the officer-in-charge and get treatment from him privately. He will also advise you to get the operation performed privately. That way the doctor can charge any amount for the operation. This is a fact which I challenge any member to deny. The Honourable Minister will perhaps remember the case which the Muslim Outlook brought out last year.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon**: The Muslim Outlook was not in existence last year.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: Does the Honourable Minister deny that there was a case against the Muslim Outlook?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon**: I wanted to point out to the honourable member that last year the Muslim Outlook did not exist, therefore, there could not be a case brought by the Muslim Outlook against anybody.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: It may have been a few months before that.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon**: The Muslim Outlook stopped publication many years ago.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: I tell you that there was a case brought by certain doctors against the proprietor of the Muslim Outlook. (*Voices*: No, no.) And a compromise was effected (*Voices*: No, no).

**Mr. President**: Does the Honourable member mean the Eastern Times?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: Yes. What does that matter? It was a Muslim newspaper. There is no further need of argument on this point. We all know that those people accepted a compromise.

**Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave**: I know something about the case the honourable member is referring to. Any irregularity that might exist in the Mayo Hospital was due to the underlings and not to the men at the top.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan**: When the civil surgeons get a handsome salary, why should they be allowed to do private practice? Moreover, these civil surgeons do not do any work. They only go about doing private practice and charging exorbitant fees. Let us see what amount of work they do.

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan:]

They come to the hospital for an hour or so and perform an important operation and go away. That is practically all they do and it is absurd to pay such high salaries for that much work. These civil surgeons are absolutely useless and the assistant surgeons who work under them have usually several years' experience and they can perform operations. Of course if there is some very complicated operation to perform, then these civil surgeons can attend to such cases, otherwise there is no justification for keeping such highly paid men just for the sake of an operation or two a year. If action is taken on this recommendation, it will save Government a good deal of money. The assistant surgeons are put in charge of hospitals after a good deal of practical experience. They can very well look after the welfare of the villagers. The civil surgeons are too highly paid and we can do without them. What are the duties of the civil surgeon of Ambala? He attends to Europeans and to the military people. And for this he gets an allowance. If Government is actuated by notions of economy, then this is the time to reduce its expenditure in this line. They can spend it in other directions. Let them make a trial and if they find that the civil surgeon is indispensable, then they can revive the post again. On account of these considerations, I think the suggestion is very valuable and it should be acted upon. With these words I support the motion.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Sir, may I move my cut motion which deals with corruption in the department?

**Mr. President :** Just now the House is discussing Shrimati Lekhwati Jain's motion. The honourable member's motion will come after the motion under discussion is disposed of.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** The discussion on both the motions will be the same.

**Mr. President :** No.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : The subject matter of the cut motion is very important and it should not be taken light-heartedly. Shrimati Lekhwati has embraced a variety of topics and subjects under one heading. But because you, Mr. President, have just ruled that other subjects will be taken up later on, I will not take into consideration the subject of corruption, though I am at one with her when she says that though people generally single out the police when talking of corruption, we have more corruption in the department under discussion than even in the police. I am not discussing the subject of corruption just now but I will come to it when Chaudhri Afzal Haq moves his amendment. I am going to confine my remarks to the uselessness of civil surgeons. That would be a very narrow subject and I would not be discursive in my speech. I think the lady member has given some cogent reasons but I think there is one very important aspect of the question and that she has not touched. I think that these civil surgeons are useless from the economic point of view. There is a separate department of Public Health. It was perhaps if I remember rightly, in 1919 or 1921 that a recommendation was made that a separate department should be created and that the Public Health Department should be established as a separate entity. That was a recommendation but effect to it was not given till 1926, and all the districts were given separate

health officers in 1927. Since then it will be found that the work of civil surgeons is very light and all that they are concerned with is office work which an ordinary clerk can do. The clerks prepare the drafts. They sit almost all the day and put their signatures to the papers and go away. As a matter of fact the work of the civil surgeon is confined to one hospital only and that is at the headquarters. All the rural dispensaries come under the control of the Public Health Office, and if the post of the civil surgeon is abolished all the dispensaries should be brought under the control of the Public Health Officer. The Public Health Officer has to do much with the rural people. He has to go round the countryside and so he can direct his attention and devote more time to the work that is being done by the doctors in the dispensaries. I have never found a civil surgeon giving prescriptions to patients, that work is left to the assistant civil surgeons. As for the work of *post mortem* that is also done by assistant surgeons in the absence of civil surgeons. Therefore it is clear that the post of civil surgeon is redundant in view of the fact that we have a separate entity in the form of health officers, and for that reason the post should be abolished as soon as possible. Efficiency will not suffer and the public would be saved a lot of unnecessary expense. With these words I support Shrimati Lekhwati's motion.

**Kanwar Mamraj Singh Chohan** (Ambala-cum-Simla, non-Muhamadan, Rural) (Urdu): I rise to say a few words against this cut. I am afraid the honourable lady member and those honourable members who have spoken in support of her motion have not yet realized what the duties of a civil surgeon are in a district. In my opinion it will not be out of place if I throw some light on this subject. There are two kinds of dispensaries—the provincial dispensaries and the district board dispensaries. The staff engaged in both these dispensaries is under the control of the civil surgeon. As his work is very heavy, the district boards also supply him with an extra clerk at their own expense in order to facilitate his work. He has indeed a lot of work to do. If his duties were light, the district boards would not bear the burden of an extra clerk and would not like to incur any expenditure on a *pankha* coolie or on charcoal for the benefit of the civil surgeon. So we find that in addition to the Government the district boards also have to bear a good deal of trouble for his sake. Then he is in charge of provincial dispensaries also. He has to control the staff. He has to deal with their transfers and all complaints which they may make to him against one another or which the public may make against them. He has to hold inquiries in all such matters. Besides he has to see how much quantity of a particular medicine is required for a certain hospital, and whether that medicine is being used for the purpose for which it has been supplied or not. This is undoubtedly a big task which the civil surgeon has to attend to. It is not right to say that a person who has to perform so much work and attend to so many duties is useless. Had the civil surgeons not been actually required, it would not have made any difference to change the designation and call anybody a civil surgeon and entrust those duties to him. Neither the honourable lady member nor her supporters have suggested to whom the duties of the civil surgeon should be entrusted. If there is no officer, who will control the provincial and district board dispensaries. If an officer is needed, who should it be, if not the civil surgeon? Who should look after both kinds of institutions?

[Kadwar Mamraj Singh Chohan.]

Again, it has been said that they are not very useful or necessary for operation work. I should like to relate a personal experience in this connexion. Last June I fell ill at Simla and I must say that I was saved by the attention and kindness of the civil surgeon. Although an assistant surgeon was on duty and he was properly looking after me, still the civil surgeon paid me visits now and then to see how I was progressing. Moreover, it is a fact, that when the civil surgeons are present in the hospital, they perform the operations themselves. If the operations are ordinary, and are not dangerous then alone they are done by the assistant surgeons. They also recommend medicine for patients. The assistant surgeons have to consult the civil surgeons occasionally while prescribing medicine in certain cases. In every district people are deriving great benefit from their ability and experience. Everybody wishes that there should be a competent medical man in his district from whom he may get proper medical advice and treatment. The civil surgeons are not allowed to charge any fee they like. The Government has fixed their fee so that everybody may pay that sum and get the benefit of their advice and treatment. I believe, that the civil surgeons are most useful and necessary and they are doing a lot of good work in every district in the province.

**Lala Bhagat Ram** (Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana, non-Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : In my opinion the real object of the honourable lady member in moving the cut was to impress upon the Government the desirability of starting *desi* dispensaries, but unfortunately she has moved a cut in which she has unnecessarily dragged the name of civil surgeons. She did not mean to say that civil surgeons are incompetent or they are useless. She should, therefore, have moved a cut urging Government to start dispensaries where unani and vedic treatment may be given. But since the Government is not doing that, it is not wise to ask them to abolish even allopathic dispensaries. The duties of a doctor only a doctor can well appreciate. The honourable lady member is not competent or qualified to say that the civil surgeon's job is a sinecure, or his post is useless, and therefore, it should be abolished, If I am a lawyer, I can criticise a lawyer, but I cannot find fault with a doctor or his treatment. It is he who knows whether a particular person or a child requires meals once, twice or thrice a day. It is very cruel to say that these doctors are doing no good to the people and it is wrong to say that the doctors get their clothes and of their children stitched by tailors in consideration of medical service rendered by them.

Perhaps, the honourable member has to make a complaint against some particular civil surgeon who may have been invited to see some case, but he demanded his fee. Well, when a medical man is called in, he must be offered his visiting fee. This profession is rendering the greatest service to humanity. The doctors do not distinguish between a Government servant and a non-Government servant, a friend and a foe, a Hindu and a Muslim, a terrorist and a loyalist. They treat everybody alike and most sympathetically. As a matter of fact, we should learn a lesson from them.

The honourable lady member does not appear to be really against civil surgeons, but some complaints seem to have reached her. Some person in whom honourable lady member may be interested might have gone to see some civil surgeon to get a false certificate and he might not have been



able to get it. The civil surgeon was also a sahib bahadur, so the person who thought he was a big man, regarded that as an insult and asked the honourable member to move that the posts of civil surgeons should be abolished, because they are entirely useless. In deciding such questions we ought to exercise some judgment and discretion. It is not at all wise to say that the post of civil surgeons should be abolished. Life becomes very difficult where there is no competent medical man available. People think that it is unwise to live in an area which is devoid of a high medical authority. I do not want to dwell on this subject any more, but I would just say that these doctors at least look after our children in the hospitals. Women are not willing to look after them, so if these doctors even are not there to attend to them, who will take care of those poor creatures ?

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural) : I am not against civil surgeons or any other class of doctors, as such, because if we begin to criticise individuals we will always find some in every class of people who are bad and some who are very good. But I rise to support the motion from a different point of view. In my opinion this institution of civil surgeons is out of date. In old times when there were very few doctors and there were some high officials living in the districts it was thought necessary that there must be a capable doctor in every place because there were no private practitioners. Government in those days subsidised this department, in order to help both their own officers and the public in general. But now the times have changed. There are now so many medical practitioners in every town, even in every village that I do not think that there is any more need for this sort of subsidy. (*Hear, hear*). I call it subsidy because this money is spent in order to help people to get medical aid at all places in the form of salary to these highly paid medical officers. If we examine the system prevalent in other countries of the world it will be found that nowhere in the west are there such highly paid officials attached to Government or non-Government hospitals. Some experts are usually attached to hospitals and these experts consider it an honour to work in those hospitals and as for their income they make plenty of it by their private practice. I would, therefore, suggest to Government that they should start institutions of that kind in this country also. I am sure that there are a large number of philanthropic doctors who will be only too glad to work in Government hospitals in an honorary capacity or on a nominal salary. We cannot perhaps introduce the system of stopping the private practice of civil surgeons or other doctors employed by the Government, because that will prevent us from having the help of efficient doctors in the hospitals; for, capable people always like to stand on their own legs. When these doctors are by their own practice earning thousands of rupees outside and a good deal more than what they will get paid as civil surgeons, naturally such men would not like to enter Government service. So, if private practice is to be stopped it would be barring all good and efficient men from entering Government service. I would, therefore, suggest that the members of this cadre of civil surgeons should not be on a permanent basis. They may be employed as honorary workers in the hospitals and even if they cannot be had for honorary work, they may be given an honorarium, but not regular pay as at present.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education) : I will try to confine my remarks to the real purpose of the motion. The

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

honourable lady member has tried to point out the uselessness of civil surgeons in this province. But while doing so she has touched on so many different subjects that it will perhaps be diverting the attention of the House if I deal with all of them. In the Punjab there are two kinds of civil surgeons, firstly, the officers belonging to the Indian Medical Service—of these there are 11 in this province; secondly, officers belonging to the Indian Medical Department which is a military service. Of this class there are six in this province. But according to a resolution of this House further recruitment of Indian Medical Department officers to this province is stopped so that gradually when all the Indian Medical Department officers retire these six civil surgeoncies will be merged in the remaining civil surgeoncies which are filled by Punjab Government by appointment of locally recruited persons. One of the main attacks on the Indian Medical Service civil surgeons was on account of their high pay. The provincial civil medical service officers start on a pay of Rs. 225 and go up to Rs. 450 unless they are in the meanwhile promoted to the post of a civil surgeon in which case they draw a thousand rupees. But I am sure the honourable member from Ambala will agree with me that for the most important medical officer in a whole district where for 4 or 5 lakhs of people there is no one else better qualified than that officer, a salary of Rs. 1,000 a month is not a very heavy salary; if you are to have a really competent officer, you must pay him well. With regard to Indian Medical Department officers I need not discuss that matter further because they belong to a service which will gradually die out from this province. Now I come to the first category and that is the members belonging to the Indian Medical Service. [Dr. Mrs. M. C. Shave: Has not that service acquitted itself creditably?] Excellently. The only reason was that Indian Medical Department officers posted to this province did not possess qualifications which were registerable in England, and this House insisted that those gentlemen who did not possess qualifications registerable in England should no longer be posted to this province and that resolution of the House was accepted by this Government and the recommendation of this Government was accepted by the Government of India. With regard to the eleven civil surgeoncies reserved for Indian Medical Service officers, to begin with I should like to inform the honourable lady member from Ambala that these eleven civil surgeoncies are reserved for Indian Medical Service officers by the Secretary of State and it is not within the power of this House or this humble Minister responsible to this House to vary that number nor is it possible for me or for this House to say that they will not employ these Indian Medical Service officers. So, as far as the legal position is concerned, I am afraid the question is beyond debate. We have to continue to employ those eleven officers so long as the Secretary of State wishes us to employ them in the interests of the Imperial services *plus* the interests of the Army. (An honourable member: What is their pay?) It is according to the pay fixed for all the Indian Medical Service doctors in the Army and it is capable of rising up to Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 2,500 as suggested by the honourable member. But the pay is not a question with which we are concerned. That is all fixed by the Secretary of State and you have to carry out his orders in this matter. But let me take the House for a few minutes to the actual work done by these officers. I admit that there may be black sheep in all services in this country or in any country in the world. But if you take the Indian Medical Service

as a whole I can say that they have done excellent work for the people of this country. I should like to point out to the honourable member the excellent work done by Indian Medical Service officers at the Mayo Hospital and the Medical College. Any medical college or hospital may well be proud of possessing officers of the calibre and ability possessed by the Indian Medical Service officers at the Medical College, Lahore. If it is the Vicerene who wishes the services of a surgeon at Calcutta she has to send for a gentleman like Colonel Bott from Lahore. If it is the Commander-in-Chief who wants his throat to be attended to, he has to send for Colonel Dick from the Medical College, Lahore. The surgeons and other eminent doctors that we possess in our Medical College at Lahore may make a mark as far as medicine and surgery are concerned in any western countries. We ought to be proud of possessing officers of this ability in our province. I might draw your attention to some of the civil surgeons that have done good work in the province. I will not go into details but I will give you only one case. During the last summer I had occasion to go to the Multan hospital in charge of Major Fry. In that hospital, honourable members from Multan will bear me out, there was not even walking room even in the verandah and I saw patients from districts other than Multan in that hospital. These had been attracted by the reputation of this Indian Medical Service doctor. (*An honourable member*: If it is in summer, they must have removed to the verandah). No, the rooms were full and there were punkhas inside. I am afraid my honourable friend's imagination has not risen very high. I am only giving one instance. I can take you round the province to many hospitals where Indian Medical Service officers are performing outstanding work. Amritsar is another case in point. So is Lyallpur. I will not labour this point any further. (*Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah*: What about your own cold and your throat?). My throat is in excellent condition as you can realize. But if there is something wrong with the honourable member's hearing, Colonel Dick will come to his rescue. All that I wanted to say was that it is not fair to make a general remark to the effect that all civil surgeons are useless. I am sure that nothing was farther from the mind of the honourable member herself than to suggest that all civil surgeons are useless. I do not claim that the medical service of this province is absolutely spotless or that no faults can be found with the administration of the medical department. But I can give this assurance to the honourable member and to this House that if any definite faults are brought to my notice, to the best of my ability I shall try to remove them. My honourable friend from Lyallpur suggested that we should have honorary surgeons and physicians attached to our hospitals. I concede that that is the practice in some of the most important hospitals in Europe, particularly in London. But conditions in this country are not at present the same as they are in Europe, firstly because, in the mofussil, in the district headquarters, you will not at present find men of very high qualifications and experience to whom you could leave the entire administration of the hospital in an honorary capacity. Though in Lahore you may find good private doctors, still these will not leave Lahore. (*An honourable member*: What about Lyallpur?) I do not know, Lyallpur may be a little different from other districts. It will be difficult to generalise but I do hope that a time will come when the standard of medical education and the standard of the medical services will rise so high in the province as to make it possible for Government to have

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

honorary surgeons and physicians in district hospitals. But at present I am afraid it will not be wise to hand over these Government hospitals to private individuals over whom Government has no control. For one thing, if they are not paid, Government could not insist on their being present in the hospitals at all hours of the day. If they have a private case elsewhere naturally they will want to go there first instead of being present in the hospital. Since our hospitals are charitable institutions meant for the poor, I feel that we ought to continue to give medical relief to the poor by providing them with a whole-time doctor whose duty it is to be present at all hours when a patient comes for treatment. The honourable member from Ambala suggested as a reason for the civil surgeons being useless that they did not use Indian medicines. I am sure she will be delighted to learn that in Bengal a very big Indian firm has been started by name the Bengal Chemicals, Limited, headed by a very well-known Bengali scientist Sir J. C. Bose and those chemical works are producing medicines which are replacing the drugs which are imported into this country from European countries. That is the right way, produce your own medicines yourself in this country so that you may keep your money within the country. It is not right to suggest that we ought to go back to the ancient system of medicines. The world has advanced far beyond the stage where the Unani and Ayurvedic systems stand. As far as these Indian systems of medicines are concerned the honourable lady member will be pleased to learn that Punjab Government are already assisting two institutions in Lahore, one is the Ayurvedic College here and the other is a Unani College also in Lahore to the extent of Rs. 4,000 each a year and we are also supporting the Ayurvedic and Unani Research section of the College in Delhi where research work is being carried on in these two systems of medicines. Beyond that it will be difficult for Government to go at present. But as far as these complaints concerning the running of hospitals are concerned, I can give this House my definite assurance that if any definite cases are brought to my notice, I shall do my best to have them looked into and if the persons concerned are found guilty, it will be seen that they are duly punished. I hope under these circumstances it will not be necessary for the honourable member to press this cut to vote.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

*That the question be now put.*

*The motion was carried.*

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain (Urdu) :** I shall take only a few minutes to reply to the criticism that some of the honourable members have offered while opposing my motion. I feel that nearly all of them have opposed this cut motion merely for the sake of opposition as I shall explain presently. The honourable member Chaudhri Ram Sarup was pleased to say that I had made self-contradictory remarks in my speech in as much as I asked for the abolition of the posts of civil surgeons in one part of my speech and demanded the appointment of lady doctors in large number in another part of my speech. It appears that he makes no difference between these two jobs while in fact there is a difference of heaven and earth between the two. A civil surgeon starts with an initial salary of Rs. 1,000, while a lady doctor can be had at Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 to begin with. And there is another fact which he has lost sight of in this connection and that is that there is a great

demand in the province for lady doctors while there are very few persons who avail of the services of civil surgeons or to whom these officers are prepared to attend. Therefore, the honourable member was not justified in saying that I had made self-contradictory remarks in my speech.

Then the honourable member Kanwar Mamraj Singh, who also opposed my cut, said that the retention of civil surgeons was very necessary and in support of his contention he said that while once he was an indoor patient in an hospital he was attended to by the civil surgeon himself every day. I do not doubt his statement and I believe that the civil surgeon concerned used to come personally to him or attend to him every day. But I am inclined to think that he was thus being attended to not because the civil surgeon was in the habit of attending to every patient personally but because the patient happened to be a member of the Council and because the officer concerned was wise enough to see that if he did not do that, a hue and cry would be raised against him. In supporting the appointment of civil surgeons the honourable member was further pleased to say that these officers personally go round to every patient and enquire after their health. The complicated operations are done under their own care and instructions and so on and so forth. I admit that all this is done by the civil surgeons. But that does not mean that their retention is necessary. I think that all this can be done by men with much less pay. This work can be done by honorary workers as one of the honourable members suggested. It was also said in support of these civil surgeons that they control and supervise the activities of the staff under them and they see that no quarrel arises amongst them. But this again can be done even by a layman with much less pay. The honourable member Lala Bhagat Ram also supported the appointment of these highly paid officers and he said that I had no right to move this cut and propose the abolition of the posts of civil surgeons simply because I was not myself a doctor and had no knowledge of the technical side of this question. To say the least this argument cannot stand examination. If it had any weight, why did he himself ask the other day for the recognition of the status of barbers as agriculturists? Did he know anything of their profession or had he ever worked himself as a barber? I do not think he was entitled to make any proposal regarding barbers. But all the same he did what he wants others not to do. In short the arguments that have been advanced by the various speakers against my motion are not at all weighty. As I have said before, these members have opposed my cut merely for the sake of opposition.

I was expecting that the honourable member Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram and his party will support this cut because it is more with a view to better the condition of the poor villagers that I had moved it. I want that the officers who are getting fat salaries should be removed from service so that the burden that the tax-payers have to bear to pay them may be lightened. But I was surprised to find Chaudhri Ram Sarup opposing this cut who is one of the lieutenants of the Leader of the Zamindara party. However, I hope that the members will now revise their opinion and will see their way to support this cut. I wonder if these complaints against the officers of the Medical Department are not removed in the time of an able and vigilant Minister like Sir Malik Firoz Khan Noon, when they will be removed. (*Hear, hear*).

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I do not wish to say much, but there are just one or two points which I might clear up before the debate on the subject is closed. The honourable member referred to the need for lady doctors. I admit that there is room for more lady doctors in this province. Till a few years ago, our difficulty was that qualified lady doctors were not available for service. *(Interruption).* The honourable member suggested that we ought to have more lady doctors and I was going to point out that first of all we do not possess enough qualified lady doctors.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** The Honourable Minister is quite irrelevant. The cut under discussion has nothing to do with lady doctors.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** If he is going to appoint a lady doctor he should announce it at once.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Very well. I will not touch that subject. There is only one other point that I would like to suggest to the honourable member and that is this that with a view to giving to the public a chance of criticising the administration of hospitals and also with a view to enable the public in various districts to help the hospital authorities in providing comforts for patients, the Punjab Government have recently decided to appoint committees of visitors to all district headquarters hospitals. These committees of visitors will go round these hospitals, and will be able to see the patients, talk to them and if there are any complaints, they will be able to bring these complaints to the notice of Government. This is certainly a step which I hope the honourable members will agree with me is in the right direction and I hope that in future if there are any complaints, and I hope there will be none, they will be brought to the notice of the Government. The honourable lady member may therefore rest assured that I shall do my best to give her as good an administration as possible.

**Mr. President :** Question is—

That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 6,83,700, District Medical Officers.

*The motion was lost.*

#### *Lady Willingdon Hospital.*

**Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** (Lahore, Sikh, Rural), *(Urdu)* :  
I beg to move—

<sup>1</sup>That the grant be reduced by Re. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,24,800, Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore.

In the Lady Willingdon Hospital which was recently built in Lahore, accommodation for women patients is very small. If ever you visit this hospital you will find that there are only 8 rooms for Indian patients, 10 rooms for European patients and a few dormitories for 48 poor patients. Many lakhs of rupees have been spent on building this hospital but only very few patients can be accommodated in it. There is room for only 66 patients in all. In the hospital there is a very long verandah joining the two blocks

<sup>1</sup>To draw the attention of the Government to the inadequate accommodation for indoor patients in Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore.

of the building. This verandah is a covered one. The only purpose which this verandah serves is for going from one block to the other. And much money must have been spent on building it. (*Interruption*). Lahore is a big city and it is necessary that the hospitals here ought to provide sufficient accommodation for patients from all over the province come here for treatment. It is ridiculous to incur so much expenditure for the sake of a very few patients.

In the rural areas there are hospitals established for the treatment of male patients but no hospitals are established for women patients. In the whole of the province there is only one such hospital where women can be admitted for treatment, but the accommodation provided for them is too limited. Only 66 beds are provided for the whole of the province. The greater portion of the expenditure on the hospital is incurred not on patients but in providing comforts to doctors and nurses. Houses for doctors and nurses are built in it and much money has been spent on them, while very little accommodation is provided for patients for whose sake the hospital is built. I request the Honourable Minister to see that more accommodation is provided for women patients specially for poor women patients in this hospital. At least the grant to that institution should be doubled and if it is not possible then there is no use of maintaining this hospital and incurring so much expenditure on it.

**Mr. President :** Demand under consideration, motion moved—

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,24,800, Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): I am very grateful to the honourable member for having drawn the attention of the House to this hospital in Lahore. It is an institution of which the Medical Department and this Honourable House may well feel proud. Originally all the students from the Medical College had to go to Madras to learn maternity work in the Madras hospitals and Government had to pay their railway fares and their fees. Some years back the Punjab Government decided to have in the Punjab a maternity hospital of their own. To begin with they had a temporary hospital on the Temple Road. At first the fear was there would not be a sufficient number of patients willing to allow themselves to be treated by students. But with the great care and diligence brought to bear upon his work by Major Hayes we soon attracted large numbers of women patients from all over Lahore to that temporary hospital on the Temple Road. Encouraged by the response made by the patients, Punjab Government was able to start building this hospital which most of the honourable members must have seen near the Mosque. That hospital has cost the Government nearly Rs. 15 lakhs, and it will be a source of pleasure to any honourable member who might wish to go and pay a visit to this institution. We have in that hospital an air conditioning plant which has cost us about Rs. 40 or 50 thousand. That plant is a source of great comfort to the patients in the hospital. The doctors can work under a pleasant temperature. We have two sets of operating theatres, one for septic cases and the other for a-septic cases. The verandah to which the honourable member has referred is a long covered passage which enables patients from one operating theatre to be taken to the wards on the opposite side. And it was essential that that passage should be covered because

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patients may have to be taken along in all kinds of weather, when it is raining or when it is hot. That money has really not been wasted. It was necessary to cover the passage. Originally we started this hospital with a few beds, with just the number which we had in the temporary hospital. But by last year the number of beds had been raised to 64. The honourable member mentioned 66 beds. I think the correct figure last year was 64. We had to increase the number according to the demand. As the number of patients began to increase we went on equipping more and more wards in the hospital. And having filled those 64 beds with patients from this year Government have anticipated the criticism of the honourable member, and I am sure he will be glad to learn that the number of beds in that hospital now stands at 74 and not 64. The buildings of that hospital are now fully occupied. There is absolutely no more room for any more beds to be placed. So that no space in that hospital is being wasted. If more beds have to be provided we shall have to build more wards for women. But at present, since we have only recently increased the number of beds by 10, I find that the needs of the hospital are being met by these 74 beds. In addition to these 74 beds I think it will interest the honourable member to know that there are other facilities in existence in Lahore for women patients. For instance, if the honourable member goes to the Mayo Hospital and the Albert Victor Hospital in the same compound he will find that the women patients occupy some of the wards there. In addition to this accommodation for women patients at these hospitals we have, in Lahore, a complete hospital for women called the Lady Aitchison Hospital which is situated behind the Mayo Hospital near the out-patients' eye ward. I am glad to say that the honourable member has never had the need of visiting that hospital and I hope he will not have the need for the future either. But that is a hospital in charge of a lady doctor by name Miss Aitchison who belongs to the Indian Women's Medical Service. Her services are lent to us by the Delhi authorities of the Lady Dufferin Fund. Always when one officer is transferred they send us another one. They are very highly qualified lady doctors and it would be a source of great pleasure for ladies to visit the hospital, and see how well that hospital is run. Originally that hospital was an institution run by a private committee which was in reality an official committee because it was presided over by His Excellency the Governor and on it were mainly official members. But from last year that committee has been dissolved and the whole of that hospital and its buildings have been transferred to the Punjab Government. That hospital, therefore, is now a Punjab Government institution. It is entirely devoted to the service of women and children. As far as hospital accommodation for women and children in Lahore is concerned, honourable members will see that there is enough of it.

**Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave :** The Lady Aitchison Hospital should be re-built. You are keeping them in those dilapidated buildings and not giving the women doctors a fair chance. They ought to have a new hospital.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Nobody will be happier than myself to provide new buildings for the Lahore Aitchison Hospital, and, I think, it will interest the honourable member to know that the Punjab Government have already sanctioned a scheme for a new hospital



for women combined with a medical school for women doctors. We wanted to have a Government medical school for women of our own. Honourable members will remember that the late lamented Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal brought a resolution in this House and he pointed out to the necessity of a women's medical college or school for the Punjab run by the Punjab Government. In pursuance of that resolution the Punjab Government decided to open a medical school for women combined with the new Lady Aitchison Hospital. In pursuance of that decision the Punjab Government proceeded to acquire a site for a combined hospital and medical school and if honourable members have ever a chance of going to the Railway Road behind the police lines they will find that a huge open area has already been purchased by the Punjab Government at a cost of Rs. 7 or 8 lakhs. I am speaking from memory—with a view to build a new women's hospital and medical school for women. But unfortunately since then we have not had the means to finance the scheme of a new hospital and medical school for women.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

5 P. M.

That the grant be reduced by Rs. 1 with respect to the item of Rs. 1,24,800, Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore.

*The motion was lost.*

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 59,52,000 be granted to the Governor in Council and the Punjab Government (Ministry of Education) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of Medical (Reserved and Transferred) and Public Health (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### EDUCATION (TRANSFERRED).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,46,200 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 March, 1936, in respect of Education (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

#### EDUCATION (RESERVED).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,11,000 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, 1936, in respect of Education (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

#### POLICE.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,89,100 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, 1936, in respect of Police.

*The motion was carried.*

## JAILS AND CONVICT SETTLEMENTS.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,66,700 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, 1936, in respect of Jails and Convict Settlements.

*The motion was carried.*

## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 43,58,900 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, 1936, in respect of Administration of Justice.

*The motion was carried.*

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (TRANSFERRED).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,96,500 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st March, 1936, in respect of General Administration (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (RESERVED).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 86,07,500 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, 1936, in respect of General Administration (Reserved).

*The motion was carried.*

## DEBT SERVICES.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,500 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, 1936, in respect of Debt Services.

*The motion was carried.*

## IRRIGATION (CAPITAL).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,97,100 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, 1936, in respect of Irrigation (Capital).

*The motion was carried.*

## IRRIGATION ESTABLISHMENT.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 89,17,200 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, 1936, in respect of Irrigation Establishment.

*The motion was carried.*

## IRRIGATION (WORKS).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 90,13,000 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, 1936, in respect of Irrigation (Works).

*The motion was carried.*

## REGISTRATION.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 74,300 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, 1936, in respect of Registration.

*The motion was carried.*

## FOREST (CAPITAL EXPENDITURE).

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,80,000 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, 1936, in respect of Forest (Capital Expenditure).

*The motion was carried.*

## FORESTS.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,34,400 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, 1936, in respect of Forests.

*The motion was carried.*

## STAMPS.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 48,800 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, 1936, in respect of Stamps.

*The motion was carried.*

## EXCISE.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,35,700 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, 1936, in respect of Excise.

*The motion was carried.*

## LAND REVENUE.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,61,000 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, 1936, in respect of Land Revenue.

*The motion was carried.*

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M., on Monday, 25th March, 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, 25th March 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### OATH OF OFFICE.

*Mr. A. V. Askwith (Officer on Special Duty) was sworn in.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### ZAMINDARS IN PUBLIC SERVICE.

**\*4424. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to lay on the table—

- (a) a copy of the resolution of Government, dated the 8rd October, 1919, on the subject of the employment of zamindars in the public service ;
- (b) copies of such Government resolutions subsequent to the resolution of the 8rd of October whereby that resolution was in any way modified or expanded particularly with reference to the definition of agriculturist ;
- (c) the executive instructions issued by the Government on this subject in 1927 particularly with regard to the definition of agriculturist ;
- (d) other important instructions on the subject which have been issued by the Government since the resolution ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to question No. 12 on the 10th November, 1919 (Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Punjab, 1919, Volume X, pages 314 and 345).

(b) The resolution of 1919 was not modified or expanded by any other resolution.

(c) and (d) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the statement laid on the table in reply to question No. 912<sup>1</sup> on the 23th June, 1934.

#### AGRICULTURIST INSOLVENTS IN GUJRAT.

**\*4425. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) how many agriculturists of Gujrat district applied for insolvency in each of the years 1922—1934 ;

[Ch. Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.]

- (b) how many were declared insolvent in each year and how many were discharged ;
- (c) their total liabilities and assets ;
- (d) the area of land owned by the applicants and the liabilities per acre ;
- (e) the average yearly income per acre of the estate of an insolvent in each of the above years ;
- (f) whether this includes the estimated value of the standing crops as well ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that I am unable to give the information asked for, as the time and labour involved in collecting it would be out of all proportion to its value. To obtain the information it would be necessary to go through the records of all decided cases of the district for the last thirteen years.

#### SALE OF LAND IN EXECUTION PROCEEDINGS IN GUJRAT.

**\*4426. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state the average annual amount of lease money of land per acre auctioned by civil courts of Gujrat district in execution proceedings for the years 1922—1934 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that I am unable to give the information asked for, as the time and labour involved in collecting it would be out of all proportion to its value. To obtain the information, it would be necessary to examine in detail the files of all the civil courts in the district for 13 years.

#### AVERAGE HOLDINGS OF ZAMINDARS IN GUJRAT.

**\*4427. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state the average holding of the zamindars in Gujrat in each of the years 1914, 1924 and 1934, and if 1934 figures are not available, the latest figures available ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The only information that is available is contained in Rural Section publications Nos. 4 and 11 of the Board of Economic Enquiry which are obtainable from the publishers : *Civil and Military Gazette Press, Lahore.*

#### AGRICULTURAL INDEBTEDNESS IN GUJRAT.

**\*4428. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the total amount of debt of agriculturists in the Gujrat district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret the information is not available and cannot be collected without inordinate delay.

## LAND HOLDINGS IN GUJRAT.

\*4429. **Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan**: Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state what percentage of the holdings in Gujrat district are—

- (a) under 5 acres ;
- (b) between 5 to 10 acres ;
- (c) 10 to 15 acres ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan**: The only information that is available is contained in Rural Section publications Nos. 4 and 11 of the Board of Economic Enquiry which are obtainable from the publishers, *Civil and Military Gazette Press, Lahore.*

## COTTON IN LYALLPUR.

\*4430. **Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan**: Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of gins in all the markets of Lyallpur district, and the quantity of American and Desi cotton baled in the years 1915, 1920, 1925 and 1930—1934 ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh**: The number of gins in all the markets of Lyallpur district is 1,978.

The information noted below regarding the quantity of cotton pressed during the cotton years 1925 and 1930 to 1934 has been collected from the returns submitted by factory owners or occupiers, under section 5 of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925 (XII of 1925) which came into force on the 8th August, 1925. These returns do not give separate figures for American and Desi cottons, and this information cannot be supplied. Nor is there any source from which information for the years prior to 1925 can be obtained.

<i>Cotton year.</i>	<i>Bales of cotton pressed.</i>
1925	218,862
1930	183,015
1931	99,234
1932	102,807
1933	201,152
1934 (upto 1st March, 1935)	123,118

## ATTENDANCE OF SECRETARY, LUDHIANA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE AT LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE.

\*4431. **Lala Bhagat Ram**: Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ludhiana Municipal Committee had, by its resolution, permitted its secretary to attend the meetings of the Punjab Local Self-Government Conference ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there was no meeting at all of the above conference at Lahore on 10th February, 1935, nor any notice to attend a meeting of the Conference was issued to the Secretary, Ludhiana Municipal Committee ;

[L. Bhagat Ram.]

(c) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, Ludhiana Municipal Committee, has drawn his travelling expenses amounting to Rs. 27-6-0 from the Committee's fund for attending a meeting of the Conference on 10th February, 1935 ;

(d) what action the Government proposes to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) A meeting of the working committee of the Local Self-Government Conference reception committee was held at Lahore on the 10th February, 1935, and a notice to attend it was issued to the Secretary, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, as he is a member and one of the secretaries of the said reception committee.

(c) Yes, for attending the meeting of the working committee of the said reception committee.

(d) The Committee is being asked whether the expenditure was declared an appropriate charge on the funds of the Committee under section 52 (2) (1), and if so, why Government's sanction was not obtained.

#### KILLA GIFT FUND, LYALLPUR.

**\*4432. Sardar Mohindar Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) the total amount of principal money of the Killa Gift Fund, Lyallpur ;

(b) what has been the annual amount of interest since the creation of this fund ;

(c) the names of the institutions and societies to whom grants have been made from this fund together with the amount granted and the date of grant ;

(d) the names, fathers' or guardians' names, caste, residence, income of the Muslim students or their fathers' or guardians' land in acres held by the students or their fathers or guardians, and the amount of the monthly stipend granted to each student since the creation of this fund ;

(e) the total period for which the stipend was availed of by the students by original grant or subsequent renewal ;

(f) the cases in which the stipends granted by the former Muslim trustee or during his period were not renewed by the present Muslim trustee or during his period, and for what reason they were not renewed ;

(g) the caste of the students whose stipends were not renewed ;

(h) how many such students had to discontinue their studies for non-renewal of their stipends ;

(i) what is the share of the Arains, Muslim Abadkar Jats, and Jangli communities, respectively, in the Killa Gift Fund contributions ;

(j) how many Muslim Jats, Arain and Jangli students were granted stipends by the present Muslim trustee or during his term of office, and what was the total amount so granted community-wise ;



- (k) whether it is a fact that the income of the Killa Gift Fund is only to be used towards the welfare of the agriculturists of the Lyallpur district ;
- (l) whether it is a fact that under the rules only *bona fide* students of Lyallpur district are eligible for grant of stipends ;
- (m) whether it is a fact that in cases in which the students or their fathers or guardians had only between one and two Killas of land in their name, the same had been got fictitiously and to show *bona fide* residence in the district ;
- (n) in how many cases the land possessed in the above cases was made to revert to the original owner after the grant of scholarships ;
- (o) whether it is a fact that a deputation waited upon the Honourable Member at the time of his visit to Lyallpur in connection with Killa Gift Fund ;
- (p) what action is being taken on the representation of the deputation ;
- (q) whether it is a fact that enlargement of the personnel of the trustees of Killa Gift Fund is under the consideration of the Government ;
- (r) if the answer to (q) above is in the affirmative, when the decision is likely to be taken ;
- (s) whether Government is prepared to evolve such a scheme as to give representation to the major Muslim tribes of the district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Rs. 14,64,562-8-0.

- (b) The statement giving the information is laid on the table.
- (c) to (j) The information is not available and its collection would involve labour that would not be commensurate with the value of the result.
- (k) and (l) Yes.
- (m) and (n) Government have no information.
- (o) Yes.
- (p) The matter is under consideration.
- (q) Yes.
- (r) As soon as possible.
- (s) Government do not propose to make a distinction between minor and major Muslim tribes.

*Statement referred to in part (b).*

		Ra.	A.	P.
For the period from November, 1923, to March, 1926	..	3,09,357	1	9
1926-27	.. .. .	82,895	1	7
1927-28	.. .. .	82,522	0	0
1928-29	.. .. .	82,587	5	0
1929-30	.. .. .	82,535	10	0
1930-31	.. .. .	82,663	10	0
1931-32	.. .. .	87,204	6	0
1932-33	.. .. .	81,857	14	0
1933-34	.. .. .	81,743	8	6

## SIKHS IN CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

**\*4433. Sardar Arjan Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) the percentage of Sikh population,  
(ii) the percentage of area owned by Sikhs, and  
(iii) the percentage of land revenue paid by them in the district of Lyallpur ;
- (b) the number of officials employed in the Co-operative Societies Department in the district of Lyallpur community-wise in all ranks ;
- (c) the percentage of co-operative societies of Sikh villages in the district and the percentage of Sikh capital in the district in the societies ;
- (d) the number of Sikh circle registrars, inspectors and sub-inspectors in the district, and also the number of Hindu and Muslim employees in the department in the district ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that except for a short time no Sikh has ever been appointed as circle registrar since the creation of the department in the district ;
- (f) the number of inspectors community-wise that have served in Lyallpur since the department has been created ;
- (g) how many of them have been proceeded against departmentally and how many were punished, with their names ;
- (h) the number of sub-inspectors community-wise who were proceeded against departmentally and how many were punished ;
- (i) the total number of promotions from sub-inspectors to the post of inspectors ;
- (j) whether it is a fact that no Sikh sub-inspector has ever been promoted to the post of inspector, and that only one was promoted and subsequently he too was reverted ;
- (k) whether it is a fact that the present circle registrar has been put in charge of the district a second time ;
- (l) whether there are any reasons for giving him the charge a second time ;
- (m) whether it is a fact that no Sikh or Hindu has been appointed circle registrar in the district ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## KILLA GIFT FUND.

**\*4434. Sardar Arjan Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the serious allegations made by a member of the Council against the administration of the Killa Gift Fund during the last budget session ;

(b) whether Government has made any inquiry into the matter, and what steps, if any, have been taken to improve the trust and the administration of the Fund ;

(c) whether Government is prepared to order a special audit to ensure if the rules and regulations are complied with ;

(d) whether Government will lay on the table a detailed account of the expenditure since the creation of the Fund ;

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) No ; but the question of improving the trust and its administration is under the consideration of Government.

(c) The accounts of the Killa Gift Fund Trust are already being audited annually ; and no special audit is considered necessary.

(d) It is regretted that the information cannot be given because the labour involved in collecting it would not be commensurate with the results.

#### GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

**\*4435. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the number of Government servants employed community-wise in the different departments under his control in the year 1929 and now, respectively ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to the consolidated statements showing the proportionate representation of various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government as they stood on the 1st January, 1929, and 1st January, 1935.

#### SUICIDES.

**\*4436. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

(a) the number of suicides committed during the last five years ;

(b) the number of people who committed suicide as the result of unemployment during the last five years ;

(c) the reasons which have led to such an abnormal increase in the number of suicides ?

**The Honourable Mr. J. D. Boyd :** (a) 644.

(b) and (c) I regret that the reply to these parts is not ready.

#### GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

**\*4437. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state the number of Government servants employed community-wise in the different departments under his control in the year 1929 and now, respectively ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The required information is given on pages 14 to 19 of the consolidated statement showing proportionate representation of various communities serving in different departments of the Punjab Government as it stood on the 1st January, 1930,

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

and on pages 16 to 19 of the similar statement for the 1st January, 1935. Particulars in respect of the Indian Service of Engineers, Indian Agricultural Service and Indian Veterinary Service are not included in these statements, because recruitment to these services, which has been stopped, was made by the Secretary of State for India and not by the Punjab Government.

#### GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

**\*4438. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the number of Government servants employed community-wise in the different departments under his control in the year 1929 and now, respectively?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The honourable member is referred to the Consolidated Statements published for the years in question.

#### ALIENATION OF LAND.

**\*4439. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing district-wise the area of land belonging to agriculturists which has been sold to non-agriculturists with the permission of the Deputy Commissioner during the last five years?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** It is regretted that the information cannot be given as the labour involved in collecting it would not be commensurate with the results.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT.

**\*4440. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of unemployed in the province is increasing every day ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the majority of the unemployed are ex-students of the Punjab University ;
- (c) if the answers to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to take any action in this matter, if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) Government has no definite information.

(c) Since the answers to (a) and (b) are not in the affirmative, the question really does not arise. But the honourable member is referred to the answers to question No. \*2951<sup>1</sup> answered on 6th March, 1934, and question No. \*3401<sup>2</sup> answered on the 27th June, 1934. The matter of unemployment has frequently been mentioned during the debates on the Budget in the current session and Government has taken note of what has been said.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXIV, page 530.

<sup>2</sup>Volume XXV, page 153.

## INDUS WATERS.

**\*4441. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a tabular statement showing the discharges of waters of the Indus at Sukkur for the last six years during each winter season commencing from the 1st October till the end of March, and the total water supply in cusecs required for the Sukkur Barrage during winter season?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** It is regretted the Government is unable to table the information required, which is the property of the Government of Bombay.

## FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

**\*4442. Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** Arising out of question No. \*3694,<sup>1</sup> asked by Lala Jyoti Prasad in the last session of this Council, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Donald, late Warden of Fisheries, Punjab, has passed orders about the confirmation of the inspector's relative in question contrary to the clear orders of Government that none of the persons who have been engaged after 1931-32 should be confirmed;
- (b) whether in the office note it had been pointed out that the inspector's relative in question could not be confirmed;
- (c) whether the name of the inspector's relative still stands in the list of accepted candidates for the post of sub-inspector;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the name of the inspector's relative in question was accepted as a candidate for the post of sub-inspector, Fisheries, on the consideration that he has been confirmed as a deputy sub-inspector;
- (e) if the reply to (a) be in the affirmative, the course Government intends to adopt in this case;
- (f) whether Government has made enquiries into this; if so, whether the statements of persons concerned will be laid on the table?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) and (b) Order of confirmation was passed; but it was decided subsequently that the appointment was provisional.

- (c) No list of accepted candidates for the post of sub-inspector of Fisheries is now maintained.
- (d) No.
- (e) and (f) Do not arise.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SECRETARY, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, DALHOUSIE.

**1113. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during 1934, the Municipal Committee of Dalhousie advertised in one or more newspapers for a secretary ;
- (b) if so, whether Government will lay a copy of the advertisement on the table ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that it was stated in the advertisement that a man with engineering qualification would be preferred ;
- (d) if so, whether this matter was kept in view at the time of selection ; if not, why not ;
- (e) the qualifications of the man who has been chosen ;
- (f) what are his engineering qualifications ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the advertisement is laid on the table.

(c) It was stated in the advertisement that preference would be given to a man with engineering experience.

(d), (e) and (f) Yes. In his application the gentleman selected pointed out that he had occupied the positions of Foreman, Assistant Works Manager and Works Manager in the North-Western Railway at Lahore and Karachi, and had been elected an Associate Member of the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland, after completing a three years' course in Theoretical Engineering in the West of Scotland Technical College at Glasgow.

*Copy of the advertisement.*

*Wanted.*—Secretary for Municipal Committee, Dalhousie. Will be required to serve 12 months' probation from November 1st, 1934. Pay Rs. 100 until May 1st, 1935, thereafter, Rs. 200—10—300 (House free). Preference given to man with Engineering experience. Apply in writing before 30th September, 1934, with copies of testimonials to H. J. B. Taylor, I.C.S., President, Municipal Committee, Dalhousie.

## BIKANER CANAL AND SALTPETRE.

**1114. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that along the Bikaner Canal from the head up to Faridkot State boundary saltpetre has appeared in several places ; if so, whether it is a fact that the appearance of saltpetre is on the increase ;
- (b) whether Government has made any enquiry on the subject of saltpetre whether it is on the increase ; if so, whether Government will lay the report on the table ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Increase in saltpetre along Bikaner Canal has not yet been noticed.

(b) Does not arise.

## HYDRO-ELECTRIC CURRENT TO FEROZEPUR CANTONMENT.

**1115. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Hydro-Electric current is being supplied to Ferozepur city, but not to Ferozepur Cantonment ;
- (b) whether it is intended to supply this current to Ferozepur Cantonment also ; if so, by when ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

## ELECTRIC CURRENT TO CANAL COLONY, FEROZEPUR.

**1116. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there used to be a Power House at Hoasaini Wala which used to supply electric current to Canal Colony, Ferozepur ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the same cable is now being used for transmitting Hydro-Electric current to the Canal Colony ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this cable is now carrying practically a maximum load and scarcely any power is available for the same reason in the neighbourhood ;
- (d) if so, whether Government proposes to consider the question of changing the present cable for a more suitable one ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The cable is of quite sufficient size for requirements in Canal Colony.

(d) No.

## APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CONSTABLE, JULLUNDUR.

**1117. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that about January, 1935, the Superintendent, Police, Jullundur wanted to employ some constables ;
- (b) if so the number of vacancies ;
- (c) the number of applicants ;
- (d) whether any M.A.'s and B.A.'s were among the applicants ; if so, how many of each ;
- (e) how many M.A.'s or B.A.'s were successful in obtaining the posts ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Five.

(c) Thirty.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

## BOATAWALA CANAL.

**1118. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Boatawala Canal, one of the Grey canals in Ferozepore district, stopped running prematurely during 1934 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Boatawala Canal passes under the Sutlej Navigation Channel and that previously on several occasions, when the Boatawala Canal had failed, the surplus water of the Navigation Channel, which otherwise would have been discharged into the river, was allowed to be diverted into the Boatawala Canal ;
- (c) if so, how many times this has been done and during what years ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that when the Boatawala Canal failed during 1934, permission was given to divert the water into the Boatawala Canal, but later the permission was withdrawn ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the irrigated area on the Boatawala Canal has suffered owing to the premature failure of the canal ; if so, to what extent ;
- (f) how the matured area on this canal in 1934 compares with the mature area in 1933 ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

**1119. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing deaths from tuberculosis during the years 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1934 in the province ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The system of registration of deaths was introduced in the Punjab from the year 1865 ; but as deaths from tuberculosis were not recorded separately the information asked for by the honourable member cannot be given. The numbers of deaths from this disease as recorded in the hospitals and dispensaries in the Punjab during the years 1920, 1930 and 1934 are, however, 160, 245 and 304, respectively. I may also add that in the Public Health Report of the province new sub-heads of mortality for recording deaths from phthisis, tuberculosis of joints, and tuberculosis of other sorts have been included with effect from the 1st January, 1935.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

**1120. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the dread disease of tuberculosis is on the increase in the province ;
- (b) if so, what are the causes for it ;



- (c) whether any of the causes are preventable;
- (d) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to prevent the spread of this disease;
- (e) whether tuberculosis is more common among the poor or among the rich;
- (f) if tuberculosis is common among the poor, what steps Government has taken to supply facilities for the poor to receive necessary treatment?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No figures are available in regard to the incidence of tuberculosis, as the disease is not notifiable in the province as a whole. Only tubercle of lung is notifiable in certain municipal towns, but even there the figures reported are far from reliable. The records available in hospitals and dispensaries, however, show that there has not been any appreciable increase in this disease.

(b) The causes of the spread of this disease are :—

- (i) The habit of spitting.
- (ii) Narrow streets.
- (iii) Ill-ventilated houses.
- (iv) Contaminated milk.
- (v) Contaminated meat.
- (vi) Dust and dirt.
- (vii) Poor diet.
- (viii) Heredity.

(c) Education and propaganda, to teach the value of fresh air, pure food and the advantages of early treatment, can do a lot.

(d) The Government assisted District Boards to establish rural dispensaries with the object of lessening this, as well as other diseases; and the Town Improvement Act, and certain amendments of the Municipal Act effected by the Municipal Amendment Act of 1938, were passed with the design of facilitating town improvement and preventing the increase of slum areas and congestion of buildings, by means of town planning and building schemes.

(e) It is more common among the poor.

(f) The poor receive free medical treatment at hospitals and dispensaries.

#### BOATAWALA CANAL.

**1121. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the discharge of the Boatawala Canal, which is one of the Grey Canals in Ferozepore district, has been regulated and reduced to such an extent that the irrigated area has been seriously affected;
- (b) if so, whether Government is prepared to have the matter considered further?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## DISCHARGE OF THE SUTLEJ.

**1122. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the discharge of the river Sutlej below the weir at Ferozepore ;
- (b) the discharge of the river Sutlej above the weir Sulaimanke ;
- (c) if the discharge at Sulaimanke is greater, the explanation for it ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) and (b) The discharge of river Sutlej below Ferozepore and above Suleimanke varies from day to day depending on river supplies and offtakes of canals.

(c) From September to December, there is generally infiltration with the river between Ferozepore and Suleimanke and the supplies in the river at Suleimanke may be greater than below Ferozepore but from February to May there are heavy losses in the river and supplies at Suleimanke are much less than below Ferozepore.

## PARCHEES FOR RABI ON GREY CANALS.

**1123. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the Grey Canals in Ferozepore district, *parchees* showing matured *kharif* area are given, but are not given for matured *rabi* ; if so, why ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Yes, on grounds of practical convenience.

## PROVINCIALISATION OF DISTRICT BOARD SCHOOLS.

**1124. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether Government proposes to provincialise any district board schools during 1935-36 ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** No. The honourable member is referred to my answer to part (b) of Council question No. 742<sup>1</sup> asked at the Council session in March, 1934.

## TREASURE TROVE IN KASUR.

**1125. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that about eighteen months ago, some gold coins were found in a trove in Kasur ;
- (b) if so, what was the number that came into the possession of Government ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that some of these coins are very rare specimens ; if so, what is their value ;
- (d) the approximate total value of the find ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) 788.

(c) and (d) Yes. As it was established that the find had been wilfully concealed it was forfeited to Government without its value being assessed. Attention is, however, invited to the annual report on the Treasure Trove coins (Muhammadans) discovered in the Punjab during the year 1934-35, which contains full particulars of the find. This report is published as a part of the annual report of the Central Museum, Lahore.

#### WELL-BORING OPERATIONS.

**1126. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the total amount of outstandings on account of well boring operations in the province to the end of 1934, and how Government proposes to realise the same?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I regret that up-to-date information regarding outstandings on account of boring operations in the province have not yet been received from the districts of Lahore, Ferozepore and Lyallpur. Based, however, on the amounts outstanding on the 31st December, 1933, in the case of Lahore and Ferozepore districts, and on 30th September, 1934, in the case of the Lyallpur district, the arrears at the end of 1934 amounted approximately to Rs. 51,000.

2. The revenue officers are doing their best to recover these outstandings and in cases where it is not possible to effect recovery by ordinary means civil suits have been, or will be, instituted.

#### DROWNING ACCIDENT IN ZIRA TAHSIL.

**1127. Mr. Ernest Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the summer of 1934, a drowning accident took place at one of the ferries in Zira tahsil in Ferozepore district;
- (b) whether any enquiry was made as to the cause of the accident;
- (c) if so, whether any one was found to blame;
- (d) if so, what action has been taken against him?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes, a boat over-turned near Indirasa ferry in Zira tahsil.

(b) Yes, and it was found that the accident was due to the collision of the boat with a *shisham* tree floating in the water.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

##### RE-ASSESSMENT OF LAND REVENUE.

**Sardar Bishan Singh (Sialkot-cum-Gurdaspur, Sikh, Rural) (Urdu) :** I beg to move—

This Council recommends to the Government that for the purpose of re-assessment of any district the prices to be taken into account should not include the after-war boom period (1919-29), the period after 1929 being a sufficiently long period in the past for the purpose.

[S. Bishan Singh.]

The record of prices of agricultural commodities all over the world at no time shows that they had ever risen so much as they did during the Great War and after it. Government intend to make assessments according to the average of prices which obtained during the last 22 years including the boom period referred to above. These average prices according to a *communiqué* recently issued by the Government are as follows :—

				Annas.
Cotton	..	..	..	184 per maund.
Gur	..	..	..	88 " "
Toria	..	..	..	92 " "
Wheat	..	..	..	60 " "
Gram	..	..	..	52 " "
Maize	..	..	..	48 " "

Rs.

Rice	..	..	..	} 32 per acre
Pulses	..	..	..	
Jowar	..	..	..	
Bajra	..	..	..	
Oil-seeds other than toria	..	..	..	
Fodder	..	..	..	

Annas.

Gardens	..	..	..	} 60 per maund.
Vegetables	..	..	..	
Tobacco	..	..	..	
Bhusa (wheat)	..	..	..	6 " "
Bhusa (gram)	..	..	..	8 " "

These average wholesale prices, according to which Government intend to make assessments, also contain the average price of bhusa of gram. So far as bhusa of gram is concerned it is of no use to the zamindars. They cannot use it as fodder for if it is given to the cattle they fall ill. I may here mention that once by accident my three cows, each of which was big with a calf, ate bhusa of gram and all of them miscarried. If bullocks happen to eat it, they get dysentery. Hence the zamindars throw it away.

Now, if we were to exclude the extraordinary boom period extending over 11 years from 1919 to 1929 the average prices would be as follows :—

Rs. A. P.

Wheat from 1913-18 and from 1930-34	..	3	0	10	Per maund.
Gram from 1913-18 and from 1930-34	..	2	14	7	" "
Toria from 1913-18 and from 1930-34	..	4	14	2	" "
Gur from 1913-18 and from 1930-34	..	5	3	8½	" "
Maize from 1913-18 and from 1930-34	..	2	11	5½	" "
Cotton from 1913-14 and from 1930-34	..	19	0	9½	" "

If these average prices are to be taken for the purposes of assessment then it would mean fair treatment to the zamindars. What I mean is this, that the Government should only take the average prices which obtained

during the years 1913-18 and 1930-34. These years, I may assure the Government, include a period extending over 6 years (1913-18) during which the prices were not the same as are ordinarily obtained. If you refer to page 100 of Volume XVI of our Debates you will find that the prices were comparatively high. For example, the price of wheat was as follows in these years.—

				Rs. A. P.
1913	..	..	..	3 6 9 per maund.
1914	..	..	..	8 11 10 " "
1915	..	..	..	4 6 5 " "
1916	..	..	..	3 12 10 " "
1917	..	..	..	4 3 2 " "
1918	..	..	..	5 1 9 " "

These prices were high as compared with the prices obtaining before 1913. This period which was also a boom period is included in the period for which I request the Government to take the average prices.

In the period from 1919 to 1929 the level of prices was extraordinarily high, and as such I request the Government to exclude it. In this period which extends over 11 years from 1919-29 the prices of wheat were:—

				Rs. A. P.
1919	..	..	..	6 0 4 per maund.
1920	..	..	..	5 6 6 " "
1921	..	..	..	7 12 6 " "
1922	..	..	..	6 4 5 " "
1923	..	..	..	3 15 3 " "
1924	..	..	..	4 6 4 " "
1925	..	..	..	5 11 11 " "
1926	..	..	..	5 4 9 " "
1927	..	..	..	4 12 0 " "
1928	..	..	..	5 0 8 " "
1929	..	..	..	5 1 1 " "

These figures show the high level to which the prices had risen in these years. Such occurrences are very rare, and as such they should not be counted upon. If the average prices of the last 22 years, that is, from 1913 to 1934, were to be taken as the Government have proposed to take, then they would be —

				Rs. A. P.
Wheat	..	..	..	4 4 7 per maund.
Gram	..	..	..	3 18 0 " "
Toria	..	..	..	6 11 9 " "
Gur	..	..	..	6 12 6 " "

These average prices are very high. Consequently I suggest that the average prices, excluding the boom period from 1919 to 1929, should be taken for purposes of assessment.

[S. Bishan Singh.]

All the period from 1913 to 1929 was a boom period. The ordinary prices which could be expected at any time are those which were obtained before the year 1913 or after the year 1929. At the time of the revenue settlement of 1912 the average price of wheat was Rs. 2-8-0 per maund and the average price of wheat during the year 1930-34 was also about the same. In reality the average of prices which were obtained in the years before 1913 or after 1929 should be taken as standard prices for the purpose of assessment. But I have in my resolution recommended only the exclusion of the extraordinary boom period from 1919 to 1929 and have not touched the period from 1913 to 1918, which was also a boom period. As such I request the Government to accept this resolution, and for the purpose of assessment only take the average of prices which obtained during the years 1913-18 and 1930-34.

One more point which I want to submit before the House is this, that for purposes of assessment the averages of those prices should be taken which are obtainable, for wheat in the months of June, July, August and September, for toria in the months of January, February, March and April; and for cotton and sugar in the months of November, December, January and February. The prices which are obtained in these months for these commodities are the real ones which the zamindars get. The prices which are obtainable in the markets in reality also include the expenses of carrying the commodities there.

In the end I request that as this system is a new one every care should be taken before it is introduced so that it may not work any hardship on the zamindars. Previously at no time has this system been tried. As such every caution should be taken while introducing it. With these words I commend my resolution for the favourable consideration of the House, and I hope all members will kindly lend their support to it.

**Mr. President :** Resolution moved—

This Council recommends to the Government that for the purpose of re-assessment of any district the prices to be taken into account should not include the after-war boom period (1919-29), the period after 1929 being a sufficiently long period in the past for the purpose.

**Mian Nurullah** (Lyallpur South, Muhammadan, Rural): I beg to rise to support the resolution moved by my honourable friend from Gurdaspur. It is a very important one, and is going to affect the whole of the province. When the time comes for settlement average prices are calculated for a certain period of years and these are mentioned as the commutation prices. The resolution wants certain years to be excluded for this purpose. The years of the greatest boom that the world has ever seen, i.e., 1919-1929, no doubt should be excluded. Therefore this resolution has a wide importance to the whole province, not only to the zamindar community but to the Government ultimately, as it will affect a change in the annual revenues and the financial position. The question of prices is one of the most baffling questions in all assessments and certainly by far the most important because all assessments are worked out on certain rules in which three factors play a very important part, the first is the percentage of cropping, the second is the yield that the Government takes and the third is the price. What is generally done is that a certain homogeneous area is taken up as a circle.

The acreage of each crop is found out during a certain number of years. The acreage is multiplied by the yield per acre and this again is multiplied by the prices and that gives you the total assets of that assessment circle. Out of this the nominal cost of cultivation is deducted, and then the Government takes its due share which has been fixed at 25 per cent. This is what they call 25 per cent. of the net assets.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** May I ask a question ? The honourable member has said that after you multiply the acreage and yield by the price, you get the total assets and that Government takes 25 per cent. of this, while Government actually takes 25 per cent. of the net assets.

**Mian Nurullah :** I would like to be corrected if I am wrong. The total amount of the produce is turned into cash like this. Suppose I have got 5 acres of wheat, two acres of sugarcane, and so on. These five acres of wheat would be multiplied by the yield of the wheat : if it is 13, it will be 65 ; this again will be multiplied by the price, say, Rs. 2.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** May I make it clear ? The honourable member changed from total assets to net assets without explaining, and I am afraid that the House may be under a misapprehension if it is not made clear. There is a very great distinction between the two, the total assets and the net assets. I have therefore asked the honourable member what exactly he refers to.

**Mian Nurullah :** It is in this way. The total assets of the estate are worked out and out of that certain deductions are made to arrive at the net assets, but those deductions so far are only nominal. The word "net assets" from a business man's point of view is a misnomer.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** That is entirely wrong.

**Mian Nurullah :** I am going to clear this point on the floor of this House today. The honourable member says that it is wrong.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** It is.

**Mian Nurullah :** The costs of cultivation have been recently worked out by economists, by professors of agriculture and others in the Punjab, and if the Government were to take that as the basis of remission or deduction from the total assets, I can challenge that the Government would not be able to secure even one-fourth of the revenue that they get today. That is why I say that from a business man's point of view the expression "net assets" is absolutely a misnomer, because there is no deduction made for the labour I put in.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** That is entirely wrong, and I protest against a mis-statement of that kind.

**Mian Nurullah :** I am sorry. The point is that there is very little given actually by way of deduction, and I would urge upon the Government in future through resolutions that a commission of experts be set up to include professors, eminent agriculturists, like our friend here, some members and some Government officers, to go into this matter very carefully and find out whether we have actually paid 25 per cent. or 37½ per cent. that was due from us during the last few years, in fact, to go through the question of net assets. In many cases net assets have worked out to be practically gross assets. In support of what I have said, I am ready to quote in this House

[Mian Nurullah.]

instances from my district where a zamindar has offered the whole of his standing crop to the Government saying, here is the standing crop, I have put in my labour and have taken pains, I have put my seed and you can take it and realise the revenue and manage it and do anything you like. What happened? The Government took charge of that estate; it was a small one being a proprietary estate and Government tried to collect the revenue from the standing crops after harvesting them and they found out ultimately that there was a deficit. So, if we use the phrase 'net assets' it becomes a misnomer, and that is why I say that if there is any deduction it is only nominal and I urge on the Government to appoint an expert commission to find out whether really we are paying 25 per cent. or more. The example I have given shows that we have been in certain cases paying 100 per cent. of the whole crop and everything including labour and all.

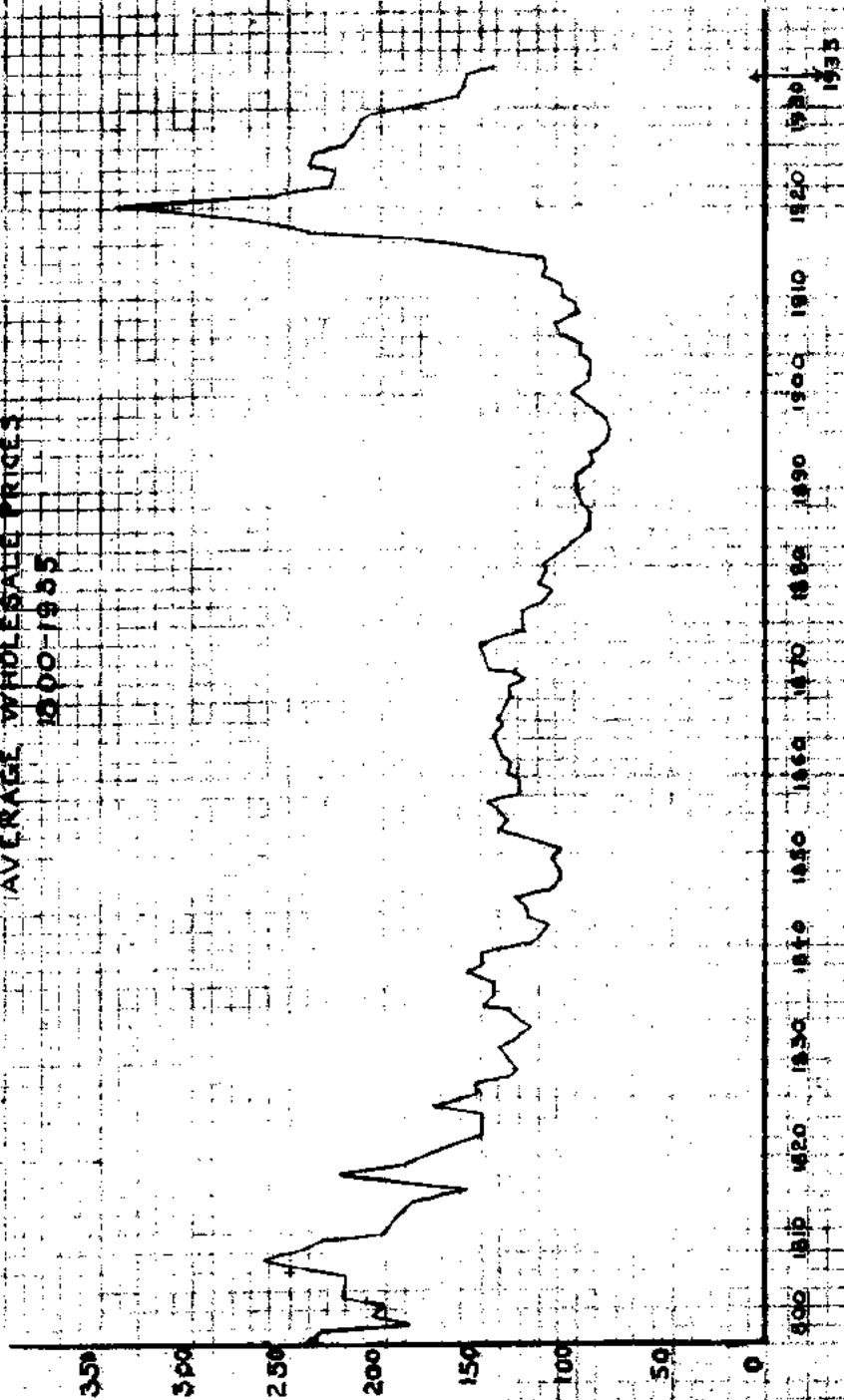
I proceed now to the question that in this way the Government is entitled to its share which has been fixed by the 1928 Act at 25 per cent. Formerly it was 50 per cent. of the net assets. I will, in this connection, refer to the speech made by the then Chief Secretary, now His Excellency the Governor, that whether you reduced your net share from 33½ per cent. or 50 per cent. to 25 per cent., it would not matter at all. That is clearly given out in his speech on the floor of this House at page 1022 of the Punjab Debates, Volume XI, 1928. I need not go into the details at all, but I will quote those words. If anybody wants he can read the whole of the speech.

It does not matter to the settlement officer if he has got to produce a lakh and a-half out of a particular assessment circle, whether he takes 25 per cent. at high prices or whether he takes 33½ per cent. at comparatively low prices. Neither does it matter to Government.

Then it was argued that this attempt to reduce the pitch from 33½ to 25 per cent. was no improvement. It depended ultimately on the personal factor, on the personal equation of the settlement officer who was working the settlement. The honourable member then took a concrete instance by which he explained that the Government sanctioned Rs. 2-6-0 as the commutation price of wheat in the district of Multan when he was in charge of the settlement, while when he worked out privately the price of wheat for the last 20 years in a certain week of the year it came to something like Rs. 4-6-0. That means that instead of taking the price of wheat at Rs. 4-6-0 the settlement officer took it at a lower figure and the Government put it down to Rs. 2-6-0. That was the argument; that instead of 33½ if you take 25 per cent., and if you take the top price of the crops you will produce more demand than you would otherwise. But the Government has been always very kind and have been taking this factor into consideration, and have always been fixing the commutation prices much lower than the market prices. This brings me to a very important point, the Government *communiqué* that has been recently issued. The prices mentioned therein, the so-called artificial prices, are at a level never touched under normal conditions. Unless there is going to be a war, and a long drawn war, prices cannot rise high. Paragraph 6 of the *communiqué* says that for the purposes of remission the prices taken will be those of the leading firms in that area. That is the biggest catch in the *communiqué* if I may so call it. Formerly we used to get some advantage for the personal factor. That will disappear and the sympathetic treatment that the Government meted out to the zamindars.



AVERAGE, WHOLESALE PRICES  
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till now will be lost for ever. I have worked this out roughly as follows. Taking Mr. Dobson's report in Lyallpur, I find that 49 annas per maund was the price prevailing in 1910 to 1912 in the market. But the actual price taken for commutation purposes was in the Rakh Branch 40 annas, Gogera branch circle I, 36 and other circles, 34. That practically was 18 per cent. less than the market price. Gram works out to be 20, cotton 42, jowar 54, bajra 30, maize 20, gur 12, toria 30. For rough purposes these may be taken at an average of 25 per cent., so that we have always got the advantage of that 25 per cent., and now when prices are going to be fixed according to the *communiqué*—the prices of the leading firms—we will miss this very great advantage. As regards the higher pitch of prices mentioned in the *communiqué* Government may say that it has nothing to do with us unless the prices actually come to that level and the level is regulated by rule 4 of the 1929 rules which I must, for the information of the members of this House, read here to refresh their memory.

The prices to be adopted in the estimates shall be the average prices which are likely to be obtained for their crops by agriculturists during the coming settlement, but shall be based on the average of a sufficiently long period in the past and it shall be deemed that the rate of future prices will not be dissimilar.

The main point is whether the future prices are going to be similar to what we are taking or dissimilar, and I am going to prove on the floor of this House from past history of the prices for the last century or so that they are going to be dissimilar and not similar. Further, it is stated—

the prices prevailing in the years of famine or severe scarcity shall be excluded from the calculations.

This is the point on which our resolution is based, that the prices prevailing in the years of famine or severe scarcity shall be excluded from the calculations. The principle behind this is that years of exceptionally high prices and years of exceptionally low prices are to be ruled out. It is not fair therefore to include the after-war boom period when prices rose to heights unknown. The legislature then forgot to put in the word "war prices" or "prices between 1919 and 1929" as we have now put along with famine and scarcity prices. I will just illustrate it by reference to the graph. This morning I got the idea, and I went to a friend, principal of a college, and found out what the curve of prices has been for the last hundred years or so. It starts with 1800, when the Index Number of prices was somewhere near 235. That was the period of Napoleonic Wars and the effect of that was that prices went up to something like 255.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** What is the basic year ?

**Mian Nurullah :** It is 1900. The Index Number in 1800 was about 235. In 1802 it came down to 180 but went up to 255 in 1810. After the War, with minor fluctuations, until you reach 1850, there is a regular trend downwards for 40 years or so. Similar is going to be the case now.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** How is that low ?

**Mian Nurullah :** It is most likely because history tells us like this. Then in 1850 we get a slight upward movement. From 1850 prices rise and the rise is maintained till 1873 by the Franco-Prussian War.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** What country do these prices relate to ?

**Mian Nurullah :** It is the general index number of English prices. I may say for the information of members that now there is no isolation. We are all one big country all over the world. Distances are no more a consideration. From 1850 to 1873 there was a slight upward movement. That was due to the gold output in California and Australia, and it was also due to the Crimean War. Then in 1871 it went up a little due to Franco-Prussian War and then from 1873 right up to 1896 there was what they call the big depression, particularly in agricultural prices, followed by an upward trend from 1896 right up to 1914. The prices were going up and up. There were slight fluctuations in between though I think the rise in prices in this period was due to the cyanide process by which it was easier to turn out gold. Then came the Great War in 1914 and we found the soaring rise of prices going up as high as 344 in 1920 in England and probably in 1922 here in India. Then there was the big reaction, as big as or perhaps bigger than the rise ending the great world depression from which we have been suffering for the last few years. I have just read section 4 which shows the prices that are to be adopted for the purposes of remission. They shall be average prices which are likely to be obtained from the crops by agriculturists. Are we likely to get the prices that we got in these years of boom? Certainly not. Reaction has already set in. We have gone down much lower than 1914 specially 1931-32, and this is going to continue, unless there is a war, for another 40 years or so. Therefore the proposition before the House, as is clear from a glance of this graph, is a very reasonable one.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** May I inquire if the honourable member thinks that this curve reads parallel with Indian prices during the same period? Are Indian prices parallel with the variations in English prices for which this curve stands?

**Mian Nurullah :** At that time there was no connection between prices very little, if any, but now, as I have said, we are one unit, and there is no effect of distances on the prices and they are practically the same everywhere. It represents the nearest figure that we can get for Indian prices. That is my reply to the honourable member.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** We have curves of Indian prices available.

**Mian Nurullah :** I have read Dutta's book on prices for 60 years. and have no figures beyond that. There is not very much difference. Prices are going to remain very low and the *communiqué* is very wrong when it says that the prices are fair and are likely to remain so for the next 40 years. It puts me into doubt whether taking these prices is legal under rule 4 or not, Rule 4 says that we have to take the prices that will prevail, but we have seen that these prices will never reach as high again. Government might argue that this is an artificial level of prices, and you are not going to be affected by these. I quite agree. Nor do I think that Government is going to be affected if they agree to this proposition and take a lower level of prices because under another rule, they cannot increase their assessment by more than 25 per cent., and that is where they are going to get their upper limit, and that limit is going to be much below this artificial limit, they are now taking. Therefore, it is no use sticking to these prices at all. It is not a question of prestige for the Government, it is a question of economics and a

question that should be seen according to these rules. People suspect that the Government wants to show that they are giving us 30 per cent. or 40 per cent. or 60 per cent. remission. That might be because they are assuming too high prices. It is not the remission that matters, it is the actual payment that matters to us. A big remission may after all be misleading. I shall explain by taking the instance of a shrewd proprietor of a big store who at X-mas sale puts the price of an article at Re. 1-2-0 showing the cost price at Re. 1-8-0 while actually it is Re. 1. I am tempted to buy thinking there is a gain of annas 6 while I actually lose annas 2 by buying in that sale. It is, therefore, not the remission that matters, it is the standard that is taken by the Government that matters. As far as my knowledge goes, I was the first to start this question of basing our revenues on index numbers when I made my maiden speech in 1930. Then I said that I could devise a policy based on index number but nobody listened to me then and the proposal was thrown out, though Government could do so only by a narrow majority, but I am glad that the question has been taken up. This new system therefore has my blessings. I am for it, but that is not the way I should like it to be. Paragraph 6 of the *communiqué* is a big pitfall for us so long as prices and yields both remain varying factors in the hands of the officials. As it stands, it is not acceptable to us. I would like to suggest another method. What the Government should do is this, they should link the prices with the land revenue somewhere near the last settlement and taking that as hundred they should try to give us remission when the prices are low and try to take more when the prices are high.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** We accept that.

**Mian Nurullah :** I think we will then remove the catch, the catch that I have just mentioned, about the loss of the personal factor of the settlement officer and the sympathetic attitude of the Government. In this system very likely we will gain and you will gain too, because when the prices do go up we will not feel paying more. If the Government had been shrewd, it should have asked for more when cotton was at Rs. 25 and wheat was at Rs. 8. It could have accumulated crores of rupees and it could have invested them profitably so that they might have yielded income in such times as these so that we could have been exempted from paying land revenue. On the other hand we wasted money and as Mr. Dobson would say we purchased cars, gramophones, etc., in fact we did all sorts of things and spent money like anything. Neither the Government nor the zamindar saved a penny.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** This is rather an important matter. Might I ask the honourable member to elaborate what he exactly means by last settlement being the basis ?

**Mian Nurullah :** I have just pointed out. It is like this. Commutation prices on the Rakh Branch were Rs. 2-8-0 for wheat, Re. 1-12-0 for gram, Rs. 3-9-0 for toria and Rs. 4 for sugar, Re. 1-9-0 for maize and Rs. 15-3-0 for cotton (Rs. 6 unginned cotton). Similarly in Gugera Branch the prices were Rs. 2-4-0 wheat, Re. 1-12-0 gram, Rs. 3-4-0 toria, Rs. 3-9-0 sugar Re. 1-8-0 maize, and Rs. 12-8-0 cotton (Rs. 5 for unginned cotton). The index number of these prices on one side and the total Government demand of the current settlement on the other may be linked together. If the prices

[Mian Nurullah.]

rise the demand or land revenue shall also rise and *vice versa*. The demand will not fall because the prices are not going so low as they did before, while there are chances of a rise and then if you agree with me, I will further suggest that it would be fair both to the zamindar and Government because whatever remission you give us in lean years you take from us in fat years subject to 25 per cent. rise so that neither you nor the zamindars are the losers.

Now I come to the second principle of the resolution which says that the period 1931-34, that is, the period of last five years should be taken for the purpose of prices. That might have a little adverse effect on the Government, but as my honourable friend has quoted, the prices of wheat for the last five years work out to be Rs. 2-9-0 whereas commutation price is Rs. 2-8-0 for Rakh Branch and Rs. 2-4-0 and Rs. 2-2-0 for other branches. Similarly, five years average price for gram works out to Rs. 2-6-9 while the commutation price was Re. 1-12-0. There is no loss even if you take that period. Further on, in the case of toria the price that has been taken as the commutation price is Rs. 3-9-0, Rs. 3-4-0 and Rs. 3-2-0 while the average for the last five years works out to Rs. 4-3-9. Even there you do not lose. With regard to sugarcane, the prices taken as the basic figure are Rs. 4, Rs. 3-9-0 and Rs. 3-9-0 while the average for five years is Rs. 4-7-5. Even there you are the gainer. If you take maize the price taken as the commutation price is Re. 1-9-0, Re. 1-8-0 and Re. 1-6-0 while the average is Rs. 2-0-9½. Even here you do not lose. In regard to cotton also for which I have not got the figures, I feel that the price of the last five years is not worse than the price taken during the last settlement, namely Rs. 6. Therefore, even if you take the last five years as the period for commutation purposes you would not lose. And then you can have your sliding scale up and down as the prices move up and down. There are a few other points in this *communiqué* which would require criticism but the *communiqué* is not under consideration at present. We would like to discuss the *communiqué* if special day were given for it. For the present I can say that paragraph 6 is the most objectionable and as such unacceptable to us.

The resolution moved by my friend is very reasonable and fair while the attitude of Government in fixing very high though artificial level of prices unfair specially when in practice according to law they cannot demand more than 25 per cent. over the last settlement in any case. I therefore give my whole-hearted support to the resolution moved by my friend from Gurdaspur.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): This resolution is a very important one indeed in one sense and in another sense it does not matter two pence. In a purely sentimental sense it is very important. But actually the resolution might be described as irrelevant in the present circumstances when Government has adopted the principle of a sliding scale of assessment. It would be very relevant indeed under the system of assessment which is contemplated in the existing Land Revenue Act and which was more or less the system in force until the Act of 1928 was passed and until in the settlement of the Lower Bari Doab Colony the Government for the first time adopted a sliding scale. Why the resolution is irrelevant is this. It does not matter under the sliding scale what prices you adopt for

commutation purposes so long as they are likely to be as high as will probably be reached during the period of the next settlement. If they are lower than the maximum that is likely to prevail in the next forty years then Government and the country generally—the country will be the Government, their interests are exactly the same—will definitely lose under the present law, because when once a settlement has been announced it will be contrary to law for Government to realise more than the amount announced under that settlement. So that if the scale of commutation prices is fixed lower than the scale that may prevail in any one year in that settlement then Government is bound to lose when it binds itself to adopt the sliding scale. Under a system such as I understood the late speaker to approve by which a maximum would be determined by the application of an increase of 25 per cent. to the present assessment—that I think was his upper limit—then the law would be so altered that the land revenue demand will go up or down every year in accordance with the price of the preceding year. Under such a system you could take any set of prices you liked and it would not matter. You might take the average of the last twenty years or a very low average, even below the average prices prevailing at the present time. You could do that and neither the zamindar nor Government would be a penny the worse. And I hope members of this House will think very seriously about the possibility of a change in the law so as to bring about a system something like that which I understood the last speaker to intend. I should make it quite clear that I am not quite sure what he did intend because he talked of taking the last settlement as a basis and linking it in some way which I did not understand with future prices. So that any acceptance—which I mentioned by way of interjection while he was speaking—of his offer must be construed in the light of the fact that I did not understand what the details of his system are. What I am ready to accept is an alteration in the law which will make it possible to go up as well as down in the year to year assessments in accordance with the fluctuation in prices. I should prefer that no upper limit should be fixed by the adherence to the present limit, that is an increase of 25 per cent. But if the House insists upon that there is nothing for us to do but accept it, that is, the present upper limit. But I would like to see the law altered so that at any rate within that limit we could go up or down freely.

The essential features of the old system of assessment so far as prices are concerned, was a presumption that the level of prices would remain fairly constant over the period of the coming settlement and secondly a presumption that the course of prices during the last few years—a sufficiently long period is the phrase used in the rule—would be an accurate guide to the course of future prices. These assumptions no longer hold good. I cannot pretend that I have had time in all the busy season of the Council session to study the course of prices in the Punjab carefully but I know that when annexation took place, prices in the Punjab fell to half straightaway and continued falling for three or four years so that it was necessary about 1852 to revise some of the summary assessments that had been made on annexation. Further so far as my memory goes, a memory extending back about eighteen or twenty years as I myself did the Sialkot settlement, there was a tremendous fall in prices, again in 1868 or thereabouts, and from that date onwards till about 1880 my impression is that there was a steady and constant rise

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boyd.]

in prices. So that settlement officers could with perfect confidence take the average of the last five or ten years and say prices throughout the next settlement are not likely to be below those prices. And up till the last four years prices have invariably been going up. The Great War gave a shock to prices as it gave a shock to a great many other things. Now the course of prices is absolutely chaotic. No one knows what the prices will be from year to year. If there is the slightest doubt in any one's mind about that statement of mine they should look at the prices of cotton in the last few years, in fact in the last few days as one honourable member suggests. In 1924-25 desi cotton was Rs. 13-5-0; in 1933-34 Rs. 4-4-0, this year Rs. 5-6-0. American has been as low as Rs. 5-6-0 in 1933-34 and the average of the past year worked out by the Director of Land Records is very nearly Rs. 9. No one would have imagined last year that we would go up to about Rs. 11 in the price of American cotton as we have done throughout part of the past season. As I said the course of prices is at the present moment chaotic. We cannot foresee them and the old rules really go by the board. We had therefore to introduce a new element into our system of assessment. The late speaker has told us that in 1930, I think it was, he suggested something on the lines of a sliding scale. I am sorry that his suggestion was not taken up a little more readily. The question of a sliding scale of assessment came into prominence when we began to consider the re-assessment of the Lyallpur district. It is unnecessary to go into the details but as you know, that system had been applied first in the Lower Bari Doab Colony and His Excellency the Governor announced at Lyallpur that the intention was to apply it to the Lyallpur district settlement also. This new system has been introduced because of the chaotic course of prices. It has been introduced so as to ensure that the actual amount to be collected each year will be determined in accordance with the prices actually current in the previous year. While on that subject I might mention one misapprehension which the previous speaker appears to labour under. He said that in Mr. Dobson's settlement—he mentioned Mr. Dobson's settlement—there was an element of *gharib-parwari* in the fixation of the prices. That element will now disappear because it is the intention to ascertain prices from three or four big firms. The speaker was, I think, labouring under a misapprehension. Government does not intend to ascertain the prices given or received by those firms. Government intends to ascertain the prices prevailing in the mandis but reported by firms of such high standing that there can be no suspicion whatever of hanky panky. It is fairly obvious that if we go to the chaudhris and ask them what the prices are of a particular commodity there will be a danger of a certain amount of cooking of the prices. To avoid that the intention is to ascertain the prices from firms of absolutely undoubted standing. These prices will be the mandi prices, that is to say, the prices that zamindars receive for their produce when they bring them into the mandi. I do not think there can be any objection whatever to that. If Government were to assume high commutation prices for the purposes of their settlement and were to give no remissions the amount to be paid at the present time would be beyond the means of the zamindar and it is obvious that that cannot be done. On the other hand if Government were to assume very low prices and prices were to rise next year, the year after and so on, then the province as a whole would lose very seriously. The seriousness

of it can be realised when we remember that out of our Rs. 10 crores or so of income, Rs. 4 crores and indeed a bit more come from land revenue. I think I am right in saying that that sum of Rs. 4 crores does not include the indirect credit of land revenue given to the Irrigation Department. That I believe to be correct and in that case the actual income from land revenue is considerably more than Rs. 4 crores though part of it is shown as indirect receipts under the Irrigation Department. When such a very large proportion of our total income comes from land revenue, if we now adhere to the old system of assessment and assume low prices, I have very little doubt that unless

3 P. M. another war comes soon, honourable members on the benches opposite who may constitute the government in a year or two will find themselves in a hat; they will find themselves unable to pay existing commitments and they will find themselves compelled to launch a very serious campaign of retrenchment. I am not sure that we shall not have to do it in any case in consequence of the Lyallpur settlement. It is a little too early, to say but we may have to. But there is no doubt that we cannot stick to the old system of assessment under which either too much will be demanded from the revenue payer or too little will be taken for Government and the machinery of Government will be so much dislocated that it may come to a temporary standstill.

By a quotation of cotton prices I have shown quite clearly that it will be most unsafe to take any short period as the basis for commutation prices for a settlement that will extend over the next forty years.

The last speaker showed us the course of prices in England from the Napoleonic Wars up to the present time. That undoubtedly does help to show that for a long period after a big war you do have a descending scale of prices, but are we sure that we are free from the risk of wars? Those who read their newspapers must see every day that war clouds appear to be gathering round and though there is very considerable reason to believe that the nations will be too sober-minded to plunge lightly into war in the immediate future, you never can tell what will happen when the big nations of the world are armed. We cannot be sure that during the next forty years there will be no war and that prices will not soar and with prices the cost of labour and the cost of everything else, so that if the revenues of Government are inelastic and do not respond to the rise in prices then it will become impossible for Government to pay what Government has to pay. I think the effect of adhering to the present low system of assessment will perhaps come home to members a little better if we assume that the Lyallpur settlement has been made and that the rate for first class land has been fixed at Rs. 6 per acre. If we stick to Rs. 6 per acre, the zamindars are going to be hard put to it to pay. If, on the hand, we lower our commutation prices so as to bring out the rate of Rs. 2 per acre then the other result will happen and you will find Government in queer street in a year or two. But if you have a sliding scale it does not matter a two pence whether you fix Rs. 6 or Rs. 2 per acre because in accordance with the movement in prices the revenue will become Rs. 6 or Rs. 4 or Rs. 2 or below it. I am assuming that Rs. 6 is the highest rate that can be fixed. It would be a matter of indifference whether Government fixed the assessment at Rs. 2 or Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 or Rs. 6. If it were Rs. 2, then Government would have to increase the assessment each year rather



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than reduce it. If it were fixed at Rs. 6, then Government would have to reduce it, rather than increase it. The present system is a system of heads I win from the zamindar's point of view and of tails I lose from the Government's point of view. That is the reason why you must adopt a scale of commutation prices that will bring out something like the maximum permissible assessment. If you rely upon the sliding scale, then you give entire justice to the zamindar. We have already dealt with the question of the maximum limit of assessment which imposes a rise of not more than 25 per cent. on the assessment of each assessment circle in the district under settlement. If this House is agreeable to a change in the law, as I said before, they have a choice of two methods of change, one of adhering to this maximum which imposes a limit of 25 per cent. increase on the present assessment and the other that of leaving the matter absolutely free. The latter would be very much fairer, because the course of prices might justify an assessment without any artificial limitation which would be very much higher than the assessment brought out by increasing the present assessment by 25 per cent.

The last speaker said that he would welcome the sliding scale to prevent zamindars from extravagant expenditure during a period of high prices such as that of the boom period. If the law is altered, it will not matter what period is taken in determining commutation prices. You may take the period actually adopted for the Lyallpur settlement; you may take the period recommended by the mover of the resolution; you may take any other period; or even the prices of a single year, however low or however high the prices might be during that year. It makes no difference whatever, so long as you have a fully sliding scale of assessment. I personally wanted to see the law changed, and in that case I would myself, if I were the member concerned, press for the adoption of the prices of the preceding year. It does not matter what period you have. One year is enough and everybody can understand the policy if the prices of the preceding year are adopted. There is a danger lest zamindars, not understanding the working of the sliding scale, may think that by assuming prices much higher than the existing level they are being treated unfairly. They are not, and I think any of the members opposite who really understand the sliding scale appreciate this fact; but to the man in the street, or rather to the man in the field, it may be difficult to understand commutation prices which might perhaps be double those actually prevalent at the moment, he might think that he is being assessed higher than he ought to be whereas he is not being assessed one anna higher than he would be if the prices of the preceding year were adopted.

**Professor W. Roberts :** Why could not the prices be taken on the average of the last four months?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I will give Mr. Roberts the main reason. It is this. You have got to wait till the end of the season before you can determine your prices. Actually in the case of most staples we are working on the average of the day to day prices for a period of four months at any rate in the case of wheat and cotton to the best of my memory. If you wait till these four months are finished, in the meantime the bania and the other creditors of the zamindar have nipped in and taken all his money

from him and left nothing with which to pay the revenue which is the first charge upon the zamindar. I personally would like to work on the prices of a single year so as to convince everybody and so that there should be no suspicion, that the Government was working on a system which ensured an absolute justice to the zamindar which the sliding scale does. It does not ensure justice to Government because there is that upper limit which may come into operation if commutation prices go up and it is the upper limit which compels us to assume high prices for the Lyallpur settlement. If the upper limit were wiped out, it would be possible to assume the period recommended in the resolution quite well. As this upper limit has not been wiped out, the Government must fight as hard as possible to defeat this resolution and I think the Leader of the Opposition will some day find himself in difficulties if a resolution of this kind is adopted without any change of the law. I hope that the Rao Bahadur is at one with the Government in this matter. We would like to adopt prices which on the face of them are reasonable and easily justifiable but this will be possible only if he will assist us to get rid of this upper limit.

There appears to be some misapprehension lest Government by fixing high basic rates as proposed in the Lyallpur settlement may then revert from the sliding scale system. I must make it quite clear that there is no basis whatever for such misapprehension. There is not the slightest intention of resiling from the sliding scale system. The zamindar is going to get the benefit of it. It will be embodied in the terms of the order of Government sanctioning the settlement and then legally it will be impossible to resile from it. I hope that that serves to remove any misapprehension.

My conclusion are that Government cannot possibly accept the resolution, unless the law is amended; that, if the law is amended on the lines indicated, they are prepared to accept the principle underlying the resolution; that an amendment of the law, without abolishing the maximum enhancement, would have sentimental advantages, but would have no practical effect on the working of the sliding scale system; that an amendment of the law which abolished maximum enhancement would have not only sentimental advantages, but would also be in the interests of Government, and would be a logical consequence of a system by which Government give remissions below the maximum now fixed by the law, when prices fall. The present system is one of heads I win for the zamindar and tails you lose for Government, and I think our honourable friends are sufficiently fair-minded to help us to remove the impression of unfairness.

Finally, so far as land revenue payers of the Lyallpur district are concerned, I would appeal to them that if they have any doubt whatever about the effect of working of the sliding scale system upon them personally, they should go frankly to the settlement officer and ask him for an explanation. He will explain it to them and I think they will go away satisfied.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh** (Lyallpur, Sikh, Rural): There is some misapprehension in the minds of some honourable members that this resolution has been moved for the benefit of the Lyallpur district only. I think it my first duty to remove that misapprehension. The question here is one of principle. It is a different thing that this formula in this particular form is being applied to the Lyallpur district. But if it is applied to that district

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to-day it is bound to be applied to other districts to-morrow. The object in bringing forward this resolution before the House is in no way to reduce the land revenue of the Lyallpur district in any abnormal way. Our point is only this much that when we are dealing with facts and figures, why should we not deal with them fairly and squarely? The Government *communiqué* is very clear on this point. It is said that in order to assess any estate three points will be taken into consideration, namely (1) the percentage of the total matured area under each crop, (2) the average yield per acre and (3) the commutation price. Now, if we exaggerate any of these three items; naturally the index figure which is going to be the guiding factor for giving remissions will also become very high. Naturally when remission has to be calculated from this index figure, any remission which will be given will lead to a recovery of revenue which will be more than would be due from the peasant. To illustrate my point I may give certain figures. For example, if there are, say, 100 acres of wheat in an estate which we may call matured area and then there are 10 maunds per acre yield of wheat from that land and the commutation price—as given in the *communiqué*—50 annas, if we multiply all these, the figure will come to about 6,000 and that will be the index figure for purposes of assessment of that land. On the other side, I will take what the peasant will have actually to pay in the presence of this index figure. The 100 acres will remain the same, the ten maunds per acre yield also will remain the same. Then, we multiply those figures by the price of wheat in a particular year. Let us take that price at thirty annas. If we multiply by thirty annas, the index figure will come to 30,000. That means that there will be a remission of 50 per cent. on that particular estate. Now, the question is that if the index figure is really too high, then taking off 50 per cent. will not leave the peasant sufficient margin. For, if according to that index figure the revenue comes to about Rs. 6 per acre the remission of 50 per cent. will come to Rs. 3 and that will not be a fair rate considering the price prevailing at that particular moment if the index figure is really too high. If, therefore, from the very beginning the index figure is fixed very high, however kind the Government may be to the peasant in giving remission, that remission will have to bear the same proportion to the index figure—that remission for all times to come will always be insufficient to meet the requirements of the agriculturists.

There is another point which we should not lose sight of in connection with this *communiqué* of the Government. It is this. Those people who are concerned with agriculture know that during the war time and even thereafter the matured area under wheat was very much increased. I speak from my own personal knowledge that all the Government waste lands were given to zamindars for bringing under cultivation. Now, when we calculate the total average matured area during the last 20 or 22 years we will also be including that area which was much in excess of the real area under cultivation during those periods. On account of the boom years and on account of scarcity of grain in the province Government was very particular that more and more land should be brought under wheat and maize cultivation so that the grain may remain cheap in the country. This too was only a sort of temporary measure of which the Government now proposes to take advantage in making its calculations.

The reliability of this graph of Mian Nurullah has been questioned. Mr. Manohar Lal thought that perhaps the corresponding prices in India during that period did not fluctuate in the same way as they did in Europe. I think Mian Sahib replied to that point well, but to make it more clear I would like to add that at that time the conditions were very different. To-day it is only by artificial barriers that we are keeping differences in prices. Otherwise the modern facilities of traffic have practically brought the prices all over the world to the same level. If anything is to happen to-day in the world, perhaps the prices will fluctuate exactly in the same way as they did in Europe after the Napoleonic wars. It is even hoped that the prices may again rise to the same level as it did sometime ago in the boom period. A question was put, 'How can you say that prices are not going to rise again to the same level?' I may rather put a counter question, 'How do you know that they are going to rise to the same level?'

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** We do not say so.

**Sardar Sampuran Singh :** But I can say it on the authority of a gentleman who was only a short time ago a member of this Government, I mean Mr. Calvert who in his private talks several times gave it out that there is no prospect in the near future of prices going high. I think he understood the conditions of this country and of the agricultural public much better than perhaps anybody else does. Is it fair for the Government on the one side to organise the League of Nations and stop all armaments and introduce all kinds of organisations to stop the possibility of any war in the near future and at the same time presume that there is a likelihood that prices will go as high as they did during the war time? Personally I am of opinion that there is very little likelihood of prices rising high for a very long time to come. I have sufficient reasons for holding that opinion. The first reason is that all countries are trying to be self-contained and therefore there is not going to be much demand of wheat from the East. The second reason is that in America, Russia, Canada and other countries the cost of production of agricultural products have been very much reduced on account of the use of machinery on a very large scale and consequently bringing larger areas of land under cultivation. There will, therefore, be such a large production of agricultural products in foreign countries that there will be no demand for our agricultural commodities, at least not in our life time. The third reason which I consider is also important is that there is so much competition all over the world in industry and there are also so many problems connected therewith that industries do not leave much margin of profit for the industrialists so much so that they are coming back to agriculture. For these three reasons I think that there is hardly any likelihood of any considerable rise in prices. My friends opposite probably lay much store upon the hope that there may be a war. (*Honourable members :* No such hopes). The last war was I think an event which according to history occurs once in thousands of years. I do not know whether my friend there is a pessimist, or should I say, an optimist when he expects another war. At any rate, we do not expect another war for a very long time to come. Therefore we must not lay much store on that event happening, nor should Government do so. If that is agreed, I see no reason why we should calculate upon our boom prices and why we should make our calculations based on abnormal things which may not occur for another

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thousand years. Moreover as my friend referred to rule 4 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929, I refer to it again and remind the Government that it is only fair that the prices to be adopted should be the average prices which are likely to be obtained by agriculturists during the coming settlement. So it is not only a question as to what prices did actually prevail in the last 20 years, but it is what we are likely to obtain in the coming settlement period. With these few remarks I would submit that the index figure on these calculations becomes very high and the margin of remission to the people on whom these calculations are going to be applied will be left very low and consequently there will be hardly any real benefit to the agriculturists who are going to be assessed under these figures.

**Professor W. Roberts** (Nominated, non-official): I would like to submit that basing on the rates of previous years is likely to lead to a good deal of dissatisfaction. I think myself that the future will be one of fairly low prices but rather violently fluctuating. In a year like the present for example if this system had already been in force the farmer would be paying for his cotton on the basis of last year's price which was comparatively lower. If next year the prices are again low he will be paying on this year's rates when prices are high, i.e., he will be paying in a year of low prices on basis of high prices. I see no virtue myself in taking four months' average which virtually means the whole year. The wheat crop for example is generally sold practically from the thrashing floor and 90 to 95 per cent. of the saleable crop is sold before the land revenue is paid in. I therefore submit to the Honourable Finance Member that the Government might reconsider this aspect. I feel that this will bring more criticism of his scheme than anything else.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: May I ask the last speaker if he will kindly indicate how we can get over the difficulty of deferring the fixation of price till the period when the zamindar will be already mulcted of all the money he has got?

**Professor W. Roberts**: You can keep records of daily prices in the market and fix before the 31st January for cotton say—

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: The point is that other creditors step in at once, as early as possible.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural): I rise to support the motion under consideration. I confess that the subject is one not free from complication, and the manner in which it has been dealt with by some of the speakers has introduced too much technicality and obscurity. So we can say—

شد پریشان خواب من از کثرت تعبیرها

I will now take the view which a layman can take on this question. You are aware that land revenue is fixed up to one-fourth of the net assets and to calculate these net assets is very difficult. Sir James McCrone Douie and other people who have written on the settlement work have made an estimate that the net assets are always equal to one-eighth of the gross produce. So, if you take this view, it will be found that now the land revenue is fixed at the rate of one-sixteenth of the gross produce of the land, taking

it per acre or per kanal as you like. I will take this question that the prices during the boom period are taken into consideration. In order not to be elaborate I would begin with the year 1924 which was also a boom period and in this respect I will take only three years 1924, 1925, 1926 after which the slump commenced. I have calculated that if I begin with that year and come to the year 1934, taking a single commodity cotton, if we take roughly round figures they are 15, 16 and 15 for the three years 1924 to 1926 and from 1927 they are 10, 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 7 and so on bringing me to the year 1934 and the total of this comes to 104, the average being Rs. 10 per year. Now suppose I leave the boom period aside and take the years which are all slump years, that is after 1924—from 1927 to 1935; then the prices will be 5, 5, 11 for the first three years and 10, 11, 9, 8, 6, 7 for the other years. This brings the total to about 79 and the average for these years is 8. If the Government fixes the land revenue according to the first calculation then the result would be 10 divided by 16 or 10 annas per bigha or whatever it is. But if I take the second calculation, the result would be that 8 annas would be fixed per bigha. Now according to the *communiqué* which the Government has published it will be found that the price of a year before that which is to be assessed will be taken into consideration. Suppose the prices during the last year were Rs. 8 per maund of cotton. In that case whereas they have fixed 10 annas per bigha the remission will be half of Rs. 2 or one rupee and still they will take from the zamindar Rs. 9 per bigha. But if they take the second calculation they will take seven in the average and the prices are now Rs. 8. So in each case the Government gains. So, what is this sham show of concession? There is no concession in reality. Fortunately, the Government is in such a happy position that it can take the boom period following the War in fixing the prices and any average that you can conceive of will be of advantage to Government in that case. But as I have shown the pitch of the land revenue should not be as high as it was during the last settlement and I dare say that if you take the War prices into consideration you are not likely to pitch your land revenue at a lower figure than that which was put at the last settlement and probably even more, but in order to just placate these men you will say, we are giving remission so long as the slump continues. But of course this period will not continue for 40 years. Fluctuations come and go and they cannot stay for a long time. The slump will not stay for 40 years as it is just now sitting heavily on the necks of the zamindars. It will pass on and Government will be the gainer. Suppose the slump disappears after 5 years, then for 35 years Government will be reaping the fruits by the clever device adopted by it in the guise of giving a remission to the zamindars during these five years. So I am very glad that some members on this side were very wise and have probably guessed this move of the Government. You are aware that this resolution about Lyallpur was discussed in this Council and I pointed out how keen the agitation was against the present rate of assessment. All people desired the lowering of rate as much as the prices during this period went down. They demanded a decrease in rate levied on them because they said they could not save a single pice out of the produce and it was difficult to pay land revenue. So great was the agitation that had the Government not started the settlement a great deal of trouble would have ensued and the Government was wise in taking the warning given to them by the members. But now that they have started settlement,

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let the Government meet the demands and the wishes of the people. Why should they take refuge under these prices which were never heard of before the War and which will never come to that level unless there is War again. I am quite willing to accept the claim of the Honourable Finance Member when he says that war prices can be left out. If I explained these points it is also to remind the Government that after all we are right in moving this resolution and if Government has given the concession in one district this principle should be applied in other districts also which are not under settlement. Other people are also entitled to the same concessions as the zamindars of the Lyallpur district and I take this opportunity of saying that the Government has been very unjust during the last year in levying the full land revenue fixed long ago. How can you charge the same land revenue which was fixed when the price was very high? After all you take a share of the produce and that has to be reduced to cash and nothing more. The Government always claims that it takes land revenue just as the old Rajas and Mughuls did in the past, claiming a share of the produce and nothing more. But it should follow their example and take revenue in kind. It will then know that it is charging 8 annas where it cannot charge even 4 annas. If it is taking Rs. 8 now it is highly unjust to the zamindar and I dare say that if it goes on doing this injustice to the zamindar a day will come when it will have to repent for its conduct. If you want to keep the zamindar contented and you want to prove your solicitude for the zamindar then take the land revenue at a proper figure. You are absolutely mistaken in resorting too much to arithmetic as I shall show by giving an example from the Ambala district. Jagadhri in the Ambala district is the poorest of all tahsils in the district and the remission is only one anna per rupee whereas Kharar tahsil is the most prosperous but the remission is 2 annas in a rupee during the last year. This is a mistake. I hope the Government will accept the resolution and while accepting it will take the case of other districts which are not under settlement into consideration. They are feeling the pinch and are absolutely unable to pay the land revenue. High level of taxation in those districts should also be taken into consideration. It is up to the Government to accept this. It is not only useful in Lyallpur but also in other districts. But even if you can afford to overlook the case of other districts, you cannot afford to overlook the case of the Lyallpur district. Lyallpur is an epitome of the Punjab. Rawalpindi, Gujrat, Gujranwala, Sheikupura, Ambala, Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon and people from all the other districts are there. If you offend this district you offend the whole of the Punjab, because the people in Lyallpur have their relations in all other districts and if they condemn any action of the Government in season and out of season, the whole of the Punjab will do the same thing. So, for this reason the resolution is a most important one and as I have explained the purport of it, I support it.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries) : I have listened to a part of the learned discourse which Mian Nurullah gave us on index numbers and prices and his appeal to all of us to lend our support to this resolution and I have also listened to the speech of Sardar Sampuran Singh and Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan, but I have not so far been able to undersnad as to what the real grievance of the supporters of this resolution is. On the

floor of this House, it would almost be a sacrilege either for the Government or for any member of the House not to redress any grievance of the zamindars whether legitimate or otherwise, in fact the Honourable Finance Member in the course of his speech also felt called upon to say something to that effect that if in any way it will touch the zamindar and the thing was unjust, he was prepared to reconsider it.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Quite right.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** With my utmost desire to be fair and just even to the most exaggerated claims of the zamindars, I have not so far been able to make out as to what their genuine grievance is and I can assure my honourable friends that if they can throw more light on the subject we would be only too glad to help them and to consider as favourably as possible any proposal that they might put forward. Now the system of land revenue assessment in the Punjab is governed by the Land Revenue Act. Before the Act of 1928, the amount of land revenue which the State took from the land owners was not based on any statute but was fixed by executive rules and the executive rules provided the maximum to be half of the net assets. It was Act III of 1928 which definitely for the first time fixed the amount of revenue which the State might take from the zamindars and the maximum was reduced and it was laid down that the share of the State shall in no case exceed 25 per cent. of the net assets. Now that is regulated by section 48 (b) of the Land Revenue Act. I take it that there is no grievance or at any rate that grievance is not being agitated at present nor is it agitated that the Government should further reduce its share or that the Government should amend that Act. I can surely understand a resolution or an expression of wish calling upon the Government to amend section 48 (b) of the Land Revenue Act by which the Government could be debarred from taking anything in excess of 20 or 15 per cent. reducing that 25 per cent. to 20 or 15 per cent. But if this resolution does not aim at reducing that maximum, and this has not so far been stated, I have not been able to follow what the object of the resolution is. You will be pleased to observe that one of the main grievance of the zamindars has been for sometime past that land revenue assessments had usually been made at a time of high prices and were being demanded and collected at a time of low prices thus causing great injustice to the tax-payer. The Government has recognized the force of this grievance and has tried to meet it by the annual remissions which are familiar to us. If I understand the present policy of the Government, I think they have introduced this sliding scale with a view to mitigate the evils which result from these fluctuations of prices and the present system is that the land revenue payer and the tax-payer should not suffer if the prices fall and the Government should not gain if the prices rise high. The zamindars ought to welcome a system of that type. What is the present system? This system—as I read it in the *Tribune* sometime ago, I think it was a note either from the Director of Information Bureau or from the Collector, Lyallpur, giving details of assessment in the Lyallpur colony—is that the Government demand shall bear a definite proportion to the actual realizations of the landlord from the preceding year. If that is the basis of actual realization, what difference does it make if the theoretical assessment is hundred rupees or ten rupees or one rupee? That is a point which I have not been able to understand. Is it or is it not a fact or is there any catch



[Mr. Mukand Lal Puri.]

in it which the Government has introduced and which I have not been able to understand, that no land owner will be compelled to pay the amount which does not bear a certain proportion to the actual realization from the previous year? If that is so, then this is a step in the right direction, a step so boldly advocated by Mian Nurullah and I think that is again one of those steps which brings the land revenue system of taxation, though not entirely, still more or less, into line with, what has been so often advocated in this House, income-tax.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Quite right.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Therefore I take it that no one in this House has any objection to the sliding scale of assessment. In fact Mian Nurullah himself blessed it and claimed himself as one of its protagonists. Then where is the grievance? Is the grievance that the Government has chosen to fix a maximum beyond which Government demand cannot exceed whatever the prices? In an ordinary sliding scale one would expect that if the prices rise, the land revenue assessment would be higher proportionately and if the prices fall it would be less? What I understood from the Honourable Finance Member was that they have modified the sliding system by fixing the maximum beyond which the State will not make a demand. I submit, that the tax-payer ought to be thankful for that. If you say that that maximum is very high, then you are not finding fault with the present policy, you are again attacking section 48 (b) of the Land Revenue Act which is not the basis of the present discussion. Therefore I submit the speeches which have been made—which I have tried my best to follow very closely—have not thrown any light on the real grievance of the land owners. It is a very large proposition which has been put forward by Mian Nurullah and repeated by Sardar Sampuran Singh that the prices are not going to rise for the next 40 years. For ought we know, after forty years, wheat may cease to be staple article of our diet. We may perhaps be living on fish which the future Punjab Government may undertake to produce in their large rivers. I do not say that such a change is at all probable, but it is not impossible; but it is not correct to assume that the prices will not rise to the war level prices in the next 40 years or that war is not going to take place in 40 years. It is not a matter which should enter into our consideration. I submit without meaning any detriment to the zamindar that if the term of assessment is to be 40 years, as is now the policy of the Punjab Government, the maximum should be fairly high in the interests of the general tax-payer and also in the interest, as pointed out by Mr. Boyd, of the future Governments. Therefore the fixing of the maximum limit is a concession to the landlord by the Government. The Honourable Finance Member put forward an alternative proposal which I as a landlord would not be prepared to accept. He said that the Government is prepared to adopt in its entirety the suggestions which Mian Nurullah has put forward if they are not bound by the upper limit. I as a landlord would say that I would not accept that nor do I think, would any other land owner in this House. I would much rather that the Government stuck to its present policy of having an upper limit. If the two alternatives are placed before you, accepting a sliding scale without an upper limit or sliding scale with an upper limit, I as an owner of land would certainly prefer a sliding scale with

a definite upper limit beyond which I can never be called upon to contribute however great my income may be from the land.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** That is exactly what he wants, but that would be a trouble to the Government.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Therefore, Sir, I do not at present find myself in agreement with the resolution of my friend, unless some facts are placed before this House which show as to what the grievance is.

**Sardar Arjan Singh (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) :** I think it would have been much better if the mover of the resolution had confined himself to the district of Lyallpur because in that case the issue would have been very clear before the House, or he should have confined himself to the districts which are already under assessment, districts which have been assessed after 1929 upto 1934, but the difference in the position would not be very much in regard to districts which would be coming under assessment in future years. The intention, however, of the mover is very clear and we need not find fault with the actual working of the resolution. We are supporting this resolution with eyes wide open on the ground that it only relates to Lyallpur and that we are not in any way misled by the mover to support the resolution to the detriment of other districts which would not derive any advantage from this resolution. It was really a treat to hear some of the speeches on the resolution. The speech made by the last speaker reminds one of Daniel come to judgment. He showed the greatest solicitude for the interests of the zamindars and he was so eloquent when he said that it would be a sacrilege on the part of anyone here to say or do anything against the interests of zamindars. But it is just when we come to actual realities that we find that his expressions were only lip sympathy which should not deceive anyone.

I think there is a background behind this resolution which cannot be ignored. It is now found that the profession of agriculture far from being a paying one is almost becoming a losing concern so that people not only find it difficult to make both their ends meet but find it impossible to pay the land revenue dues. The catastrophic fall in prices since 1929 has made the position of the zamindar a very precarious one. Of course long lectures might be delivered from one side of the House or from another but the actual fact is that it is very difficult for the zamindar now to pay the land revenue dues especially when these dues have always to be paid in cash and when the fall in prices in some cases has come so low as 50 per cent. of prices previously prevailing. When this depression commenced, the zamindar could and did of course fall upon the resources which he had put by during the so-called boom years. It is common ground that he has stood the ordeal remarkably well so far. Even the authorities have been bearing witness to this fact that so far as the question of payment of his liability to Government is concerned, the zamindar has been actuated by the best of motives and that he has shown a meticulous regard for his obligations up till now in so far as it relates to land revenue. So much so that I remember our ex-Governor Sir Geoffrey de Montmorency said in this House that whenever there had been any case of non-payment of land revenue it was not due to any contumacious disregard on the part of the zamindar but to his utter

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physical inability to meet the demand. But to-day the position is quite different. The resources of the zamindar have been exhausted and his credit has been unduly restricted. Therefore it is a problem now how to help him in this period of difficulty. We have been asking Government from time to time for land revenue reductions. We have been passing resolutions, on one occasion asking for a fifty per cent. remission, on another occasion for thirty-three per cent. remission. I remember that a remission was given on only one crop which I should say was very substantial though not quite sufficient to meet the needs of the case. It was I think a remission of annas five in the rupee. But soon after, Government went back on their position and set themselves to devise a formula or a system under which they could help only certain areas and districts and could not uniformly give a remission of four annas or three annas. Therefore the situation has been that our resolutions in this respect so far as remissions in land revenue are concerned, have been a cry in the wilderness, and Government have not paid any regard to the unanimous wish of the House or to its resolutions passed by an overwhelming majority. The only ray of hope which we ultimately found was in the announcement which has been made by the Governor in his speech and in the *communiqué* which tries to mitigate the severity of the situation. It is common ground that the commutation prices there announced will act as a regulator and their importance as a criterion in fixing land revenue cannot be over-emphasised.

The problem which has been brought up for discussion is a very simple one. The question now is how to work the system which has been announced by Government so that it might bring about the results which we intend to effect and which the system is devised to aim at. If high prices are fixed as commutation prices the revenue-payer would not be materially benefited. The mover of the resolution has therefore made it quite clear that when taking into consideration the prices for the purpose of fixing the commutation prices, this boom period from 1910—1929 should not be taken into consideration. The reason for that is a very simple one. It is admitted on all hands that that was an abnormal period, an exceptional period during which the prices went unusually high and that therefore when we are in search of a guide, when we are trying to find a determining factor we should actually find it in the form of a normal period. The period from 1929 to 1934 may for this purpose be considered a normal period. We would have been very much gratified if Mr. Manohar Lal who is an authority on these questions would have made some observations on this subject so as to give us a lead in considering the question where there is any possibility of any rise in prices for the future. So far we have been told by several authorities that there is absolutely no likelihood of the prices ever attaining the level which they reached during the boom period. The mover of the resolution is quite right therefore in saying that the period which should be considered, the period during which the prices should be taken into account should be that from 1929 to 1934 because that is a normal period. To my mind the resolution is a reasonable one and no exception can be taken to it. If Government and honourable members on the other side of the House are actually in sympathy with the zamindars to the extent to which they profess they are in eloquent terms in season and

out of season, they should adopt this resolution. I appeal to the Government to translate their sympathy into action on this occasion. If their sympathy is to have some practical results and if even ten per cent. of that sympathy is practical and genuine we on this side of the House should feel satisfied.

With these words I support the resolution.

**Mr. F. C. Bourne** (Secretary, Electricity and Industries): I will be very brief. My only object in speaking is to endeavour to explain to the House what the sliding scale system actually means. I do not think everybody really fully understands that and without understanding that the whole debate is liable to be infructuous. First of all, let me say a word about net assets. There is a fundamental error, if I may be allowed to say so, in Mian Nurullah's remarks on this subject. As far as I understood him he implied that net assets and gross assets were very nearly the same thing. I may assure the House that *ex-hypothesi* net assets must at the very least be less than one half of the gross assets, and that land revenue as calculated under the present system cannot very well be more than 10 per cent. of the gross assets. This may interest some members of the House. Probably many of them know it already. The reason is that by the definition of net assets in the land revenue rules as now published you have to deduct from the gross assets the costs of cultivation of which the most important item is the tenant's share which in ordinary cases is half of the gross assets. You then proceed to deduct, ten, eleven, twelve and sometimes fifteen per cent. for menials dues, for kamins and artisans and then you have to deduct a few further items such as for seed supplied by the owner, for improved implements of cultivation and so on, so that the net assets, on which your land revenue is to be 25 per cent., must be less than half of the gross assets. That, if understood, clears away one obstacle I hope.

The sliding scale system is intended to transfer the land revenue which you actually claim from a hypothetical standard to a genuine standard based on prices ruling at the moment as far as you can calculate. The system works out as follows. You assume an area of say 100 acres over which in the ordinary year say thirty to thirty-five per cent. is wheat, 25 per cent. cotton and sugarcane, toria and other minor crops taking a small percentage. You then multiply these percentages by the yields per acre which are based on your experience from crop experiments or otherwise gained in the course of your settlement work. Then comes the third item, that of prices. When you have fixed the prices which you consider to be reasonably fair as based on the course of prices for the last twenty, thirty or forty years, you arrive at the third item in the multiplication. Say your total gross produce worked out on that system works out to Rs. 3,000. That is your basis. Then you proceed to take the same figures for cropping, the same figures for yields but, the actual figure prevailing at the time for prices. If you scale the 3,000 down to 100 you can then work out as a simple sum in proportion what the corresponding percentage figure is with the actual scale of prices prevailing at the moment. Say the produce with the other scale of prices works out at Rs. 2,000, you are then entitled to a 33 per cent. remission for the land revenue of that year. You will see that what you have done is to assume for purposes of your index a figure which you think may be reached at some period in

[Mr. F. C. Bourne.]

the next thirty or forty years, whatever the period of the settlement is likely to be. But before you claim any money at all from the zamindars you transfer the basis of your claim to the prices actually prevailing.

Another very important point that has been raised by Mr. Roberts is, why should you take the prices of the previous year and not the prices of the actual year, that is, the prices prevailing at the time revenue is paid? The reason is clear. Land revenue for the kharif harvest is paid in January. Cotton is still being harvested in January. Land revenue for the rabi harvest is paid in June and wheat has just been harvested then. How can you therefore prescribe a reduction of land revenue based on actual prices when these prices are not yet known and sales have not yet taken place? Mr. Roberts also said that he was under the impression that four months was an excessive period for which prices should be calculated. I have not the experience he has; he is a very experienced officer indeed in the matter of market prices but I do not think the House as a whole will agree with him. My experience is mainly confined to colony districts, but there even the small zamindars commonly retain cotton and wheat in their godowns or in their houses until they think that a propitious time for sale has arrived. It is true that they are compelled to sell a certain amount of the crop at once, because they have to pay land revenue, but the rest they very often keep till prices are better. For that reason Government decided to fix their wheat prices by taking the prices for four months—June to September and for cotton from January to May or something like that. In the case of each crop an endeavour has been made to work out the price for the actual period during which sales by ordinary zamindars are in progress, and as I have already explained, we have to take the prices of the previous year because prices of the current year do not exist.

There is one more point, I do not know whether I need go into this matter very much. It has been discussed by the Honourable Finance Member and it has also been elucidated by Mr. Puri. I refer to the question why it is necessary for Government to assume high prices, which I might call the arbitrary figure. This has already been explained, but in order to make my discussion of this system complete I might explain that Government is bound in this matter by the Land Revenue law. They announce the land revenue at a certain figure and they cannot in any circumstances charge more than they have announced. They can of course at any time they desire take less. So that, it is essential that the land revenue that is announced must be the maximum which Government consider they should be entitled to claim in any given circumstances. And will anybody in this House suggest that it is impossible that during the next forty years prices will rise to a height corresponding to the prices announced for Lyallpur? No one, but a prophet would dare to make that statement. To the zamindars in the district concerned it matters not a whit what prices have been assumed because under the system of the sliding scale the demand actually taken from them will be based actually on the prices prevailing whatever arbitrary figure was selected in the first instance.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): Every age and every epoch has its Cassandra and I do not complain of my friends for donning that familiar garb to-day. They have protested against

the commutation prices and depicted a somewhat gloomy picture of the future. Personally, I hope you will agree and everyone who is even slightly reasonable would agree that it is impossible to predict about the future prices for a period of forty years. I must admit that the prices do appear to be somewhat high, but at the same time I must make it very clear to the members that Government have done nothing in the slightest degree contrary to the rules in fixing the commutation prices at Lyallpur. The period taken into account in that district has been twenty years, and that too is nothing extraordinary. I have got a statement with me and if honourable members want it I am prepared to read it. It would show that in the majority of cases the period taken into account in fixing these average prices has been twenty years and more and it is only in very few cases that there has been a shorter period.

In this connection it has been pointed out that the bumper prices prevailing after the war ought not to have been taken into account. I assure the honourable members that in this matter we have done nothing contrary to the rules. Under the rules it is only the famine and scarcity prices that are to be excluded. I think the honourable mover of the resolution has been very discreet in using the term bumper prices in the resolution because really those were not scarcity prices. They were really prosperity prices, and Government were perfectly justified in taking them into calculation. In any case the honourable colleague on my right who is an expert in matters of finance as well as in matters of land revenue has made it abundantly clear that the commutations are not relevant to the question at issue. What really matters is the current prices, because it is on the current prices that the actual realisation will be based. It is not necessary for me to waste the time of the Council by going over the ground which has already been covered by my Honourable colleague.

There are one or two other points which I should like to bring to the notice of the honourable members. You will remember that it was only in 1928 that this honourable House passed the Land Revenue (Amendment) Act. Under that Act two very powerful restrictions, I would say two very powerful brakes, were placed to the rise in the land revenue. The first brake or the first restriction was section 48 which lays down that in no circumstances Government could go beyond one-fourth of the net assets. The other was section 51 which again lays down that in no case could Government in any assessment circle go beyond one-fourth of what the previous assessment was. To these powerful brakes now the honourable mover of this resolution wants to add another and a still more serious restriction. For the fixation of commutation prices he wants us to take into consideration only five years in which prices were extremely low. If Government were to accept that resolution it would in simpler language mean that we should fix the demand as low as possible and take it lower still if the prices go down. But if we want to raise it at any time, we would not be permitted to do so, however high the prices may go even if the assessment is far below one-fourth of the net assets. Such is the law as it stands at present that Government having once announced the assessment cannot increase the land revenue for 40 years. This is the reason why Government is unable to accept this resolution. If the honourable members of the House are prepared to remove that restriction, and allow the Government to

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

raise the land revenue according to the prices within the limits prescribed by the Land Revenue Amendment Act Government would be perfectly willing to listen to them and adopt any commutation prices which they like according to the present rates or according to the previous rates of five years. Because it does not make any difference either to the Government or the people what commutation prices you adopt as long as you accept the sliding scale system of realizing land revenue. It was really for the benefit of the zamindars that this sliding scale was introduced and it is really surprising to find that they do not welcome it.

**Sardar Bishan Singh :** They do welcome it.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** You did not say so. One honourable member said that it was nothing but lip sympathy. I will now proceed to show to that honourable member and to other members of the House what that lip sympathy has cost Government. I will take the figures of the Bari Doab Colony first. The commutation prices adopted at settlement were as follows: Cotton Rs. 8; American Rs. 9; Sugarcane Rs. 100 per acre; Wheat Rs. 8; Gram Rs. 2-2-0; Toria Rs. 4. On these prices the theoretical demand according to the commutation prices was Rs. 15,17,000. The prevailing prices during kharif and rabi 1934 were as follows: Cotton Rs. 4-5-0; American Rs. 8-11-9; Sugarcane Rs. 8-5-0; Wheat Rs. 1-12-0; Gram Rs. 1-7-0 and Toria Rs. 2-7-6 and on that the reduction was 40 per cent., and the net demand ordered for collection was only Rs. 9,10,000. That is crept out of the lip sympathy of Government.

I have not got the exact figures with regard to Lyallpur. They are somewhat rough, but with your permission I will read out a statement with regard to the calculations which Government took into consideration in the case of this Settlement. It is a question of figures and as I want to be accurate I want, with your permission, Sir, to read out the statement.

In order to make it clear to the Council the magnitude of the concession which the sliding scale system may involve to Government, I am going to take members completely into my confidence, and reveal to them some calculations which were made before Government decided on its policy, and before they issued the *communiqué*, dated 1st February 1935, regarding the Lyallpur settlement. A rough calculation was made of what it was likely to cost Government in a year when prices were low. The calculation could only be a rough one, because the true facts will not be known until the settlement officer has made his detailed net asset estimates; but, even allowing for a fairly large error in the calculation, the figures are so striking as to leave no doubt whatever regarding the relief which the new policy will give in years of low prices. The method applied was that which will be adopted under the new settlement; that is to say, the basic index figure was obtained from the commutation prices which have been proposed by the settlement officer, which roughly represent the average of prices over a period of 10 years, and which the mover of the resolution fears may inflict a hardship on the revenue-payers. This basic index figure was then compared with the index figure worked out in accordance with prices actually current in the year 1933-34. It was found that the latter

index figure was 55 per cent. below the basic index figure, so that it involved a reduction of 55 per cent. on the new sanctioned rates; or, to put it in another way, a reduction of 45 per cent. on the existing average assessment of the Lyallpur district. In other words, it involved a reduction of more than 80 lakhs in a single year on the average present demand of that district. The prices for 1933-34 were as follows:—

					Rs. A. P.
Cotton	..	..	..	..	4 8 0 per maund
Wheat	..	..	..	..	1 12 0 „
Gur	..	..	..	..	2 18 0 „

which are, of course, very low prices, but they are not much lower than those which would be obtained by taking the average prices of the years which the honourable mover has suggested. That loss would of course decrease as prices rise; for instance, when cotton prices are at the level reached during the past few months, the figure I have given would be greatly reduced. But the Council will realise that the only financial justification for giving relief to the extent contemplated is the certainty that Government will recover part of the loss as prices rise, and, further, that if they rise to the level represented by the commutation prices, Government will actually gain, instead of losing. It would be quite impossible for Government to give such large concessions in years of low prices, if they were deprived of all possibility of making good that loss, however high the prices might rise. Yet, owing to the law as it now stands, and which has already been explained to the Council, the resolution of the honourable mover, if it were accepted by Government, would involve a continuous heavy loss without any chance at all of its recovery however high prices may be.

I have given the above figures with some hesitation for two reasons. First, because they are approximate only; and, secondly, because there is always the danger that they may be misunderstood and may create the impression that a very large reduction in the present demand will be a continuous feature of the Lyallpur assessment. I wish again, therefore, to make the position absolutely clear. First, the figures are based on rough calculations only. Second, the calculations represent what would happen in a year when prices were low. While they are genuine calculations on the material available, they must not, in future be quoted against Government as though they represented the final results of calculations on complete and accurate data. Also, the revenue-payers of Lyallpur must realise that, if prices are above the 1933-34 level, the remissions will accordingly be reduced, and, if prices rise—as we all hope they will—to anything approaching the commutation prices, the Lyallpur revenue-payers will have to pay more, and not less, than they are paying at present. My chief object has been to establish the fact that the adoption of high commutation prices under the sliding scale system, does not in any way affect the remissions which revenue-payers will get if prices are low. It will thus be clear, as Mr. Bourne also explained very clearly, what the implications are. If there is anything further that the honourable mover of the resolution or any other member is in doubt about, he will do well to come to my room or to go to the room of the Finance Member or of the Financial Commissioner and everything will be made clear to him. With these few words I hope the honourable member will withdraw his resolution.



**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak; non-Muhammadan, Rural): My views on land revenue are fairly well known. They are radical. They may even be called by some as revolutionary. In fact they have been characterised as such in certain quarters. If I had the power to do it I would set about the business by placing land revenue system on the principles of income-tax. But under the law as it stands at present, even if I had the power to do it, I could not complete the process within say four or five or even ten years. My own estimate is that even if a man had the powers of a Hitler or a Mussolini he would take not less than a generation in order to be able to give effect to his own ideas about land revenue. Therefore I will proceed on the assumption that the law as it stands will continue for some time and that we are going to be just to the State as we are going to be just to the land owner. On these assumptions I will give my own impressions of the effect of the acceptance of this resolution.

This is a very technical subject and I should like to place as clearly as I can before the House the governing factors of the situation. Let us be quite clear on the point that under the law as it stands any land revenue demand that is fixed to-day will be unalterable for a period of the next forty years except to the detriment of the State. That is to say, so far as the question of enhancement is concerned the State cannot claim a pie more than the demand which it has fixed whatever the course of prices during the settlement. The second governing factor of the situation is that the Government cannot claim more than 25 per cent. of the net assets. I know that the expression 'net assets' has a very technical meaning given to it and does not mean what an ordinary lay man would understand by that expression. The impression that would be created in the mind of an ordinary layman by that expression would be that it means anything that is left over after all the expenses of production have been met. The theory is that the net assets should as a matter of fact express that figure. But in practice it is entirely different. I will just draw the attention of the Honourable Finance Member and of the Honourable Revenue Member to the fact that the cost of production given by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture three or four days ago in the Cattle Farm at Hissar was Rs. 37 per acre. (*Interruption*). At least that is a farm which is being run and managed under the supervision of the Government. Therefore the figure which is yielded by the calculations based on the figures of that farm ought to be acceptable to Government though it may not be acceptable to others. If Rs. 37 is the cost of cultivation Government cannot escape from the conclusion that it is really exacting land revenue not out of the surplus that is left with the cultivator but out of the fruits of his labour. The fruits of the cultivator's labour are really enjoyed by the Government and not by the cultivator himself.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: In order to prevent any misapprehension, may I bring to the honourable member's notice the fact that it is from the landlord that land revenue is taken? It is legally and actually the land owner who is responsible for the payment of land revenue and not the actual cultivator. The landlord normally takes half the produce and Government is entitled to one-quarter of that. I contend and I am absolutely satisfied that I am right that the estimate of net assets that is made by Government in settlement operations is the natural and correct one.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** I am sorry I cannot agree with the Honourable Finance Member. In this province at least a very large proportion of land owners are also cultivators. If the Government made an exception in favour of self-cultivating land owners, that contention would be intelligible.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** They pay land revenue only on proprietary land.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Be that as it may I contend that they pay more than what they should pay. I cannot depart from that position.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** Please tell us how.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** If he has to pay Rs. 37 per acre for cultivation what is left to him as a result of the cultivation? Absolutely nothing. I have just enumerated two governing factors. There is a third governing factor which should be taken into account before we make up our minds with regard to the merits of this resolution and that factor is that when the settlement of a district is undertaken, if the Government wishes to enhance the land revenue, the maximum amount of enhancement in any specified circle cannot exceed the land revenue assessed at the previous settlement by more than 25 per cent. That is to say, if the assessment of land revenue of any circle at one settlement is Rs. 40,000, the maximum enhancement at the next settlement cannot exceed Rs. 10,000. Now, with these three governing factors before us we have to see what the effect of the acceptance of this resolution will be.

Now, any index figure that is adopted on the basis of higher prices will be merely an arbitrary figure, a conventional figure; whether you put it at Rs. 10, Rs. 20 or Rs. 5 it will make absolutely no difference whatsoever; because the amount which has actually to be paid will be determined in accordance with the prices which actually prevail. I will just explain it by an example. Mr. Bourne has told us that the factor of produce and the factor of average crop area will be constant. The only variable factor under the sliding scale will be that of prices. If the actual realisation depends upon the actual prices that prevail, then commutation prices adopted for the purpose of fixing the arbitrary and conventional index figure become entirely of no effect. Suppose the commutation price adopted for the arbitrary index is Rs. 10 per maund and produce has already been fixed at 2 maunds per acre. The price will be Rs. 20. Out of these Rs. 20 the State can claim only Rs. 5. But what the State will really collect will not be the figure which is yielded by multiplying conventional commutation price by produce, etc., and then dividing it by four. For instance, if the actual price were only Rs. 2 per maund, then, despite the conventional commutation price being Rs. 5, the actual land revenue claimable will be only Re. 1. Thus whether the conventional commutation price is Rs. 10 or 20 or 5 or 4 the amount payable will remain the same. Now, let us reduce the commutation price to Rs. 5. In that case the land revenue on the basis of that figure would be Rs. 2-8-0, but we know that the actual price is Rs. 2 per maund. Therefore what will actually be collected will be Re. 1. In the same way if we assume this commutation price figure to be

[R. B. Ch. Chhotu Ran,]

Rs. 4 what we shall have to pay will remain the same. The only difference that the acceptance of this resolution will make will be twofold. One is that if the price level remains exactly what it is to-day or what it has been during the five years, named by the mover of the resolution, then the only advantage that the Government can claim will be psychological. They can say, "we have given you a remission of 60 per cent. ; we have given you a remission of 50 per cent. ; we have given you a remission of 40 per cent." The Government will not be in a position to claim one pice more than what is warranted by actual prices. But as the commutation price figure is high therefore the amount of remission will have to be a high figure. You can say it has some moral value. It will produce some psychological effect ; but so far as the landowner is concerned he will not have to pay one pie more than is really due from him on the basis of actually prevailing prices. But there is another fact where the landowner will certainly gain and the State will certainly lose and that statge will be produced if the really prevailing prices go substantially in advance of the five years stated in the resolution. Suppose prices are doubled, trebled, or even quadrupled ; the State on account of the governing factors stated by me will not be able to claim more than the figure fixed for the demand though the landowner will be making twice or three times or four times his previous income from the land. For a full period of 40 years the hands of the State are tied definitely and however much the prices may have gone up, the State will not be able to claim any share in the increase. Now the remedy which has been hinted at by the Revenue Member and the Finance Member is to give us the liberty of applying the sliding scale and to go beyond this 25 per cent. limit. (*An honourable member : Raise the level*). We are quite agreeable to that, to have this five years period taken as the basis for calculating our net assets. (*Interruption*). That question raises issues the implication of which it is very difficult to judge at present. These two factors of 25 per cent. being the maximum of the State's share and 25 per cent. being the maximum enhancement that can be claimed by the State were obtained after years of fighting with the Government of India. I may remind the House that at one time the proposal of the Madras Government that they should be allowed to reduce the State's share to 33½ per cent. was disallowed by the Government of India. Therefore it has been a very distinct and substantial gain that the proposal of the Punjab Government to fix the share of the State at a maximum of 25 per cent. was sanctioned or approved by the Government of India. It gives us a very distinct and substantial advantage and as at present advised I am not prepared to forego these two advantages and give the Government the opportunity of disregarding this limit of maximum share as a price of the sliding scale proposed by Government. With these things before me and with the other assumption on which I decided to proceed that the House should be fair to the State just as it is inclined to be fair to the landowner, I would advise my friends not to insist on pressing this resolution to a division. If there is any doubt left in the mind of anybody,—this being a technical subject, I have made a criticism myself, he has a right to get it resolved. But so far as I have been able to judge these are the conclusions to which I have come without any regard to anybody's feeling being ruffled or being smoothened. I will make just one suggestion to the Government. Sir Malcolm Hailey used to say that it is not sufficient only to govern well but

to govern to the satisfaction of the people. By this I do not mean that the Government departments should proceed outright to accept this resolution but they ought to give the fullest possible opportunity to non-official members to have their doubts removed even by calling them to a special meeting if it is necessary.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I only wish to say that the last speaker has indicated a desire to meet the members of Government for further information if necessary. My colleague and I will be delighted to appoint a date to meet members who wish any explanation whatever about the sliding scale and we will answer any question put to us if it is in our power to do so. Personally I have only one other explanation to make and that is to express regret that I made a slight mistake about land revenue. The gross land revenue estimate for next year is Rs. 4,66,000 of which a little less than two crores is deducted as indirect credit towards irrigation.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

This Council recommends to the Government that for the purpose of re-assessment of any district the prices to be taken into account should not include the after-war boom period (1919—29), the period after 1929 being a sufficiently long period in the past for the purpose.

*The resolution was lost.*

#### ELECTRIC POWER FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

**Mr. E. Mayadas** (Nominated, non-official) : I beg to move—

This Council recommends to the Government that with a view to making Hydro-Electric current more accessible for agricultural purposes the Government may examine and report to the Council the possibility of—

- (a) tapping cables by transformers, necessary charges being levied from persons concerned either in lump sum or by instalments,
- (b) pumps and motors being supplied for lifting water, necessary charges being levied from persons concerned either in lump sum or by instalments.

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and the Deputy President occupied it).*

I will very briefly lay this resolution before the Council which is of a very simple nature and is non-controversial. If we had a map of the Punjab before us and if we were to mark the cable lines which come from Jogendranagar and if we were also to mark the transforming stations and the areas around them which are likely to receive the electric current then it would give us some idea of the area that is likely to benefit by this scheme more or less. I understand that all cables are not alike. Some are for carrying a higher voltage than others. I am not certain as to what cables are suitable for transformers being attached. But I have been told that cables carrying 11,000 voltage or less would be suitable for the purpose. Now supposing there is just one such cable I would urge that the people through whose land that cable passes should not be deprived of the opportunity of benefiting by getting current from it direct. Objection might be made that there is no spare power. To this I would reply that a storage water tank is going to be built near the Hydro-Electric headworks at Jogindranagar which will help in electric power being greatly increased. It is also possible that a committee of enquiry may suggest that in future as in the past as far as possible only such cables be laid out as can have transformers directly attached.

[Mr. E. Mayadas.]

It is possible that a further objection might be raised that transformers are very expensive and that people are poor and will not be able to afford these transformers. That may be so, but we have heard that the United Provinces Government has been able to arrange for transformers at a cost of less than one thousand. If that be so, then I think our Government also would probably be able to arrange for similar transformers. Such transformers I believe transform from 11,000 down to 400 and in spite of all the expenditure incurred the Government is getting a return of over 9 per cent.

I would like the House to realize the feelings of a man through whose land a suitable cable passes and on either side of which sub-stations are so far as to make the cost of bringing electricity prohibitive. Why should such a person be deprived of the use of a direct transformer? It might be said that if you are going to use pumps for pumping water from wells, the wells will be pumped dry. In that case, I say that pumps would not be worked faster than what an ordinary pair of bullocks would do and if a larger yield were needed then well would be bored.

Thus it is hoped that Government will see their way, in the first instance, to arrange for the necessary apparatus, and then charge according to the pockets of the cultivator, they may charge either in lump sum or in instalments or by hire. I hope that Government and this House will accept this resolution. With these words I move this resolution which I have read out in the beginning of my speech.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** The question may now be put. We have discussed this question between ourselves.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I accept this resolution to put an end to this debate (*cheers*).

**Mr. Deputy President :** Question is—

This Council recommends to the Government that with a view to making hydro-electric current more accessible for agricultural purposes the Government may examine and report to the Council the possibility of—

- (a) tapping cables by transformers necessary charges being levied from persons concerned either in lump sum or by instalments,
- (b) pumps and motors being supplied for lifting water, necessary charges being levied from persons concerned either in lump sum or by instalments.

*The motion was carried.*

#### RULES RE. RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram** (Multan division, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : I beg to move—

This Council recommends to the Government (Ministry of Education) to notify that notification No. 8723-G., dated the 20th April, 1933, containing Recognition Rules will not apply to schools recognized before that date and further recommends that these rules may be amended.

Before the year 1933 there were no rules relating to the conditions of recognition which solely depended on the arbitrary will of inspecting and the headquarters officers. In 1926, the Federation of Non-Government Schools passed a resolution requesting the department to lay down minimum requirements for purposes of recognition of the different types of schools—

high, middle and primary and to put a check on the vagaries of the individual officers. By another resolution passed at the Second Annual Conference of the Non-Government Schools Federation it was demanded that the power of recognition should vest in a representative board as in the case of the United Provinces. This was re-affirmed in the session held in 1930.

The Standing Committee of the Non-Government Schools Federation drafted conditions of recognition and submitted them to the Director of Public Instruction but no action was taken on them inspite of repeated reminders. In the year 1932, our energetic Assistant Director on his own initiative applied himself to the work of drafting a new chapter containing rules of recognition which was notified by the Ministry of Education in April 1933, without affording any opportunities to those for whose benefit they were framed to express their views. Generally speaking objection to the Recognition Rules may be grouped under the following:—

- (a) The conditions of recognition of middle schools or middle departments of high schools as given in these rules are more stringent than the conditions of recognition laid down by the Punjab University for the recognition of the high schools on page 116 of the Punjab University Calendar.
- (b) The conditions of recognition are more stringent than the conditions of grants-in-aid as laid down in Article 62, page 8 of the Punjab Education Code.
- (c) These rules of recognition instead of restricting the discretionary powers of the inspecting officers by making the conditions of recognition more definite only legalize the use of their discretionary powers. Particularly the clauses of Article 282 are much too vague and indefinite.
- (d) The rules of recognition should not apply to schools already recognized.

There is nothing in the rules themselves to show that they will be applied to schools already recognized. The matter seems to have been left vague not without purpose. With regard to these rules views have been expressed from time to time by various institutions and persons. The resolution adopted in the meeting of the Sanatan Dharam Education Board reads:—

This meeting of the Sanatan Dharam Education Board, Punjab, held on 22nd October 1933, records its emphatic protest against the sections 237, 245 and 246 of the new amendments to the Punjab Education Code Rules for the recognition of schools.

The resolution passed by the Mofussil Schools sub-committee of the D. A.-V. College Managing Committee, Lahore, runs—

Considered the rules framed by the Education Department for the recognition of schools and resolved that in the opinion of this sub-committee these rules are retrograde.

Then the Sikh Educational Conference passed a series of resolutions condemning the new system of recognition. These have already been printed and submitted to the Education Department for their consideration. In fact there is no institution that agrees to these rules. I submit that these rules may be amended to satisfy all the educational institutions which are not satisfied by them. (Cheers.)

**Mr. Deputy President :** Resolution moved—

This Council recommends to the Government (Ministry of Education) to notify that notification No. 3723-G, dated the 20th April 1933, containing Recognition Rules will not apply to schools recognized before that date and further recommends that these rules may be amended.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries) : This is a matter which has for sometime past considerably agitated the public mind and occupied its attention, at any rate of those who are connected with education and more especially secondary education in this province. Sometimes broad changes of policy knowingly or unknowingly are undertaken in the guise of departmental rules whose significance is not perhaps thoroughly understood by the person who has given the seal of approval to the rules initiated by some subordinate in the office. This is what appears to me to have happened in this case. These recognition rules have been very widely criticised and a conference was held in Lahore in 1934 under the presidency of Mian Nurullah, M.L.C., where the following resolution was adopted :—

The Conference strongly portests against the rules of recognition recently added to the Punjab Education Code. Most of them are retrograde, reactionary and highly injurious to the best interests of Education and give arbitrary powers to the officers of the Department, unduly interfere in all matters of internal management and organization of private schools. If these rules are given effect to, these schools would be under a stricter departmental control than even the Government schools without any of the corresponding advantages. The Conference most emphatically urges upon the Department the imperative necessity of cancelling or amending these rules in accordance with the suggestions made by the Standing Committee of the Federation of non-Government schools. The Conference is definitely of opinion that these rules should in no case apply to the already recognized schools.

This Conference appears to have been convened by the representatives of all the non-Government schools and Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, Headmaster of the Mission High School, Lahore, observed in supporting this resolution that to him :—

It appeared that the department was out to kill private enterprise. If things continued like that many of the private schools would cease to exist.

Again another well-known teacher Mr. Ghulam Mustafa, Headmaster, Muslim High School, pointed out that they had asked for bread and the department had given them stone. They had been agitating against the old rules of recognition but the new ones went against their request. The new rules would serve as an instrument with the department to crush private enterprise in the province. Sardar Sahib Bawa Udham Singh, Headmaster of the Khalsa High School, another important School at Lahore, in supporting the resolution pointed out that the new recognition rules would prove veritable engine of torture in the hands of the Education Department and would give a short shrift to private enterprise in the province. They should not stop at protests, but the managing committees should join hands and carry a province-wide agitation. For teachers and headmasters it was a matter of life and death and they should not take things lying down. Another well-known headmaster, a fellow of the University and a reputed educationist, Mr. Muhammad Shafi, Headmaster, Islamia High School, Sheranwala Gate, Lahore, pointed out that the rules were stringent and the managers had not felt their responsibilities. They should wake up, otherwise labour of decades of years would be wasted. He said that a deputation should wait

upon the gods of the Education Department. I do not know whether the gods have so far made themselves available for the deputation or not, but the resolution should be backed by agitation in the province. Similar opinion was expressed by Lala Ram Prasad, another educationist and the resolution was unanimously passed.

If these educational rules are in any way calculated directly or indirectly to affect private enterprise in education it is time that the Punjab Government took a serious note of this matter, as it affects the declared policy of the Indian and Punjab Governments which has been consistently followed for a very long time. The Honourable the Finance Member when introducing his budget pointed out that the Education Department next to the Irrigation Department was the greatest spending department of the State, that the Irrigation Department was an earning department. Therefore, the Education Department which disbursed Rs. 1'60 lakhs was the consumer of a lion's share of the provincial budget. He put it to the House that in view of the increasing demand for technical education and provision for female education it was matter for the serious consideration of the Council "to solve the problem of the increasing expenditure on general education." Government is spending so much money on education and it is necessary to see where the budget can be cut short and where it can be usefully increased to yield better results. The policy of the Punjab Government following the policy laid down by the Government of India has been that with respect to secondary education private enterprise should be encouraged and that Government should not establish institutions of its own where effective and proper means of education can be supplied by private agency assisted if need be by Government aid. That was the policy which the India Government has repeatedly laid down and which has been accepted by the Punjab Government. Starting with the educational despatch of 1854, then with the Government of India Resolution, dated the 3rd February, 1882, and then again with the Resolutions of the Government of India of 1904 and 1913, "the policy has been to rely as far as possible on private enterprise with regard to secondary education." And our province has responded magnificently to this policy of the Punjab Government which was also the policy of the Government of India. Lakhs and I may say, millions of rupees have been spent by the various communities, Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs,—the pioneers in the field were no doubt the Christian missionaries—on a string of secondary schools which are really supplying the need for secondary education in this province. If you look at the budget relating to the Education Department, you will find that Government secondary schools cost to the Government Rs. 25,99,000 while non-government secondary schools only cost Rs. 7,37,000. The result to the State is that the Government by spending Rs. 7,37,000 in the form of aid to secondary schools is educating six times as many students as are being educated in Government schools at an expenditure of Rs. 25,99,000. (*Honourable Minister for Education* : The income from fees is not deducted from that amount.) Even if you deduct the income from fees I daresay the Honourable Finance Member will be able to reduce the figure only very slightly, which would not make any difference to the argument. But, is it not an established fact that the growth of secondary education in this province is mainly due to the string of private schools which exist in this province? The Government by an expenditure of about



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Rs. 7 lakhs is able to achieve six times as much and as good educational result as it does by an expenditure of about Rs. 26 lakhs on Government schools. Therefore, I strenuously urge that if the growing increase of expenditure on general education which was referred to by the Honourable Finance Member at the time of presenting his budget is to be tackled, no departmental Jack in office should be allowed by any departmental rules to interfere with the main policy of the Indian Government and also of the Punjab Government which is this, "that so far as secondary education is concerned the State ought not to take responsibility for it, but that it should pass it on to private enterprise and assist it by a system of grants-in-aid." The reason for this is obvious. If the State is going to assume responsibility for primary education which is now costing us about Rs. 80 lakhs—and all States in these democratic days assume responsibility for primary education—how can it take upon itself without serious and unbearable strain on its finances, also the responsibility for the entire system of secondary education in the province?

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** Is the honourable member speaking to the resolution or on the general policy in education of the Government of India and of the Government of the Punjab?

**Mr. Deputy President :** I would request the honourable member to speak to the motion.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** I am speaking very pertinently to the motion. The learned Director was here when the opinion of the educationists of this province was read out declaring emphatically that these rules of recognition, whether the Department of Education intended it or not, or even knows it or not, are calculated to kill all existing private enterprise and that these rules would discourage all future private enterprise. (*Honourable Minister for Education :* Please point out the specific rule.) I shall deal with the rules at length if time permits. But it is not necessary to go into details. I have put before the House the opinions of the headmaster of one of the oldest Mission schools, of the two headmasters of the Islamia school, the headmaster of the Khalsa school and a gentleman who had been headmaster of a Hindu school and is connected with a big educational movement. All of them point out that the new recognition rules will have the effect, whether the department intended it or not, of killing all private enterprise. And I offer my own opinion for what it is worth, that if these rules are adopted in their entirety without considering the suggestions which have been made to the department from various sources they are bound to have that effect. And, therefore, it is necessary to ask the Punjab Government whether in the guise of these rules they want to enunciate a particular change of policy that the State for the future is going to assume responsibility for secondary education in this province instead of leaving it mainly to private enterprise, as heretofore, in addition to the responsibility which it has already assumed for primary education. It cannot be denied that the rules which have now been adopted are different from the rules which have been framed by the Punjab University for the recognition of schools and are in some respects more stringent than the rules framed by the department itself which exist for the grant of State aid.

Recognition rules are only meant to confer recognition upon certain schools, i.e., they can send up boys for examination. The Education Department by recognising a school does not assume or incur any liability for giving any financial assistance to them. That is a matter which is governed by the grant-in-aid rules. It has been pointed out by the representation which has been submitted to the department that these recognition rules are in some respects more stringent than even the rules which the department itself has framed for giving aid to recognized institutions. What is the justification, for this anomaly. I request the Honourable Minister in the light of the representations that he has received and the Director of Public Instruction in view of the deputations which have waited upon him to appoint a committee to examine these recognition rules so that the fear of the public may be allayed, and their legitimate grievances removed. I endorse the opinion, just now expressed by Mian Nurullah that the committee that is appointed to assist the department in making proper rules of recognition should be a representative committee with a large non-official element, consisting of people who are actually engaged in running these schools, either as teachers or as managers. Of course it is open to a department to issue any rules it likes but the usual practice when such a thing is done is to place the rules before a committee of experts. (*Honourable Minister for Education* : These rules were placed before a committee.) I am very glad to know that they were, and I take it that there must have been some representatives of non-government schools also on that committee, and if the representatives of the non-government schools did not object, that would be a very strong point in favour of the Ministry. But if the Honourable Minister has framed the rules in the making of which he consulted only the officials whose interests I do not say necessarily clash with the interests of those who are running private schools but who certainly cannot see these things from the same angle of vision as the representatives of non-government schools, I do not think, he is justified in claiming that he consulted any one whose opinion was worth anything in this matter. I am told that before the rules were promulgated no one connected with non-government schools was consulted. The Honourable Minister asked me to refer to specific rules. I have no desire to take each rule and criticise it at length. Detailed criticisms of these rules have been submitted to him; they are in his possession. They must be engaging his attention at any rate now, after notice of this resolution, if not earlier, and I have not the slightest doubt that something good will come out of it. But the amount of red tapism that these rules have introduced would be apparent from the fact that enquiries were recently made about the members of the Managing Committee of one of our biggest school, i.e., of the Sanatan Dharam High School, Lahore, which is situated on the Lower Mall, a stone's throw from here. A police constable recently went to the school and enquired "Who is Ram Saran Das"? He meant of course Honourable Rai Bahadur Ram Saran Das, C.I.E., Member of Council of State, who is so well-known in the province and the town of Lahore. "What do you want to know Ram Saran Das for" asks the man at the High School. "Is he not on the managing committee of the school? I have been asked to make enquiries about him", says the constable. (*Honourable Minister for Education* : There is nothing in the rules about that.) Your rules require that members of the managing committees should be approved by

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the Director of Education, and the department must have entrusted the duties to its subordinates. (Mr. R. Sanderson: This strikes me as an unusual thing. It never originates from the department.) Can you deny that such a thing did not happen? I am speaking on information supplied to me by a very responsible person. If the Education Department is not responsible for it, I take the Director at his word and I absolve him of any direct responsibility for initiating this enquiry. But it is pertinent to enquire what agency or means the department employs to make enquiries about gentlemen whom it has to approve as members of managing committees of schools. I referred to this incident just to show that the apprehensions of the public are not without foundation and that the veteran educationists and headmasters whose opinions I read out just now are not ha'penny tu'penny boys who are kicking up a row without any reason. The rules provide that for the recognition of a school it is necessary that the members of the managing committee should be approved by the Education Department. What does the approval mean? Are they to be approved when they are first appointed? Should the approval be sought before they seek election or after they are elected? Should, every change, in the managing committee be reported to the Education Department and should the managing committee cease to function until that change has been approved? Would you like to know another instance? A very respectable professor in a Delhi college was persuaded to work on the managing committee of a school which was in his village. Very good and kind of him, and the managing committee were fortunately successful enough to persuade a professor of a first grade college, a member of the University Training Corps and holding a very responsible position in life, to be on the managing committee and to take interest in the affairs of a small school. I am told that the name of the gentleman was not approved on the report of some subordinate official, who quite naturally did not know anything personally about the gentleman. This professor had not called on the tahsildar or sub-divisional officer of the ilaqa, and the latter was not therefore in a position to give him a certificate of good character. According to the rules before one could function on the committee he has to be approved by the department. How is the department to approve of the gentleman? I understand, the department makes a reference to the deputy commissioner, who refers to the tahsildar and the police. Does the department expect that these philanthropic gentlemen who give their time, should hang about tahsildars, and police stations in order that their names may be approved for the managing committee of a petty school. Thus before a person can be nominated to a committee he has to get his name approved by the district authority, the district inspector, the divisional inspector and the Director of Public Instruction. Further it is well known that people who have given or collected lakhs of rupees for starting schools or for raising the schools to higher standard have to go from door to door, from the district inspector to the divisional inspector and from the divisional inspector to the Director of Public Instruction without being treated properly. These are the people, it must be remembered who in any other country would be

honoured and whose services suitably recognized and rewarded. Owing to the bad treatment they receive at the hands of officials of the Education Department they approach the members of the Council, mind you not for their personal benefit, but for public purposes. What a pity that such men should be made to hang about the underlings of the Education Department in order to get good reports from them to enable them to obtain mere recognition from the Government. Some of them do not want any aid or financial assistance for their schools. Any director of public instruction should feel honoured by visits of such philanthropic gentlemen who go to him for obtaining recognition to the schools which they propose to start. On the other hand such people are treated with scant courtesy like beggars at the bar of these people, at the door of the Director of Public Instruction and at the door of the inspectorate. This is the spirit in which the recognition rules are actually worked out. I do not propose to enter into further details of the working of the rules. I shall confine myself to broad lines of policy. Is it then the present policy of the Punjab Government to assume responsibility for expenditure on secondary education? It looks as if the Government is drifting into that policy. The rules even do not allow the management the power and privilege of appointing its own staff. What about the provincialisation of schools, schools which could have been very well managed by local bodies or by public men with a little assistance from Government by way of grant-in-aid? It is said that if Government schools are not established the backward communities will suffer. If that is the difficulty of the Government it can certainly frame rules to the effect that it will give more grant-in-aid to schools which are not run on communal lines or which are open to all communities or which are started in backward areas. By transferring the burden of management of schools to the shoulders of the public as is done in all civilised countries the Government would be able to relieve the crushing burden of taxation due to wasteful expenditure by the Education Department. Is the Government prepared to undertake responsibility for the entire expenditure on secondary education, which the closing of private schools would entail? In most civilised countries, secondary education is the concern of local bodies and private educational enterprise. It is so in England and other countries. The Government can by all means supplement the efforts of these bodies if and when necessary. Instead of that the Government is attempting, by the promulgation of these rules to kill all private enterprise and close all private schools which have sprung up as a result of the encouragement and aid given to them by the Government. I therefore ask the Honourable Minister to appoint a committee constituted on the lines suggested by my honourable friend Mr. Nurullah which will examine these rules and make them more consonant with propriety and justice. Such rules should not be framed by the officials and Inspectors alone, unassisted by non-official agency. These rules increase the powers of the inspectors and unconsciously, it may be, they cannot see where the shoe pinches. The rules should be examined in detail by a committee of experts both official and non-official. There should be as little interference with the free working of the schools as possible. They should be allowed to develop on their own lines with minimum interference from the department which should step in only to advise and assist. Too many restrictions are neither good for the department nor for the schools. I whole-heartedly support the resolution.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : I rise to support the resolution under consideration. I had no mind to take part in the debate but after seeing the rules I feel it necessary that I should make a few observations on the subject under consideration. A careful study of these rules of recognition makes me conclude that we are moving backwards from democracy to autocracy. I have not seen such rules hitherto since the advent of British Government to Punjab. These rules certainly appear very reactionary. It is all the more surprising that the Honourable Minister should have considered it advisable to issue such rules. I challenge the Minister to say whether with these rules it is possible for any private schools to exist on the grant-in-aid or recognition list. All schools will soon become Government controlled institutions entirely and will lose the character of a private aided school. With these words of introduction I shall proceed to examine the rules one by one.

The first condition that has to be satisfied before recognition can be given to a school is that the school should be needed in the locality on educational grounds. Who is to judge whether the school is needed or not in a locality? The Minister will reply, 'The Education Department of Government.' But I ask whether the Education Department will agree to the opening of a school where there is already a school managed by the Government Department. Besides even if there is a private school in the vicinity Government will refuse permission to open a new school. So, a new school cannot be opened in a locality where there is a Government school whether it is good or bad or where there is already a private school whether it is well-managed or not.

The second condition imposed is that the school should be under a regularly constituted managing body which is approved by the department and is registered, every change in the management being reported to the department for approval. In the face of this condition, is there any encouragement for private schools to come into existence? No school will be allowed to exist unless its managing board is approved by the Education Department. This rule is really strange. Even the University has not got such stringent rules in regard to colleges. All that the University rule says is that the management of the college should be properly constituted. But in the case of schools the Government goes one step further. It says not only that the management should be properly constituted but that it should meet with the approval of the department. What justification has the Minister got for making this rule? Does he fear that these schools will not be as well-managed as the colleges. Evidently this rule has been framed without any regard to the interests of private schools and without any regard to the state of education at present existing in the province.

The third condition is that its financial resources are such as to ensure its continued maintenance in an efficient condition. This rule is as vague as vagueness can be. What is the definition of 'sufficiency'? Does the Government propose to fix a limit to the funds to ensure the continued maintenance of the school? Unless a money limit is fixed it will be impossible to work this rule. One may consider that a sum of Rs. 1,000 is enough and another may think that even Rs. 10,000 may not be enough for the purpose of this rule. Who is to judge the sufficiency of the funds that are maintained by the institutions? Again, even if the Government were to fix a limit it can

at the most only be arbitrary. No rule of greater stringency than this is necessary to stop all private enterprise in this direction. Even if the Government aid is not sought, the school has got to observe these conditions before it can be recognised and recognition of a school is necessary before it is allowed to present pupils for examination held under the auspices of the Education Department or by the Punjab University. Even if a manager of a school is able and enterprising enough to dispense with the aid from Government he cannot run the schools because he has to fulfil all these conditions before he can send his pupils to the public examination.

The next rule says that the terms on which the teachers are engaged, including the execution of a written agreement between the management and each teacher should be as prescribed in appendices XXVI and XXVII. The Government is not satisfied with stipulating the conditions on which it will employ its own teachers, but it wants to impose the same conditions on teachers employed in private schools also. Why should the Government go out of its way and impose these restrictions on private schools? It is possible that some of the teachers may not have passed any examination and yet may be experts in some subject and may constitute efficient teachers in those subjects. And yet the rules are such that a private school cannot employ such men. The Government can also refuse recognition to a school simply because the agreement is not in accordance with that prescribed by Government or that the terms are not in accordance with what the Government has laid down or that no provision has been made for provident fund for teachers. (*An honourable member* : Do you object to the institution of provident fund?) There may be no doubt some good rules. Provident fund is no doubt a good institution. But why should the Government go out of its way and insist on a private school having provident fund system when it cannot afford to have it. The circumstances of each school has to be looked into.

Another condition imposed on private schools is that it should follow the courses of study prescribed by the department. This is certainly an objectionable condition. There are several schools where religious education is imparted along with other courses of study. If this is not approved by the Government then it will mean an undue interference with the management of the school which will not improve the character of students and will stand in the way of improving their morale by religious teachings. Why should the courses of study be approved by the department when the department has already prescribed the courses for the examination?

The next condition is that the school should follow the departmental rules and the inter-school rules should be strictly observed. It should also attain and maintain a reasonable standard of efficiency in instruction.

There are many more such conditions and I do not propose to go into each one of them in detail. But the gist of all these rules is that they are reactionary and will kill all private enterprise. It is well known to Government that it is not in a position to impart education to all the Punjabi children without the aid of private schools. Take for instance primary education. This Council has passed the Primary Education Act and yet there are many villages in the province which cannot boast of a primary school. What has the Government done to start primary schools in

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those villages ? The Government will come forward with the plea of want of funds. If that is the case, why should it kill private enterprise in the matter of starting schools by framing such reactionary and unwholesome rules? My honourable friend, the member for industries (Mr. Mukand Lal Puri) has already drawn the attention of the House to the fact that it is the accepted policy of the Government of India that private enterprise should be encouraged as much as possible. For these reasons I think the Honourable Minister should reconsider these stringent and absurd rules and revise them so as to make them conform to present day needs.

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair).*

The fact that all private schools whether run by Hindus, Muslims or Sikhs have condemned these rules should give the Honourable Minister some food for thought. He should not stifle education by persisting in these rules. I do not think he has pleasure in stifling education or in discouraging private schools which are supplying the most urgent need of the province. I hope he will reconsider the rules and liberalise them so that private enterprise may get a stimulus and more schools may come into existence and general education may be imparted to as large a number as possible. The Honourable Minister has already on several occasions in this House advocated the cause of education and yet these rules are in conflict with the views he has expressed on all those occasions. I, therefore, hope the Honourable Minister will agree to the proposal contained in this resolution which will help him in promoting the cause which he has got so much at heart. With these words I support the resolution.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** We have heard several speeches from the non-official members. Before the discussion proceeds further it would be of advantage to us if we know what the position of the Government is with regard to this resolution. I would, therefore, request you, Sir, to call the Honourable Minister to speak on the resolution.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education) : I am really waiting to see what definite suggestions honourable members have to make and what rules they object to, so that I may be able to consider them and then give a suitable reply. So far only Mr. Mukand Lal Puri has tried to clarify the position and I am very thankful to him for what he has said. If other honourable members also point out the definite rules they object to and make suggestions which they have to offer for the modification of the rules I will be in a position to say whether I accept them or not and what the Government's point of view is in regard to those rules.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** If a committee is appointed all these points can be considered there.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Every one of these rules was placed before the Standing Education Committee in Simla and considered very carefully in detail. These rules have met with their full approval. If the work of the committee of elected members of this Council is not approved, what committee is going to work better ?

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Were the representatives of private institutions consulted ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** They were all consulted and their representations were considered. Every suggestion of theirs was considered by Government. What more can be done? If there is any definite criticism of any definite rule or rules I welcome it. But if there are to be general and vague speeches on the resolution they will lead me nowhere.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : I have been thinking over this matter and these new rules for a very long time and I have no hesitation in confessing that I have not been able to form any definite opinion about them. Sometimes there are proposals about which one can arrive at a definite conclusion and about which one is able to decide in no time whether the adoption of any of them will be beneficial or harmful to the interests of the public. But as I have said I have not been able to decide one way or the other so far as these rules are concerned. In any case this will have to be admitted that these rules have been framed at the instance and on the incessant demand of the public and particularly of the managing bodies of private schools. I remember it was in 1924—after that I have not been in touch with this subject for a very long time—when some persons interested in educational matters came to me and complained that the powers that the inspectors of schools or such other officers possessed in regard to the recognition of schools were very wide so much so that in not a few cases the worst schools were recognised and the best schools were refused recognition. These gentlemen expressed this opinion that the Education Department should be approached and asked to frame some definite rules for recognition of private schools so that the inspectors may not have an unfettered discretion in the matter. I think it is in deference to that wish of the people that the department has had to issue these rules and, therefore, in offering our criticism we must bear in mind the part we have played in the issue of these rules. In discussing this matter we should also keep in view the fact that such schools have been opened and perhaps will continue to be opened, if no step is taken to discourage the opening of such schools, which had no funds to start with and which had a very small number of students on their rolls and which, consequently could not pay the salaries of the teachers for six months at a time.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** Why do the teachers stay in such schools ?

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** As I have said I am not expressing any definite opinion one way or the other. I am only trying to discuss this question and in so doing I wish to point out that such schools have been opened and it is very desirable that the opening of such schools should be discouraged. By this I do not mean to say that I am enamoured of these rules or that these rules alone can set matters right. What I mean to say is that some such step must be taken to bring about the much-needed reform. I do not object to the proposal of vesting the powers of recognition of private schools to a representative body of officials and non-officials so that there is no room for complaint in the matter. But the difficulty is that we stop with making proposals and do not unite to see them mature. And it is more for this reason than anything else that very unsatisfactory results are achieved even by the best of institutions. My own belief is that much good can come out of even bad institutions or institutions which we come to call



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had only if the management is in the hands of disinterested and honest persons and if the Minister concerned happens to be a man of generous and sympathetic views.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** We cannot hope to have a better Minister than the present one.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** I may also warn the House that it is a matter of policy and we must proceed to express our opinion rather carefully and we must keep in view that if we desired any change in these rules or something of that sort, we shall have to agree to the demand that the Minister will make to accommodate us. In asking for any change in this matter we must also bear in mind that the political conditions of the country are rapidly changing and that in another two years' time they will have radically changed. We must, therefore, pause and consider before making any request to the Government. To be very frank I think it is not a matter which cannot be settled by a committee or a sub-committee appointed by this House and I would, therefore, suggest that instead of making long speeches we should refer the matter to such a committee and ask it to decide it in the best possible manner (*hear, hear*).

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P.M. on Tuesday, 26th March, 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, 26th March 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P. M., of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4443. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of grants-in-aid cases since 1925 of vernacular girls' schools, in whose case grants-in-aid were sanctioned by the Education Department, but were refused by the local bodies ;
- (b) the total amount of grant-in-aid in arrears due to such institutions for the above period ;
- (c) what portion, if any, has been paid by the department from the provincial revenues direct to these institutions ;
- (d) whether Government is aware that this has adversely affected the financial condition of the schools, and this fact has been represented to the department off and on ;
- (e) whether Government proposes to take any action in the matter to pay up the arrears of grant-in-aid due to these institutions ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

**\*4444. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 1, passed at the first Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government Schools' Federation, held on 18th and 19th December, 1926, under the presidency of Dr. Mian Sir Muhammad Shafi, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference is of opinion that merely literary education does not satisfy national requirements, and that vocational education should be introduced in our schools. It urges upon the Government the necessity of appointing a committee of officials and non-officials to investigate the problem and to formulate a practical scheme calculated to bring about the desired result ;

- (b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government ;
- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action the Government proposes to take on it ?

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

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration in connection with the new scheme of studies which are under preparation and the Punjab University Enquiry Committee's report.

#### POSTAL INSURANCE TO EMPLOYEES OF RECOGNISED SCHOOLS.

**\*4445. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 5, passed at the first Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 18th and 19th December, 1926, under the presidentship of Dr. Mian Sir Muhammad Shafi, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference recommends that the Government postal insurance be made available to employees of all recognised schools in the province as is already the case with the teachers of municipal and district board schools;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action the Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) No action was taken because Government is not concerned with the insurance of teachers employed in schools under private management.

#### SPECIAL CLASSES IN ENGLISH.

**\*4446. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 18, passed at the first Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 18th and 19th December, 1926, under the presidentship of Dr. Mian Sir Muhammad Shafi, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference recommends that all restrictions should be removed from the secondary schools opening special classes for the teaching of English for students coming from vernacular schools ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;

- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) There is no record of such a resolution having been received. In 1932 orders were, however, issued permitting privately managed schools situated in purely rural areas to open special classes where there was a genuine need for such classes.

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

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

\*4447. **Mian Nurullah** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 8, passed at the second Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 25th and 26th February, 1928, under the presidency of Mahatma Hans Raj, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference is of opinion that Government should make it a condition while allotting grant to a local body that the latter should give, as a matter of course, any grant sanctioned by the department to any private institution for boys or girls;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) Local bodies are responsible under Article 42, Punjab Education Code, for the payment of grant-in-aid for vernacular education in the areas under their jurisdiction, and so far as Government is aware, local bodies have been paying these grants if their funds have permitted. Where cases of non-payment have been brought to the notice of Government, pressure has been brought to bear on the local body concerned. In some cases Government has paid its own share of the grant direct to the schools.

(c) *Vide* answer to (b) above.

SCHOOLS.

\*4448. **Mian Nurullah** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 17, passed at the second Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 25th and 26th February, 1928, under the presidency of Mahatma Hans Raj, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

Resolved that in the opinion of this conference there is urgent need of a new type of schools on the lines of Central Schools in England ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) It is presumed that the honourable member refers to the Selective Central or Senior Schools in England. The part played by these in rural areas in England is reproduced and has been reproduced for many years by the vernacular and anglo-vernacular middle schools of the Punjab which are so placed as to serve groups of primary schools and to some extent a similar part is played by the main primary schools around which branches are spread. In middle schools in rural areas we have definite rural bias in the curriculum ; in a considerable number of schools agriculture is practised on the school farm ; and in a number handicrafts are also taught.

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With regard to the Central Schools of an urban nature in England we have the counterpart in the clerical and commercial and manual training centres established in a number of our high schools in the province.

(c) No action arises.

#### EXAMINERS FOR DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS.

**\*4449. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether resolution No. 22, passed at the second Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 25th and 26th February, 1926, under the presidency of Mahatma Hans Raj, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

That in the opinion of this conference the Education Department should appoint a representative board of officials and non-officials for the appointment of examiners for various departmental examinations with a view to safeguard the interests of non-Government schools and their teachers;

(b) if so, what action Government has taken on it;

(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Yes, the resolution was received by the Director of Public Instruction. The 2nd Annual Conference was, however, held in 1927 and not in 1926.

(b) The Conference re-affirmed the resolution at the 3rd Annual Conference in 1929 and a deputation subsequently waited on the Director of Public Instruction. The matter was discussed and no action was considered necessary in view of the fact that the claims of teachers of non-Government schools for appointment as examiners are always duly considered.

(c) Does not arise.

It will interest the honourable member to know that the approximate percentages of non-Government servants in the various departmental examinations held in 1935 are as follows :—

Vernacular certificate examination (junior vernacular and senior vernacular) for men .. .. .	15.6
Vernacular certificate examination (junior vernacular and senior vernacular) for women .. .. .	32.4
Anglo-vernacular certificate examinations (junior anglo-vernacular and senior anglo-vernacular) .. .. .	11.5
Vernacular final for boys .. .. .	36.9
Middle standard examination for girls .. .. .	18.6
Post-matric clerical examination .. .. .	42.8
Night classes clerical examinations .. .. .	25.0
All the above examinations put together .. .. .	31.7

## RECOGNITION OF DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

**\*4450. Mian Nurullah:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 8, passed at the third Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held at Lyallpur on 23rd and 24th February, 1929, under the presidency of Sardar Ujjal Singh, M.L.C., which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference notes with regret that difficulties are placed in the way of denominational schools securing recognition by imposing unreasonable conditions, and is, therefore, of opinion that the power of recognition should vest in a Board representative of officials, non-officials and the Punjab University ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;

- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) The rules of recognition have been codified and no unreasonable condition can now be imposed in regard to the recognition of individual schools.

- (c) Does not arise.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION OF STUDENTS.

**\*4451. Mian Nurullah:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 11, passed at the third Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held at Lyallpur on 23rd and 24th February, 1929, under the presidency of Sardar Ujjal Singh, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

In view of the appalling physical deterioration of student community, this conference urges upon the Government to arrange for the regular medical inspection of the students, as is done in other countries of the world ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it :

- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) Government is experimenting with a scheme of medical inspection of school children in five districts, one in each division, where medical officers in charge of dispensaries are held responsible for the medical inspection of children enrolled in schools lying within two miles radius of the dispensaries or the hospitals. Instructions have also been issued by the Medical Department to all medical officers in charge of dispensaries in rural areas in other districts to examine children enrolled in schools located in the same village. In certain anglo-vernacular schools in urban areas in the province a voluntary scheme of medical inspection of school children is being carried on under which the school engages either jointly with other schools or singly a whole-time or part-time doctor and maintains a school dispensary. The cost is met from a medical fund subscribed to by the boys enrolled in

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the school or schools at the rate of two to three annas per mensem. The question of making medical inspection of school children obligatory on all schools is under consideration.

#### FIRST GRADE FEE FOR STUDENTS.

\*4452. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 17, passed at the third Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 23rd and 24th February, 1929, under the presidency of Sardar Ujjal Singh, M.L.C., which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference is of opinion that for charging 1st grade fee the minimum income of Rs. 2,000 be raised to Rs. 4,000 ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) No action was considered advisable.

(c) It is not considered advisable to raise the limit of minimum income for charging first grade fee as proposed. The honourable member is also referred to my answer to part (a) of question No. 1965<sup>1</sup> asked at the current session of the Council.

#### VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

\*4453. **Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 19, passed at the third Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 23rd and 24th February, 1929, under the presidency of Sardar Ujjal Singh, M.L.C., which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference re-affirms that mere literary education does not satisfy national requirements, and that vocational education should be introduced in our schools. It urges upon the Government the necessity of appointing a committee of officials and non-officials to investigate the problem and to formulate a practical scheme calculated to bring about the desired result ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member is referred to my reply to his question No.\* 4444.<sup>2</sup>

## VERNAOULARS AS MEDIA OF INSTRUCTION.

**\*4454. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 26, passed at the third Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 23rd and 24th February, 1929, under the presidency of Sardar Ujjal Singh, M.L.C., which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference re-affirms that the time has come to extend the use of vernaculars of the province as media of instruction and examinations in schools and the University ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The question is under consideration in connection with the Punjab University Enquiry Committee's report.

## FEMALE EDUCATION.

**\*4455. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 27, passed at the third Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 23rd and 24th February, 1929, under the presidency of Sardar Ujjal Singh, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference re-affirms that Government should take active steps to promote female education, specially primary education in the province. The recognition of girls' schools should, therefore, be freely allowed ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) A statement showing the increase in the number of colleges and schools of all types for girls since 1929 is placed on the table. The recognition of schools is governed by the rules of recognition in the Code.

*Statement showing increase in the number of schools and colleges for girls from the year 1929 to 1934.*

Type of institution.	In 1929.	In 1934.	Increase.
Colleges .. .. .	2	5	+3
Secondary Schools .. .. .	118	182	+64
Primary Schools .. .. .	1,406	1,659	+253



## EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4456. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 5, passed at the fourth Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 22nd February, 1930, under the presidency of Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference notes with regret and great concern that the Education Department has taken no sympathetic action so far on the representations made on behalf of the non-Government schools during the last three years regarding modifications of grant-in-aid rules. While affirming its resolution No. 5, of the third Annual Conference, this Conference draws the urgent attention of the Ministry of Education to the unjustifiable deep cuts in the grants awarded this year to the non-Government schools in most of the divisions, especially in Ambala and Multan divisions.

It, therefore, requests the Ministry of Education with all the emphasis at its command to hold a joint conference of the representatives of this Federation and officers of the Education Department at an early date to discuss the whole matter and arrive at an equitable solution of the problem in order to avoid hardship and unnecessary mistrust in the future ;

- (b) whether a sub-committee of officials and non-officials was appointed to go through the grant-in-aid rules ; if so, when ;  
 (c) whether the committee has submitted its report ;  
 (d) if so, what action has been taken on the recommendations of the committee ?

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

(b) Yes, in June, 1932.

(c) Yes.

(d) The recommendations of the committee were duly considered and a number of them were accepted.

## GRIEVANCES OF TEACHING STAFF.

**\*4457. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 16, passed at the fourth Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 22nd February, 1930, under the presidency of Mr. K. L. Rallia Ram, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

The conference is of opinion that an Arbitration Board on the lines of Bengal Presidency be constructed in the Punjab to decide the cases of unjustified dismissal and other grievances of the teaching staff of non-Government schools ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
 (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The honourable member's attention is invited to the answer to his question No.\* 4389<sup>1</sup> asked during the current session of the Council.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4458. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 2, passed at the fifth Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 2nd and 3rd May, 1931, under the presidency of Honourable Justice Sir Abdul Qadir, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference notes with regret that instances have occurred in this province, where in spite of the recommendations made by the Educational Department from year to year and the circular of the Minister for Education, local bodies have persistently refused grants-in-aid to girls' schools. The conference is of definite opinion that in the present backward state of female education in the province it is highly deplorable. The conference, therefore, urges upon the Government to pay the arrears out of the lump grants payable to the local bodies concerned and for future make it a condition while allotting grant-in-aid to any local body that any grants sanctioned by the Education Department to any girls' schools shall be deemed as a primary charge on the amount sanctioned and should be paid as a matter of course by the local body ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The honourable member's attention is drawn to my answer to parts (b) and (c) of question No.\* 4447.<sup>1</sup>

SPECIAL CLASSES FOR VERNACULAR STUDENTS.

**\*4459. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 7, passed at the fifth Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 2nd and 3rd May, 1931, under the presidency of Honourable Justice Sir Abdul Qadir, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference has learnt with great concern that the Director of Public Instruction has issued a circular letter prohibiting all schools from opening special classes for vernacular students on pain of losing grants-in-aid for those classes, but has allowed certain district board schools to open those classes. In the opinion of this conference no such restriction should be imposed on any school, but if such restriction is considered necessary, high schools, whether private or district board, should have this privilege ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) The honourable member is referred to my answer to part (a) of question No.\* 4446<sup>2</sup>.

(c) Does not arise.

<sup>1</sup>Page 835 ante.

<sup>2</sup>Page 834 ante.

## TUITION FEES.

**\*4460. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 1, passed at the seventh Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 3rd and 4th March, 1934, which runs as follows, has been communicated to the Government :—

This conference protest strongly against notification No. 17531-G., dated 29th October 1931, making it compulsory for all aided schools to charge tuition fees at the Government rates as it makes education still more expensive and places it beyond the reach of poor parents, and requests the Government to withdraw this notification and allow the schools, as before, to charge lower rates of fees;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;

- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The old rules, which, besides occasioning an unhealthy competition among schools especially to the detriment of Government and Board schools, incidentally increased the liability of both the managements and Government, inasmuch as the former had to spend more and the latter had to increase the grants proportionately, have been amended after very careful consideration. It may, however, be added for the honourable member's information that the amendment provides for the levy of lower than Government rates of fees in poor and backward areas and permission has already been granted to quite a number of schools in such areas to charge lower than the Government rates. The honourable member will be further interested to know that it is accepted as a general principle that while elementary education is largely to be financed by the State, secondary education, especially of the anglo-vernacular type, should be paid for by the parents and yet in this province more than half the cost of secondary education is being borne by Government.

## SCHOOL RECOGNITION RULES.

**\*4461. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 2, passed at the seventh Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 3rd and 4th March, 1934, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference strongly protests against the Rules of Recognition, recently added to the Punjab Education Code, most of which are retrograde, reactionary and highly injurious to the best interests of education and give arbitrary powers to the officers of the Department to unduly interfere in all matters of internal management and organisation of private schools.

If these rules are given effect to, these schools will be under a stricter departmental control than even the Government schools, without enjoying corresponding advantages. This conference most emphatically urges upon the Department the imperative necessity of cancelling or amending these rules in accordance with the suggestions made by the Standing Committee of the non-Government Schools' Federation. This conference is definitely of opinion that these rules would in no case apply to the already recognised schools ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;

- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter?

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

(b) and (c) The resolution implies a misreading of the rules, for they are neither retrograde nor reactionary, nor do they give arbitrary powers to departmental officers unduly to interfere in the internal management and organisation of private schools. It will further interest the honourable member to know that the rules with but a few exceptions are old rules, which were already applicable to schools and have only been codified and published in the Punjab Education Code. Government is, however, considering certain amendments to these rules proposed by the Federation and also examining the question whether the new rules should or should not apply retrospectively to the already recognised schools.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4462. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 3, passed at the seventh Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 3rd and 4th March, 1934, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

Resolved that this Conference records its strong sense of dissatisfaction with the present stereo-typed and monotonous character of schools in this province, and with a view to encourage new enterprise in education so as to give a practical bias to both rural and urban instructions, recommends the Education Department to amend the grant-in-aid rules so that the expenses incurred on this experimentation be regarded as part of the approved expenditure;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;  
(c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The honourable member is referred to Articles 51 and 292: (viii) of the Punjab Education Code. The latter permits experiments and the former provides grants for them.

#### MANAGERS AND HEADMASTERS OF HIGH SCHOOLS.

**\*4463. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 4, passed at the seventh Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 3rd and 4th March, 1934, which runs as follows, was communicated to the Government :—

This conference is strongly of opinion that the managers and headmasters of high schools should be granted freedom in the management, internal economy, discipline and organization of their schools as well as legitimate use of boys' funds and that they should be permitted to make departure from the present inflexible and stereo-typed system of education and to adopt a curriculum which may not only develop intelligence, originality and self-reliance in the boys, but also fit them to earn their livelihood ;

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- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;
- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The managers and head masters of high schools have already complete freedom in the management, organisation, etc., of the schools under them so far as it is consistent with the efficient maintenance of schools and the interests of the pupils and their parents. The head masters are also permitted to utilise boys' funds for the purpose for which they are intended,—vide Article 190 of the Punjab Education Code.

As regards curriculum, Government has already made some radical changes in the syllabus for the Vernacular Final Examination which in its turn will affect the curriculum of the middle schools and adapt education in both urban and rural areas to their needs. Similar changes are under contemplation in the curriculum of primary schools. The Department must continue to protect the educational interests of school children.

#### NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS' FEDERATION.

**\*4464. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether resolution No. 10, passed at the seventh Annual Conference of Teachers and Managers of non-Government schools, held on 3rd and 4th March, 1934, which runs as follows, has been communicated to the Government :—

This conference draws the attention of the Department to the fact that the Punjab non-Government Schools' Federation is a central organization of cosmopolitan nature, and requests the Department to recognize it as such and include the affiliation fee as an item of approved expenditure ;

- (b) if so, what action Government has taken on it ;
- (c) if no action has been taken so far, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) The Education Department is not prepared to give financial assistance from provincial revenues in such cases. The acceptance of the proposal would involve an indirect subvention to the Federation.

- (c) Does not arise.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4465. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent *communiqué* and schedule published by Government regarding settlement of Lyallpur district will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether the period taken for reckoning prices is a normal period ; if not, the years of abnormal prices during this period of 20 years ;
- (b) in which years the crops mentioned in the schedule touched their peak prices ;

- (c) the reasons for considering the period of past twenty years as a "sufficiently long period" to comply with—
- (i) the requirements of law,
  - (ii) the dictates of equity;
- (d) whether he is prepared to give a list of settlements in which the following periods were taken as periods for fixing commutation prices—
- (i) twenty years,
  - (ii) ten years,
  - (iii) five years;
- (e) the period or number of years taken for calculating prices during the previous settlements of the tract now under settlement in the Lyallpur and Sheikhpura districts?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes; according to rule 4 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929, because under this rule the years of abnormal prices are "years of famine or severe scarcity."

(b) These prices may be ascertained by reference to the statistics published from time to time in the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

(c) The honourable member's attention is invited to the reply given to part (b) of his question No. \*4291<sup>1</sup>.

(d) No; because the information cannot be collected without inordinate delay.

(e) Ten years.

#### DISTRICT BOARD, LYALLPUR.

**\*4466. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of nominated members has recently been increased to seven in the District Board of Lyallpur;

(b) the reasons for the increase?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) On the transfer of certain areas of the adjoining districts to the district of Lyallpur the number of elected members of the Board was increased by two and the number of members to be appointed by name was increased by one.

**Mian Nurullah :** Does not this upset the ratio, if there was any, fixed already between the elected and nominated strength?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** There are different proportions in different district boards.

**Mian Nurullah :** Has not that proportion been upset by this change in this case?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I really cannot say ; I shall look up ; it is only a mathematical problem. I do not know the total number of members.

**Mian Nurullah :** I shall tell you ; it is 86 elected and 6 nominated.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** If you know you can calculate. You know more mathematics than I do.

**Mian Nurullah :** Why has it been upset ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Has it been upset ?

**Mian Nurullah :** Yes, it has.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Send me the calculations and I shall see.

#### FODDER.

**\*4467. Mian Nurullah :** In connection with the settlement in Lyallpur, will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state how many acres of fodder were sown in a circle for which inquiry is complete during the year for which the prices have been taken ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Separate figures for fodder are not yet available for any circle.

**Mian Nurullah :** Will the Government be prepared to supply those figures when available ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Yes.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4468. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent *communiqué* and schedule published by Government regarding settlement of Lyallpur district, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state in case there has been no sale of any of the crops mentioned in section 4 of the schedule, how the price has been arrived at ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to his question No. 1141<sup>1</sup>.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4469. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the instance taken in the last few lines of section of the *communiqué*, recently published by Government in connection with the settlement of Lyallpur district, will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to make it more clear by taking the concrete case of the circle for which enquiry may have been completed ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** " Presumably paragraph 7 of the *communiqué* is meant. If so, I may inform the honourable member that the necessary enquiries have not yet been completed in any circle.

**Mian Nurullah :** Will the Government give this information when ready ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Yes.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4470. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent *communiqué* and schedule published by Government regarding settlement of Lyallpur district, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the index number calculated with the price of the last settlement;
- (b) the index number worked out with prices now assumed;
- (c) the percentage that (b) forms of (a)?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The comparison proposed by the honourable member cannot be made because all the data required for the standard index figure according to paragraph 6 (6) of the *communiqué* recently issued, are not yet available.

**Mian Nurullah :** Will it be done as soon as that is ready?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Yes.

## SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4471. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent Government *communiqué* regarding settlement of Lyallpur district, section 6 (2), which states that prices of leading firms will be taken for the purposes of giving remissions while rule 4 of 1929 lays down a different method, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state whether he agrees to adopt the lower price of the two mentioned above?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Rule 4 of the Land Revenue Assessment Rules, 1929, relates to prices to be adopted for assessment. They are commonly known as commutation prices. Paragraph 6 (2) of the *communiqué* relates to prices to be adopted for the grant of remissions. Remissions will be granted in accordance with paragraph 6 (6) of the *communiqué*. No question of adopting the lower of two sets of prices arises.

**Mian Nurullah :** Paragraph 6 of the *communiqué* is not a law as yet and will that be preferred to a rule?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** It is a Government *communiqué*.

**Mian Nurullah :** Has it the force of a rule?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Government is committed to that policy.

## EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

**\*4472. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the year in which a committee consisting of representatives of the Education Department and of private schools was formed by the Director of Public Instruction to discuss rules of grants-in-aid and make certain recommendations;
- (b) what recommendations were made by that committee and what action has the department taken on those recommendations?



**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The honourable member's attention is drawn to my answer to question No. \*4456.<sup>1</sup>

The committee was only advisory and it is not in the public interest to publish its recommendations.

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### PASSED CANDIDATES FROM ROORKEE ENGINEERING COLLEGE AND RASUL ENGINEERING SCHOOL.

**1128. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of Punjabis that have passed out of the Roorkee Engineering College and Rasul Engineering School during the past ten years, communitywise, and the number of agriculturists and non-agriculturists among them?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Statements giving the required information are laid out on the table. It is regretted there is no record to show the number of agriculturist and non-agriculturist Punjabi students that have passed out from Roorkee during the past ten years.

*Statement showing communitywise the number of Punjabis who have passed the Civil Engineer Class and Overseer Class of the Thomason Civil Engineering College, Roorkee, during the past ten years.*

Year.	Christians.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Totals.
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#### CIVIL ENGINEER CLASS.

1934	..	..	11	..	1	12
1933	..	..	10	3	5	18
1932	..	..	15	3	2	20
1931	..	1	11	1	..	13
1930	..	1	11	..	3	15
1929	..	..	12	..	2	14
1928	..	..	9	2	1	12
1927	..	..	15	..	2	17
1926	..	..	15	1	1	17
1925	..	..	10	1	1	12
Total	..	2	119	11	18	150

#### OVERSEER CLASS.

1925	..	..	2	..	..	2
1926-34	..	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd	Nd

*Statement showing communitywise the number of Punjabis who have passed the Overseer Class of the Government School of Engineering, Punjab, Rasul, during the last ten years.*

Year.	Total number passed.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.
1926 .. ..	46	18	18	10	15	31
1927 .. ..	44	19	18	7	13	31
1928 .. ..	45	25	7	13	20	25
1929 .. ..	48	22	11	15	24	24
1930 .. ..	48	24	10	14	22	26
1931 .. ..	55	29	12	14	26	29
1932 .. ..	42	18	14	10	12	30
1933 .. ..	53	21	22	10	24	29
1934 .. ..	38	15	15	8	20	18
1935 .. ..	39	16	16	7	15	24
Total ..	458	207	143	108	191	267

*Statement showing communitywise the number of Punjabis who have passed the Draftsmen Class of the Government School of Engineering, Punjab, Rasul, during the last ten years.*

Year.	Total number passed.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.
1926 .. ..	8	5	1	2	..	5
1927 .. ..	7	4	2	1	2	5
1928 .. ..	9	7	2	..	..	9
1929 .. ..	14	11	2	1	..	14
1930 .. ..	15	13	1	1	1	14
1931 .. ..	8	8	..	..	..	8
1932 .. ..	14	9	2	3	..	14
1933 .. ..	11	7	1	3	1	10
1934 .. ..	9	4	4	1	2	7
1935 .. ..	7	2	2	3	1	6
Total ..	102	70	17	15	7	95

## RECRUITMENT OF ENGINEERS, BUILDINGS AND ROADS BRANCH.

**1129. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some posts have fallen vacant in the Buildings and Roads Branch, and it is proposed to recruit some engineers ;

(b) if so, what is the number of posts to be filled ;

(c) when the recruitment is likely to take place ?

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

(b) Six.

(c) The Public Service Commission (Government of India) have been asked to advertise and select recruits for these posts.

## ABOHAR-SITOGUNNO ROAD.

**1130. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in what class the Abohar-Sitogunno road in the Ferozepore district comes in A, B or C.

(b) whether it is a fact that in some parts there are sand hills, and in other parts thorny bushes, which compel the traffic to pass through adjoining fields ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the District Board, Ferozepore, has not maintained the road properly for a long time, much to the inconvenience of the public of the locality ;

(d) if so, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) In class ' B.'

(b) Yes.

(c) The District Board has not been able to maintain this road properly on account of lack of funds, but during the year 1934-35, the Board engaged a gang consisting of 1 mate and 15 coolies for 6 months to repair this road. The gang did the work of uprooting bushes and removing some sand, etc., with the result that the condition of the road has now improved somewhat.

(d) None.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

**1131. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the buildings of the Lahore Infectious Diseases Hospital have been condemned as unfit for human habitation ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the main sewer of the city passes close to the hospital ;

(c) whether it is a fact that it is surrounded by low-lying stagnant areas on which vegetables are grown ;

- (d) whether it is a fact that nearby is a slaughter-house to which the flies from the Infectious Diseases Hospital have uninterrupted access ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that no special provision exists for disposing of the refuse and night soil of the hospital ;
- (f) if the facts be as stated above, what action Government proposes to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No.

(b) The main covered sewer of the city passes at a distance of about 585 feet from the hospital.

(c) No. Only on the south of the hospital there is a depression where rain water collects on private land. Action for getting this depression filled up is being taken.

(d) In so far as they are not impeded by the wire-gauze doors and windows of the hospital and the slaughter-house.

(e) No. Arrangements for the removal and disposal of night-soil and rubbish are provided.

(f) A conference of Government officials and representatives of the Lahore Municipal Committee was convened by the Commissioner, Lahore division, under instructions from Government, to consider the question of improvement of the sanitary conditions of this hospital. The recommendations of the conference have now been received and are under the consideration of Government.

#### ELECTRIFICATION OF THE CIVIL HOSPITAL AT FERROZEPORE.

**1132. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is proposed to electrify the civil hospital at Ferozepore city ; if so, what is the delay in having the work carried out ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Yes. The delay in carrying out the work is due to lack of funds.

#### "BORE HOLE LATRINE," MATHRA DAS HOSPITAL.

**1133. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that experiments regarding "bore hole latrine" have been carried out in Mathra Das Hospital, Moga, district Ferozepore ; if so, with what result ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** No.

#### DISTRICT BOARD ROAD, FERROZEPORE.

**1134. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the mileage of metalled roadway in charge of the District Board, Ferozepore, and how much of it has been tarred ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Mileage of metalled roadway in charge of District Board, Ferozepore .. 89.20.

Tarred portion of this metalled roadway .. 36.41 miles.

## MOGA TAHSIL.

**1135. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that it is proposed to transfer the Moga tahsil from Ferozepore district to Ludhiana district ; if so, on what grounds, and by when the proposal is likely to be carried out ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.

## FAZILKA TAHSIL.

**1136. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that it is proposed to take away the Fazilka tahsil from the Ferozepore district and attach it to another district ; if so, to which district it is intended to attach it ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.

## KASUR TAHSIL.

**1137. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that it is proposed to take away the Kasur tahsil from Lahore district and include it in Ferozepore district ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.

## BEGGARS IN LAHORE.

**1138. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether Government is aware that leper beggars and other beggars suffering from contagious diseases are to be seen in Lahore in the neighbourhood of the public places such as Anarkali, Tollinton market, railway station, museum, zoological garden etc., much to the serious inconvenience of the public and risk of spread of disease ; if so, what action Government is prepared to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Yes. Government is aware that there are a few lepers among the beggars of Lahore. In order to lessen the beggar nuisance, it was suggested to the police, in accordance with the assurance conveyed to this House by the Honourable Member for Finance in the course of the recent debate on the anti-beggary bill, that action should be taken under the Municipal Act, section 151, and action in several cases has already been taken.

## CIVIL SERVANTS, INDIAN DEFENCE FORCE.

**1139. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the Great War, a number of civil servants in the subordinate services of the province joined the sixth Lahore Infantry, Indian Defence Force, Indian branch, a combatant force ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that along with other rules about this force it was laid down at the time of recruitment, that in matters of civil appointments the members of the Indian Defence Force would be given preference over others who had not rendered military service, provided the former possessed the necessary educational qualifications;
- (c) whether he is aware that the Government of India in their resolution of the Home Department (Establishment) No. 1099 of 8th August, 1919, laid down the principle of recognition for such persons and of preference in civil employment and the Punjab Government followed it, confirming the same principle in detail, in the same year;
- (d) whether Government will give a list of such civil servants as joined the Indian Defence Force (Indian branch) and what special recognition was given to each of them, apart from ordinary promotion due according to seniority or due to revision of salary scales;
- (e) whether it is a fact that their children were not granted military scholarships, or scholarships out of the Silver Wedding Fund, in spite of applications and recommendations, and in spite of fulfilling other conditions;
- (f) whether it is a fact that none of these civil servants was appointed to the upper provincial service, during the last 16 years after the War, though some of them possessed the highest educational qualifications;
- (g) what Government intends to do in the matter?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**1140. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent *communiqué* and schedules published by Government *re* settlement of Lyallpur district, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the names of the 'leading' firms referred to;
- (b) the prices recorded by them during the last 20 years, if any;
- (c) how they compare with the prices obtained under the existing system of reckoning prices;
- (d) the difference between prices obtained as suggested in (a) and (c)?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Government have not yet selected the firms.

(b), (c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**1141. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent *communiqué* and schedule published by Government *re* settlement of Lyallpur district, will the Honourable Revenue Member please (a) lay on the table a list of "the exceedingly large number of chaks" from which enquiries mentioned

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in section 4 of the Schedule have been made as regards prices of commodities that are not sold ;

(ii) State—

(a) the amount that was sold actually, if any, and at what price in respect of each of the following, during the past twenty years—

(i) fodder ;

(ii) wheat straw ;

(iii) gram straw ;

(b) what special considerations decided the selection of these chaks ;

(c) how many of them are situated within ten miles of the market, or the railway station and how many at a longer distance, from the above, than that ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (i) More than 100 chaks were visited personally by the Settlement Officer or Extra Assistant Settlement Officer for this purpose, but a record of them was not kept.

(ii) (a) No figures are available.

(b) Chaks of every class were selected, i.e., peasant, *nazarana* and yeomen, throughout all the tahsils comprised in the settlement.

(c) Chaks in both these categories were visited but the number in each is not known.

#### SETTLEMENT OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**1142. Mian Nurullah :** With reference to the recent *communiqué* and schedule published by Government *re* settlement of Lyallpur district, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total area under—

(i) orchards ;

(ii) gardens ;

(iii) vegetables ;

(iv) tobacco ;

in any one circle for which inquiry is complete ;

(b) the average per square of each of these in the said circle or circles ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Separate areas for the four items are not available.

(b) Does not arise.

#### REMISSIONS.

**1143. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please lay on the table a chart showing the yields of crops mentioned in the reports of various tahsildars, revenue assistants and deputy commissioners while reporting for remission due to failure of crops or fall in prices, during the last few years beginning from 1928 in the district of Lyallpur ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Government do not consider it in the public interest to publish such reports.

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

STRIKE IN THE VICTORIA DIAMOND JUBILEE HINDU TECHNICAL  
INSTITUTE, LAHORE.

**Shrimati Lekhwati Jain** (North-East Towns, non-Muhammadan, Urban): I beg leave to move for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation created by the arrests of fifty-one students of the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Hindu Technical Institute, Lahore, likely to lead to a general strike of the students of Lahore.

**Mr. President**: I have received the following notice for adjournment of the business of the House:

"I hereby give notice to make a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation created by the arrests of fifty-one students of the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Technical Institute, Lahore, likely to lead to a general strike of the students of Lahore."

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I am sorry to have to oppose the honourable lady member, but on two grounds I think I must oppose this motion for adjournment. The first is that it appears to be doubtful whether the motion—

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq**: Is the Honourable Member in order in explaining his position now? He has only to say whether he objects to it or not.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: Is it your ruling, Sir, that I should only say whether I object to it or not?

**Mr. President**: Yes, but—

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: Then I object. But I have to raise a point of order as to whether the motion is admissible.

**Mr. President**: The grounds on which the Honourable Member considers the motion to be inadmissible may be stated.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: The grounds on which I object are, first, that the motion does not appear to be admissible under the rules. The motion must not be on a matter which is under adjudication by a court of law. The students have been arrested for an offence punishable under section 341, Indian Penal Code, and the case will presumably come before a court of law; therefore, it is under adjudication and does not appear to me that it is admissible under the circumstances. The other objection is that it is not a matter of public importance. It is distinctly of importance to the students concerned and the staff, but there is no reason whatever to apprehend a general strike of students and it does not appear to me to be a matter of urgent public importance.

**Mr. President**: Is the matter under adjudication by a court of law?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: The Deputy Commissioner's report says that the students have been arrested under the orders of the City Magistrate for an offence punishable under section 341, Indian Penal



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Code, and as none of them has been bailed out, they have been sent to the judicial lock-up. It seems to me that the case is under adjudication.

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** I was unaware of this motion until I came to the House. I understand from the report that the magistrate acting under the orders of the District Magistrate went to the spot. There he found that certain persons were committing a cognizable offence. The magistrate then took action in accordance with section 190, sub-section (1) (c) of the Criminal Procedure Code, that is to say, acting upon his own knowledge or suspicion that an offence had been committed, he proceeded to pass an order directing the arrest of certain persons and their enlargement on bail.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** He acted under section 64.

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** It appears to me that the only proceedings which now can happen are that that magistrate or under section 192 some other competent magistrate must pass an order in accordance with the law either trying them or discharging them. I think the matter is under adjudication by a court of law. Is it not ?

**Mr. President :** Was the District Magistrate acting in his judicial or executive capacity when he deputed the City Magistrate to go to the spot ? Was the application submitted to him as a regular complaint or only as a piece of information ?

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** Whatever the capacity of the District Magistrate may have been I submit that the City Magistrate was acting in his capacity as a magistrate under section 64 of the Criminal Procedure Code. When any offence is committed in the presence of a magistrate within the local limits of his jurisdiction he may himself arrest the offender under that section. I think that is the preliminary step and after that, section 190 and the sections that follow will apply.

**Mr. President :** The position appears to be that the City Magistrate was ordered by the District Magistrate to proceed to the spot, to see whether any offence was likely to be committed. He went there and when a cognizable offence was committed in his presence, he ordered the offenders to be arrested under section 64, Criminal Procedure Code. Under section 191 of the Code if the accused object to his trying them, he will not try the case ; but the case is before a magistrate. So, I am inclined to hold that the case is *sub judice* and that, therefore, the motion is out of order.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I just learn that the accused were produced last night before a first class magistrate and remanded.

**Mr. President :** If the City Magistrate had taken cognizance of the offence which was committed in his presence, and if under section 190 (c) of the Criminal Procedure Code the case was before him, why were the accused produced for remand before another magistrate ? Were they produced under the orders of the magistrate who had them arrested, or he had committed them, after their arrest, to police custody, and the police, acting under section 167, Criminal Procedure Code, produced them for remand before another magistrate ?

**Mr. J. W. Hearn :** It appears that the case is *sub judice* and that is what we are now concerned with.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The matter has become rather interesting and if you will kindly allow me I shall say a few words. The Honourable Finance Member has made his last statement on information which was I believe communicated to him by a member of this House who was asked to ascertain the exact state of affairs. All that has been communicated to him is that the accused were produced before a magistrate and remanded. It is not clear whether it was the same or another magistrate before whom the accused were produced. Probably it was before the same magistrate.

**Mr. President :** If the case was taken cognizance of by the City Magistrate, the accused were in his custody and not in the custody of the police, and, therefore, the police could not produce them before another magistrate for remand.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I do not know who the magistrate was before whom the accused were produced. I asked the Finance Secretary to find out whether the accused have been produced before a magistrate and he has come back with the information that they have been produced before a magistrate. We do not know who the magistrate is.

**Mr. President :** Under these circumstances it is doubtful whether the case can be considered to be *sub judice*.

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** May I make a submission? I learn now that the accused were produced with an incomplete challan before another magistrate, not the City Magistrate. But may I invite your attention to section 192 (1) of the Code? The District Magistrate and, I understand, a City Magistrate, may empower, under that sub-section, any magistrate of the first class who has taken cognizance of a case to transfer it to any other specified magistrate.

**Mr. President :** Even in that case the question is whether the City Magistrate, who presumably took cognizance of the offence under section 190, Criminal Procedure Code, transferred the case to another magistrate; and if he transferred it how could the police produce the accused persons before the latter for a remand?

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** I do not know the full details of the case. But as far as I can see section 192 (2) does empower the District Magistrate to order the transfer of the case even though the City Magistrate had himself taken cognizance of it as a magistrate.

**Mr. President :** In the absence of full facts the question is not free from doubt.

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** I do not know whether I made a mistake and quoted sub-section (1) when I should have quoted sub-section (2) of section 192. Will you be so good as to see sub-section (2)?

**Mr. President :** Sub-section (2) of section 192 does not deal with the matter in question. The alleged offenders were, no doubt arrested by the City Magistrate; but the question is whether by that arrest alone he took cognizance of the offence, and the case is *sub judice*? After their arrest,

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did he commit them to police custody or magisterial custody? If they are in the custody of the police, and apparently they are there, the case is not under adjudication yet. But if they are not in police custody, under what law or authority did the police produce them for remand before any magistrate?

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** The original arrest was surely made not by the police, but by the City Magistrate in the exercise of his powers as magistrate?

**Mr. President :** If the case was pending in a magistrate's court, why did the police produce the accused before any magistrate for remand?

**Mr. J. D. Anderson :** It appears that there may have been some mistake by the police or the police might not have understood the legal implication of the action. But I think it is obvious that the City Magistrate acted as a magistrate and on the information available I think the only reasonable conclusion is that the District Magistrate has transferred the case from the City Magistrate.

**Mr. President :** It is not clear why the police produced the accused for remand before a magistrate?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** No one ever said that the police produced the accused.

**Mr. President :** After their arrest by a magistrate to whose custody were the accused committed under section 64, Criminal Procedure Code?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** They were in judicial lock-up.

**Mr. President :** There are only two persons who could have produced the accused: (i) the arresting magistrate himself, or (ii) the person or persons to whose custody they were committed by him.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The police brings them every time from the judicial lock-up. If there are twenty hearings in a case the police will bring the accused every time.

**Mr. President :** Only under section 344, Criminal Procedure Code, if the case is under trial or under section 167; not under any other section of the Code.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** If the police have taken a remand the case is not *sub judice* because the police may leave the accused. Before the accused are taken to the court for trial you cannot hold the case to be *sub judice*. And the fact that there has been a remand shows that it is in the hands of the police.

**Mr. J. W. Hearn :** After a challan is made it is necessary for the magistrate to discharge the accused before they can be released, and to discharge them it is necessary that the police should produce them for discharge before a magistrate. If the challan is made the case becomes *sub judice*.

**Mr. President :** Is the Government prepared to make that statement?

**Mr. J. W. Hearn :** An incomplete challan was placed before the magistrate. We have got that definite information. The accused were produced before the magistrate with an incomplete challan. That being so, it is necessary for a magistrate to discharge them before they can be released. Hence the case is *sub judice*.

**Mr. President :** If the Government Member is prepared to say that the matter is under adjudication, I will hold the case to be *sub judice*. But if he is not prepared to make such a statement, I must give the benefit of doubt to the member who asks for leave to move the adjournment motion. (*Honourable Member, Finance, did not rise to make any statement*). The question is how many members are in favour of leave being granted ?

(*Less than 20 members rising in their places in favour of the leave being granted the leave was not granted.*)

## RESOLUTIONS.

### RULES RE RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

**Mr. President :** The Council will now resume discussion on the resolution *re*. Rules for Recognition of Schools.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** (Hoshiarpur, non-Muhammadan, Rural) : Yesterday the House was discussing the resolution moved by Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram, relating to the rules framed by the Education Department for recognition of schools. Before I proceed to express my opinion with regard to those rules I want to say one thing. I have been very closely connected with educational institutions and it has been my good fortune to come in contact with the present Director of Public Instruction and his predecessor. Here I wish to pay my complement to both of them because whenever I went to them to place my grievances relating to educational matters before them they gave me every facility to discuss them with them. If I rise to speak on this resolution to-day it is only with a desire for the growth and prosperity of educational movement in the province and nothing else. It is the duty of every one of us to see that the rules are so framed and so interpreted by the Education Department that the educational development of the province is not hindered.

I have very carefully read these rules of recognition and I may say at once that if these rules are enforced private enterprise is bound to suffer. Undoubtedly some of these rules were framed in 1919 or earlier, but fortunately for us they were never strictly observed. The result of that was that there has been a steady growth of private educational institutions. As a matter of fact these rules were in the first instance framed by the Punjab University and are given in the University Calendar for 1934-35 at pages 116-17. These rules are quite liberal. Unfortunately, however, these liberal rules were to my mind illiberally interpreted and enforced by the Education Department and that is why there arose a great agitation against those rules. Before I proceed any further I just want to give the House the rules which the University Calendar gives:

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The first condition for recognition of a school for the purpose of Matriculation Examination is that the existence of the school is generally desirable. Compare this condition with the condition imposed by the Education Department which says: "That the school is needed in the locality on educational grounds". It will be observed that the University rule is certainly more liberal. The second rule of the University is "That its financial stability is reasonably assured, and its managing body, where there is one, properly constituted." The corresponding rule of the Education Department is: "That it is under a regularly constituted managing body which is approved by the department and is registered, every change in the management being reported to the department for approval." It will be observed again that the spirit of these two rules is entirely different. Still if the rule of the department framed 20 years ago had been enforced many of the schools would have been closed and private educational enterprise would not have developed as it has done in this province. I may draw the attention of the House to the fact that according to the University rule the managing body may consist of only one individual which is not permitted by the rule of the Education Department.

Then again, the University rule prescribes "that it teaches the proper subjects up to a proper standard, and that due provision is made for the instruction, health, recreation and discipline of the pupils; that teachers are suitable as regards character, number and qualifications; that the fees to be paid will not involve such competition with any existing school as will be unfair and injurious to the interests of education; that inter-school rules are observed; and that no text-books are in use which are disapproved by Government." These are the University rules. Honourable members will see that they are very liberal and fortunately for the province under these rules the educational development of the province has proceeded at a very rapid pace. The rules framed by the Department on the other hand are very stringent, very narrow in their outlook and are likely to deal a blow to private enterprise if they are enforced with rigour which is now being displayed by the subordinates in the department. Besides these there are other rules framed by the Education Department relating to maintenance of efficiency of instruction, satisfactory discipline, tuition fees and subscriptions to boys' funds, maintenance of records and registers, participation in political activities, dissemination of views tending to excite feelings of disloyalty and disaffection against Government or of hatred between different classes of His Majesty's subjects and so on. There is another rule relating to religious instruction in schools, that is that no pupil in a recognised school shall be compelled to attend classes in which religious instruction is given or to take part in any religious exercises if the parent or guardian has formally communicated to the school authorities his wish that the pupil should not be so compelled. (*An honourable member*: What are your objections to these rules?) My object in referring to these rules is to show that they are so narrow in their outlook and so strict in their application that if they are ever applied no private enterprise can thrive under these departmental rules.

The problem of education now is not limited merely to urban areas. It extends to rural areas also where the people cannot understand these

rules. Take for instance the question of registration of the managing body of a school. If the rule relating to this question is to be enforced, as pointed out by Mr. Mukand Lal Puri no self-respecting person would care to start a school of his own. We must not forget that during the past 25 years and more the Punjab has spread education through private agency to such an extent that it is the object of envy of the whole of India. There are hundreds of schools in the Punjab, primary, secondary and middle schools, no doubt managed by religious bodies or by individuals—Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians—and these are responsible for a great deal of awakening in this province. That is why the non-Government Schools Federation brought forward this resolution and Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, everybody in fact condemned the rules which are now finding a place in the Education Code. Their contention was that these schools ask for bread and they are given stones instead. That particular resolution to which reference was made was moved by a Hindu and was supported by two Muslim headmasters and by a Sikh and by a Christian gentleman. Here is a responsible and expert body of educational opinion which does not see eye to eye with the officials of the department which is responsible for seeing that the rules are observed. And if rules are to be framed for the future they should be made more liberal. Take, for example, the question of the financial stability of a school. The Government is faced with

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a very strong financial problem. They cannot give grants-in-aid to all the schools. On the other hand we find that the people cannot give subscriptions now. The result is that if this rule is applied, many schools will have to close their doors. There are no individuals who could give large donations as they used to do. The Director of Public Instruction may well say, "what are you going to do under these circumstances?" What do we do under these circumstances when a man falls ill? These are days of depression. The department will have to look upon such a problem with sympathy. Fortunately such stringent rules are not to be found in the rules which have been framed by the Punjab University. These rules should therefore be framed in very wide and generous terms. The result would be that in the days of financial stringency the school somehow or other will make the two ends meet and after that is over it will again be in a flourishing condition. I can give a number of instances where the teachers of their own accord made great sacrifices and were prepared to accept sometimes 50 per cent. of their pay. The Education Department should encourage such schools and should encourage those who make sacrifices. I know personally of a school in my own village, a high school where the teachers have taken the view that they must accept smaller pay so long as the financial stringency lasts; but the department always comes down upon such schools and says "what is your reserve fund"? The result is that the schools are closed and large number of teachers are thus thrown out of employment and they starve. I can name to the Director of Public Instruction any number of such schools which are under this self-denying ordinance. This is a matter which must be tackled in all seriousness. If my suggestion is acceptable to the Honourable Minister for Education I will just make a request to him that he should ask the Punjab University to admit all students who have passed the Matriculation standard to the colleges irrespective of the fact whether they come from a recognised or unrecognised school. (An honourable member: Do not say that.) That is

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undoubtedly the case in advanced countries. They do not ask you from which school you come, what is the nature of your school and so on. None at all, and I do not see why the Punjab University should not afford the same facility to the admission of students for colleges as is given by Oxford and Cambridge and other Universities in England. The whole system of education here is being officialised to the great detriment of education. (*An honourable member* : These refer only to high schools.) I am referring to all schools. I say that the rules which are made for the high schools are very liberal when we compare them with the rules framed by the department for the middle schools. Even the Punjab University should be made to yield to the voice of the people and their rules should be made even more liberal. That is what I wish to submit to the Director of Public Instruction. The Director of Public Instruction would permit me to give a personal instance. Here is a school in my own village ; I shall not name it ; but here is a school in the backward area. It is recognised from year to year and permanent recognition is not given. Through the generosity of the Director of Public Instruction and the Honourable Minister for Education it gets recognition year after year, but it is not permanently recognised. The result is that I have to go year after year first to the divisional inspector, then to the Director of Public Instruction and then to the Minister. So far as I am concerned I once told the Director of Public Instruction that if the grant is not given I will take him to my village for closing the school. This you find is the case with other schools too. Thus the result is that rural education in that area would suffer. The railway is about 18 miles on one side of the village and a river is on the other. With all these factors if the inspector goes there and he is sympathetic he recommends for recognition. But if he is an inspector with a less liberal bent of mind he would recommend the closing of such school. Government should say openly and frankly either that it is prepared to take all the schools and give them grant-in-aid and they will have efficient school as you find in England and other European countries. But if you cannot do so then do not insist upon too much efficiency. They want to see efficiency everywhere ; otherwise the school is closed. That is how we are face to face with a very serious problem. It really cuts at the root of rural education. Schools in cities will still flourish in some way or other, because the urban people would be able to put proper pressure or more than proper pressure on the Education Department. But people living in village areas would find it impossible to make their claim heard in the same way as people in urban areas. In my own district on account of these stringent rules many schools which had flourished for a number of years had to close their doors. The schools had existed for a number of years but these rules come into existence or these rules are strictly enforced and the result is that these schools which had flourished and which gave education to the sons of the peasants have to close their doors now. It is therefore on this account that a very large-hearted and generous policy is needed at the present moment. The Education Minister should rise to the occasion. It would be in the fitness of things if the Education Minister and his Director of Public Instruction call a conference of these people who are interested in the cause of education and with their help devise a scheme for the educational advancement of this province. It is unfortunate that we all see, whether we are Ministers or mem-

bers of an educational department through coloured classes, those of officialdom. That should not be the case. I therefore request the Director of Public Instruction that before he takes the final step and before his retirement he should give to the province such generous rules of recognition that people who come later on will be thankful to him and will say here was a Director of Public Instruction who felt for the needs of the people and worked for the advancement of education, especially education in rural areas. In rural areas where the students spend only Rs. 2 or 3 a month to get education up to the high school standard cannot be expected to go to Lahore or Amritsar and other places. My suggestion is firstly that the rules framed by the Punjab University should be accepted by the Education Department for the middle schools, as they are found in the Calendar for the High Schools. Even with regard to these rules, those which trouble the people should also be made more generous as they in their application sometimes work great hardship. Their point is that if the rules are enforced, the result will be killing private enterprise in rural areas, because you require the managing body to be registered, every change in the managing body should be reported to the department, every new person should have the approval or a certificate from the Education Department and so on. These should not be there. With regard to the agreement between the staff and the management all these things are not needed. People should be there without any such agreement because they do not find any employment anywhere. The result is that where you require Rs. 50 for a teacher, you can find a teacher for Rs. 25 and if you provide these stringent rules, the managing bodies will not be able to accept those regulations because they cannot carry them out. There must be fair bargain on both sides. The result of your rules will be that education will be stopped and will be killed. I was greatly surprised to hear Mr. Afzal Haq supporting the Government (*Interruption*) because in 1924 I brought forward a resolution and he was one of my supporters and we are repeating the same thing in 1935 after 11 years and we say that education has gone down, that the schools are closing their doors under the supervision of the Education Department and the result will be that if they are enforced with greater stringency in the future the Punjab Government will have to say that the whole education is officialised and is concentrated in certain areas—not in rural areas. You can talk as much as you like of rural education, but there will be no rural education in the future. The moment you enforce these rules with rigour, private enterprise will receive a set back from which it will never recover. Why should a public body go out of its way and collect funds if they are to be put down by the Education Department? Everybody cannot be Sir George Anderson or Mr. Sanderson or Sir Firoz Khan Noon. They may have very wide sympathy. But the officials see everything with coloured glasses. There will be officialdom and *hakumat* everywhere. I therefore submit that I only want for the present the acceptance of the University rules for their guidance by the Education Department making generous and liberal amendments.

**Mr. R. Sanderson** (Director of Public Instruction): Before I go further into the detail of the debate I have one or two general statements to make. The first is that when this financial stringency came upon the province and when I was called upon to cut my budget to the bone, I made



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a promise to my Minister that I would not close a single necessary and efficient school. I challenge any one in this House to accuse me of having allowed a single efficient and necessary school to close. That has been my policy throughout the period of extreme financial difficulty. Another point of policy has arisen. The old old statement about the high cost of a Government school as compared with the ordinary aided school has been once more brought before us. There is a certain amount of truth in that; but there is a certain inaccuracy as well. When such statements are made the fact that the gross cost of the Government school is given is not made clear and the income from fees is omitted from the calculation while for private school the bare grant-in-aid is given and this cannot be more than 75 per cent. of the difference between approved expenditure and the fee income of the school; the assumption is that the money that the parents give and the money which the management is contributing is not public fund. I, on the other hand, claim that all this is public money spent on the cause of education. I admit frankly that our Government schools are in some places expensive and must be expensive. We--when I say "we" I mean Government and the Ministry of Education,—are much more closely allied to the spirit of missionaries and we do open schools where no tradesman would care to open a school with profit in view so that all sections of the community may benefit by these schools. We provide teaching in the various languages of the province where it is even barely justified because the various religions of the Punjab force us to do so. That has always been the case. I now turn to the years after the War, when the Punjabis who had served all the world over came back and said that education was a great thing and asked us to give them education. Some even before they came back sent money. The honourable the Leader of the National Unionist Party will perhaps remember the large sums of money that the few Gaur Brahmins on active service subscribed towards the Gaur Brahmin School, Rohtak, to which I gave recognition in 1919. There are many other cases. His own school, the Jat Heroes Memorial School, was encouraged by Government and even at one time housed by Government, rather a generous act, but one that Government felt was due. So, as I look throughout the province, I can recall many other cases. My honourable friend from Shahpur sitting opposite to me knows Nawanshehr and knows the road up to that valley in memory of the men that went to the war from it. There is at the entrance to that road a great stone gateway with an inscription to the glory of those that never came back. The Nawanshehr Government school can never be a successful business proposition. It is a gift from Government to the Awans who served it so well. Again the Government schools and the Government Intermediate college in Dharamsala are a gift to the Dogras. I can mention place after place throughout the province where such schools have been established. They are not economic or money-making propositions. They are expensive to an extent far beyond the cost of a communal school run on an ordinary business basis. Only one community could open a school in remote Dalwal, it is run by a Roman Catholic mission, and is one of the most successful and one of the best schools in the province. Therefore I think that it is somewhat unfair to point out constantly that Government waste their money over these schools in backward areas. (Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit: Would you kindly speak in a higher voice?) I think that it

is rather unfriendly, even unjust, to taunt us with the additional cost of such schools. I can quote you Government schools, schools in urban areas, where our *per capita* cost is much below the average *per capita* cost for the province. The last time I examined the financial position of the Government High School at Kasur I found that it costs one rupee per boy per mensem to give him first class education with a hundred per cent. success in examination, though I would not claim success in examination as an essential test of a school as there are many others. Therefore I would ask people to leave for once this stale argument against our Government schools. I would also ask them to think of what I have said in the beginning about my promise to my Minister. It is not the intention of our rules to close schools; and I say that despite these rules—these are very good rules, very wise rules,—despite this appalling financial stringency, we have not closed a single necessary and efficient school. I am not talking merely of high schools. I am speaking for the remote middle schools, and the village schools to which I myself go in person. That is the broad ground of our position in opposing what has been said to-day. I think as I look around me there are many here who would oppose the suggestion of closing of Government schools. There is one such here who spoke against the rules yesterday. Three winters ago with much toil and sweat I went to Naraingarh, a neighbourhood wherefrom comes the honourable member representing Ambala Muslims. He welcomed me there. I am afraid contrary to service regulations he gave me tea and read me an address in which he said I was one of the wisest administrators that he had ever met and he prayed on behalf of his own community and all the other zamindars of other communities that I should not close Naraingarh Government High School, a school which Sir George Anderson opened on my very strong recommendation, I think, in the autumn of 1927. He said the closing of that school would be an appalling calamity to the zamindars of that remote area. (*An honourable member*: You have not closed it?) No, I have not closed it. In accordance with my custom I said a few kind words. I explained to the people there that it was their poverty that had led me to advise my Director to close a Government high school which was not doing well and use the money that was spent over it in opening the school at Naraingarh. I had known Naraingarh for some eight years and the first time I went there I found a most inferior district board school; and I had in my mind when I gave my advice that this was an area which supplied soldiers and was also a backward area. So at a considerable cost to the Government we maintain that school. I hold that if education is worth anything at all we are bound to establish these schools in such areas. That is my general outlook, my ambition and my desire; and I think that there are many members of this Council who will hold what I hold, faced by those ideals and those intentions.

I now turn to more mundane matters, the speeches of yesterday and to-day. My old friend, Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram, a very old friend, one whom I respect greatly, opened the debate. He did not, I think, intend to give me anything to argue about. In fact if I may say so without offence his opening speech was in the nature of a starting pistol—and a starting pistol is loaded with nothing but a blank cartridge. With such a weapon, indeed, he opened the debate. Now I turn to the speech of Mr. Mukand Lal Puri. In the course of that speech he used the expression, a

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Jack in office. That, as it was used in its context, I think, could only be applied to the Honourable Minister, a Minister of the Crown or to the Director of Public Instruction.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Since the Director of Public Instruction has misunderstood me I disclaim any intention of applying that phrase to either the Honourable Minister or the Director of Public Instruction. It was never intended for them. All these official proposals start with some official from the office and the Director of Public Instruction and the Honourable Ministers, it appears, busy as they are, only set their seal of approval on them with minor modifications. That is what I meant.

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** I accept the statement of intention by the honourable member. But I do not accept the statement that these rules which we have before us took their source from the clerical side of my office. For a number of years members of this Council and others have been asking for rules of recognition. I think the honourable member for the University will support my statement when I say that in 1927, when I was a member of the headquarters staff, I, in conjunction with Mr. Reynell, the Assistant Director of Public Instruction and Khan Bahadur Sayad Maqbul Shah, then Inspector of Vernacular Education, made the first draft of these rules. I think it is probably true to say the first draft was a little more rigid than the rules as they lie here. I do not propose to deal any further with Mr. Puri's speech. I think that he was taken by surprise at the sudden coming of the resolution and he did not give anything that was actually debatable in the substance of these rules. For a while I thought that Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan had given me my opening, but he also ultimately drifted away from the Code which he held in his hand and the report of the conference of non-government schools till his words became a mere smoke-screen and it was very difficult to find his point. Again, my friend, Chaudhri Afzal Haq, spoke on behalf of Government in actual fact. To-day I have waited in great hopes of the honourable member for the University displaying his learning and showing light on my wrong doing. But he prefers to wait till I have finished. I think perhaps he is wise. The honourable member for Hoshiarpur who is so desperately opposed to Government's policy of dealing with chos and statutory agriculturists spoke at some considerable length. He did occasionally touch the earth. Not very often, but he did at times. He touched the earth in a simple agricultural fashion when he referred to that village of his tucked away in a corner so many miles from the railway, so many miles from the nearest school, but his own, and I think it will delight his heart to hear that I gave it a special grant on Saturday morning. My office protested and said, "No. This school is not necessary and we do not know whether it is efficient, we have no reports on the subject." I said, "Nonsense. Let us go and look at the map." On one of the dark walls of my office we have an enormous map and we located Kathgarh on it and there saw the little red square which indicates a high school, tucked away in that far corner of the Hoshiarpur district—on one side the river where you can look across towards Rupar and a long way off on the other side a vernacular middle school, a circle in blue. I said, "There, my case is proved." Let Kathgarh have this very small but most necessary shrine of learning. So the same day I sanctioned the grant.

I now turn to the rules. These rules have been, in a very large number of cases in existence as actual instructions of the department or as actual practice of the department for many years, in some cases twenty years. Out of the 25 or 26 rules it is possible to say that only nine or ten are new. As a matter of fact almost the whole of the chapter is very much a matter of codification only. I have attempted to codify the rules and instructions that existed in a collection of memoranda dating from the earlier years of this century. These instructions were sometimes followed by ourselves as inspectors and sometimes ignored. Almost invariably I followed them myself as an inspector and applied them strictly; but some applied them loosely and sometimes not entirely with discrimination. Had I preferred to leave it to the discretion of our inspectors to carry out these sometimes slackly worded instructions, there would have been no trouble at all. I preferred, however, as a parting gift to the province to leave it with a code of regulations for the recognition of schools. I have never heard much outcry against the old rules until they were codified. I shall now proceed, if honourable members will allow me to be heard across the House to take them turn by turn and I would ask members to look at the papers which the Honourable Minister has caused to be placed before them. I take first of all article 229. That is the first new rule. The old rule was out of date and did not at all represent the situation. I have heard no objection raised against this whatsoever. Not by any one. Rules 229, 230 and 231 have raised no opposition whatsoever. I now come to that much debated article 232. I know the origin of the resolution in this House. It was originally based on the resolution passed by the Non-Government Schools Federation, a body which I greatly respect and with which I deal constantly. Therefore, I think that with a view to saving time I must in reality confine myself to the written objections of that Federation rather than attempt to answer the somewhat vague protests that have been raised on the floor of this House. Article 232 (1) furnishes the test whether the school is needed in the locality on educational grounds. I find it very difficult to understand how this can be a stumbling block to any. The objection raised by the deputation of the Non-Government Schools Federation with which I discussed these rules at least once and possibly twice at considerable length is that this clause is too vague. It is extremely difficult to frame a clause in this connection which will not be vague. Their actual suggestion, I think some honourable members here will bear me out, was that I should fix a figure whereby I should judge the necessity or otherwise of a school. They said, "Supposing a new school in an area can show you 150 students on its roll, would you accept that as a proof of its necessity?" I am afraid that I was constrained to say that I could not possibly accept that. How often in the past have I found recommendations on grounds of necessity based on the fact that a school had a hundred or two hundred boys! I could quote you places, but I would prefer not to mention names. I know of one place where a zamindara school run very largely by Rajputs had been a successful institution for a number of years. Then, as sometimes happens factions sprang up in the managing committee. One faction split and they went away with a number of boys. They opened a school in a village within twenty minutes walk—I have walked myself to the place and I know the distance—and took a hundred or two hundred boys. They happened to belong to the particular section of the community to which the

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recommending officer belonged and he, therefore, did say that that school because of its numbers was obviously necessary. That school got a building grant, permanent recognition and grant-in-aid. The other school is still in grave financial difficulties though I am doing my best to tide them over their time of stress. The instructions in 1919 said that educational necessity must loom large in an inspector's mind when he recommended a school for recognition. It loomed large in that case and the inspector wrote to the Director of Public Instruction of the day and said, "Here is a school with 150 or 200 boys and, therefore, it is obviously necessary." Therefore, I would ask honourable members not to press me to alter the wording of this clause. I assure them that in every case I examine the situation with the utmost care. If the inspector's recommendations are vague I draft a letter myself and I send it to him and ask him, "Can you tell me how many more boys you can get into the neighbouring district board school, how many more boys into the neighbouring Government school, and how many more in the neighbouring aided schools?" I go as far as that. When I see that there are still more boys, I say that the inspector must consider whether we should add to the existing buildings or add to the number of schools and which would be the wiser of the two courses. Therefore, I would like to ask the House to accept my assurance that in interpreting this clause I examine most closely the educational facilities available. From my point of view that is the essential test. If those facilities are insufficient, I am prepared to accept the necessity of another school in that area. If we do not stand by a yard stick of that sort I think that chaos would lie before us. This House has caused the Government to form an Unemployment Committee; this House has caused the Government to form the Punjab University Enquiry Committee. His Majesty's Government in England sent out here the Simon Commission and formed its auxiliary commission, the Hartog Commission, to enquire into the educational state of the country. Their reports are very important documents for us to bear in mind and to study most closely. In each of the reports of these various bodies, one of them a committee of this House, there is emphasis laid on the grave danger of the province of the unchecked growth of inferior schools and the unchecked rush of young men to join the enormous army of "no occupation." I think that this clause is completely justified on these reports alone, leaving aside from consideration, the experience of those of us who deal with the administration of education.

Then I turn to clause (2) which is regarded as another grave stumbling block. The actual clause in the Code is, I think, twenty years old and was constantly applied when I had to do with the recognition of schools. I took considerable pains to have the managing body scrutinised. The only addition to that clause is the last sentence or rather the last phrase which occurs after the dash, "every change in the management being reported to the department for approval." That addition I found necessary by my own experience. On one occasion changes in management were not reported to me in sufficient time to prevent embezzlement of a considerable sum of the Government grant.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri:** Why should this rule be enforced in the case of schools which do not want Government grant?

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** The Government is responsible for the fees paid by parents for the education of their children. I claim that school funds are in every case, from my point of view, public funds.

The honourable member for Hoshiarpur has raised the question of the management being a registered body. From actual experience we have found that absolutely essential. In a number of cases I have seen "single-man schools" as we call them, going to pieces owing to the death of the manager. We must have a permanent managing body as far as possible.

Next, honourable members have objected to clause 3 which says that the financial resources should be such as to ensure its continued management in an efficient condition. The only objection that the Federation of Non-Government Schools raised was this. Their suggestion was, I may perhaps quote their own words, "It is desirable that a reserve fund of an amount equal to the staff salary of six months be fixed." This was laid before the Inspectors' Conference. That conference has agreed to this suggestion and I have also agreed to amend the clause in that way. The other day a case was brought to my notice that the management had not paid the teachers for five months. There are perhaps a dozen cases of that sort every year. Simply because a school is opened light-heartedly, there is no money to pay the teachers after the first rush of enthusiasm. It is to avoid this situation that the amendment is proposed. The additional clause which is going into the code has been made at the request of the Non-Government Schools Federation.

Coming to clause 4, the honourable member from Ambala asked, "Why should the Government poke its nose in here?" This clause deals with the necessity of a written agreement between the managing body and the teachers. Various deputations have come to see me in connection with this clause. Honourable members also will admit that this is a most desirable clause. It is based on long experience of the abominable treatment of teachers by your managing bodies and the very undesirable way in which certain teachers behave towards the management. This clause lays down a reasonable basis of contract. The only objection raised has been about the prescription of the form of agreement. I do not propose to accept the request of the Non-Government Schools Federation that this clause should be amended so as to omit the word 'prescribed' and substitute therefor the words 'on the lines suggested.' I take exception to this because in 1923 Sir Fazl-i-Husain laid it down that we should have a model form of agreement which might be adopted by all schools; but few have acted on the suggestion. I am, however, prepared to alter this clause so as to read "That the terms on which the teachers are engaged, including the execution of a written agreement between the management and each teacher, are as prescribed in appendices XXVI and XXVII or as otherwise approved." I think no one can take exception to that.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Why should the clauses of agreement be approved by the Education Department?

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** Because I find that otherwise injustice is often done by the managing bodies in connection with the teachers.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** That shows that the department is the only judge of the fairness of the agreement.

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** We have had a lot of experience in this regard. Then, again, exception has been taken to our fixing the rates of tuition fees. I may point out that otherwise there is constant jugglery between rival schools to win boys. One of the commoner tricks is to reduce fees. Another trick is to present boys with books or clothing. It is, therefore, desirable that no room is given for such practices. However, we have not made the rule very rigid. We have only provided that the scale of fees if it varies from the ordinary standard must be approved by the department.

I turn now to articles 245 and 246, which were referred to in the speeches yesterday. The actual code rule runs as follows :—

*Recognised schools open to all castes and creeds.*—In a recognised school no pupil shall be refused admission on account of his caste or religion. No pupil who has once been admitted to a recognised school shall be treated differentially from the other pupils of the school so as to cause disabilities on account of his caste or religion.

That is a clause which has caused offence though I find it difficult to understand why it should do so. The deputation that visited me merely asked me that I should not enforce this rule where the management takes objection definitely on religious grounds. We have gone a step further in this case and for the time being we have suspended this rule. I sincerely hope that before long honourable members of the House will insist on this rule being revived and applied with the utmost rigidity. It is a most necessary rule.

The next rule is rule 246, which relates to religious instruction in schools. I have received frequent complaints from parents that if they send their children to a particular school their children will be converted to another religion. It is to allay this fear that this rule has been framed ; it lays it down that if a person objects in writing at the beginning of the school year, his boy shall not be compelled to attend religious instruction. Similarly a boy should be allowed to take a holiday on the days which are holy according to his own religion. I think this rule is fair and is of general application. It would be most unfair for a school to preach or force a religion on its pupils of another faith.

These are the main points of contention in this debate as far as I have been able to gather. I have also indicated the points on which I am prepared to give way and sometimes possibly go further than what the Non-Government Schools Federation have asked me to go. These regulations have not been drawn up because of the Education Department's or the Education Ministry's lust for power. The department has merely codified the old rules and brought in certain new rules based entirely on experience. I see no reason why any good school should fear these rules. I may assure the House that these rules will be applied in no vindictive spirit. Government wishes to encourage education and the amount of money it spends on education is an index of its intention. I would, therefore, ask the honourable mover not to press his well-meant resolution to a division.

**Mr. Manohar Lal (Punjab University) :** There can be no question that rules of recognition for our schools are necessary. We ourselves, as the Director of Public Instruction pointed out, have pressed on the attention of the department the desirability of having rules, simple rules which can

be easily applied, and which leave no room for arbitrary action on the part of those who have to enforce these rules. Nor can there be any question—and I am sure no member of the House has said to the contrary—that it is the desire of the department of public instruction to see that secondary education—for the rules are mainly concerned with these—proceeds as rapidly as possible. We do not question this at all. We can bear personal testimony, if that were necessary, to the anxiety on the part of the department to see education advance, and advance in a healthy fashion. If this resolution is moved and if the attention of the department is being called strongly to certain matters on which emphatic opinion has been expressed, it is entirely to assist the department in the achievement of that important task.

Now it strikes me as this. A very grave indictment of these rules has been framed by people of all shades of thought and opinion  
 4 P. M. and this cannot be easily brushed aside. It is not for me to assume to speak with any particular authority of mine when headmasters of important schools in Lahore belonging to all the various communities have expressed themselves in a manner so explicit and forceful. It is not for us to differ from the way in which the members of Non-Government Schools Federation have spoken, and I was glad to see that the Director of Public Instruction himself receives the opinions of these gentlemen with consideration. Now it is a fact, and it cannot be said that all this vast array of opinion on the part of the headmasters of non-government high schools belonging to all shades of thought could have gone so hopelessly wrong as to press a matter which is of no substance whatsoever. At any rate, this much substance the Director of Public Instruction has himself admitted that he has actually in deference to this strongly expressed opinion already modified these rules to some extent (*hear, hear*). Now we admit this broad principle then that whatever rules are framed for our schools they ought to encourage the progress of secondary education. Now, the rules, if I may say so, are divided into two sections. One is a set of rules that appertains to the high schools and the other to the middle schools. So far as I can see, the rules promulgated by the department, have made no change in the high school rules. Am I right? The difference arises with regard to the middle school rules and here, if I may say so, all these problems of unemployment, of objecting to a committee here or a University Commission there or even a subsidiary committee over which Mr. Hartog presided and which was associated with Sir John's Commission, which the Director has brought into his speech have nothing whatever to do with our resolution. I think we are all agreed that whatever may be the fate of higher education, whether boys should rush to collegiate education or should stop short at some lower stage. I think we are all agreed that we are not to stop at the primary stage and should pass on at any rate to the middle school stage, and that is all that these rules are really concerned with. Are we absolutely sure that these gentlemen of experience, these headmasters interested vitally in the education of our boys belonging to every community, have out of sheer frivolity attempted to criticise these rules dealing with our middle schools? I refuse to accept such a statement even when made by so kindly and considerate a friend of education as our friend Mr. Sanderson. He has given us very strong testimony of the interest which he takes in education. He told us that when an inspector of schools he visited, entering in all points, on an elephant a remote



[Mr. Manohar Lal.]

school at Naraingarh and he has told us further that more recently, as becomes a Director of Public Instruction, he sailed into Naraingarh on his Rolls Royce, the western substitute for an elephant.

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** No.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** He told us that he went in a car and he reached the place with difficulty. I am accustomed to see him in a Rolls Royce and I assume that he adopted that conveyance to reach that place. If any further assurance was necessary do not these striking visits make it absolutely certain that his interest in educational advance in backward areas is unflagging? We are not attempting in the least measure to suggest that his interest in the education of our backward areas has fallen; what we wish to point out is that when we are attacking the rules as to middle schools, we are not attacking particularly all education in urban areas, we are attacking the humbler schools that may possibly come to grief because of the strictness of these rules. So far as these rules have been modified by him, well and good. It is an assurance which we take thankfully and accept readily.

Now, having said that I wish to say nothing about the high school rules because they stand where they stood and are taken exactly from the University Calendar. I must draw attention to two or three rules about these middle schools which are covered by paragraph 232 which consists of about 14 clauses. I do not wish to say, for one minute, and I would have an immediate quarrel with any one who suggested it here, that our schools should not be efficient. The question merely is how much efficiency we can afford and how strict we can make our rules in order to enforce that efficiency. The rules with which I have a quarrel are contained in section 232. Firstly it is sub-clause (2) which refers to the constitution of the managing committee and a recent rider imposed on the previously existing rules that the constitution of the managing committee if ever changed should be reported to the Education Department for approval. We may differ on this matter but with the utmost respect to the Director of Public Instruction and the keenest expressed desire on his part which I take at its full face value, that these rules should not be arbitrarily imposed, I do think, I may be in error, I may be very dense, but I do think that it is not fair that every time you make a change in the managing committee of your school, you must have the approval of the Department of Public Instruction. I take it that that approval will not be given as a matter of course by the Director, but as reported from below. I think that is too strict a requirement altogether (*hear, hear*) and I would request the Honourable Minister to take the earliest possible step to have that rule removed and to give the matter his most serious and careful consideration. May I be permitted to say in this regard that in the University, now I am not here to say that the University furnishes generally any perfect example to adopt, but in the University we have only a few colleges which can be kept more or less in view and all that the inspection committee sees is that the managing committees consist of generally acceptable gentlemen. No scrutiny whatever into individual names is attempted, much less any claim put forward to any right of approval of names. I think that this is a very serious thing that our schools, that our humble middle schools managed by the local gentry not usually known in high places where the Director of Public Instruction sits in Lahore, should

have the seal of approval from the department. No. I can quite understand this that the department should be apprised in due time of a change in the managing committee and if the department thinks that if a particular person gets on the managing committee, the school cannot be allowed recognition, the Director may so intimate his opinion; but that previous to the appointment of a managing committee the department should be apprised for its detailed approval, this is too much. It may be I am mistaken, but till I am convinced to the contrary, I stand on my ground. Further, I think that it is too much that every managing committee in these outlying places should be a registered body. The Director makes to me some sort of nodding gesture. I cannot interpret it unfortunately, but I must say that I do not see why this regularly constituted body which is approved by the department should be registered. Again, I may be mistaken, but I take it that the House will agree with me that such a stringent requirement should not be imposed on the managing committees of these humble schools: that they should be approved, whatever the machinery of approval may be, whether it is the inquisitorial machinery which was depicted by one of our friends yesterday or some other acceptable form of securing approval, that they should be approved and registered and every change in the managing committees should further be approved by the department. I think it is beyond the competence even of the Education Department to exercise that function without causing serious hardship, heartburning and possibly injury in the exercise of that function, and I stoutly oppose that rule and I draw the attention of my learned friend the Honourable Minister for Education to this matter. This is not an idle speculation on the rules as they stand. The Director of Public Instruction thought fit in making his observations to launch on an extended apology that the particular rule is 20 or 15 years old. It may be 50 years old for ought I care, but it is not a rule that ought to be in the Education Code for the purposes of recognition (*hear, hear*).

Something was said as regards the question of agreement which has been drawn up between the teacher and the employer. I do not wish to canvass that matter in any detail, but I would say this, the Education Department is assuming on itself a serious responsibility in saying that every employer of a teacher should impose the necessity on the managing committee to have a distinct written agreement. I am not going to use one of those arguments to say that now-a-days people are available practically for any salary, however small, but I think that we ought not to interpose a single fetter, a single restriction, more than it is absolutely necessary, nor permit our managing committees to function under serious disabilities at the present time. We ought not to place them in such a position. My sympathies are entirely with the teacher, if I may say so and, I should be happy to see his lot improved. I am not here to say at all that the managing committees do always deal fairly with these teachers. No, that is not my position; I would like to see the lot of the teacher improved; notwithstanding I am of the opinion that it is not quite the best way of assuring this that the Education Department should make it necessary that there should be a written agreement tying down the managing committee. But I am told that in this matter the Education Department has already been advised and accepted some form of agreement, if any agreement is to stay.

[Mr. Manohar Lal.]

There is clause 8 to which I may be permitted to draw your attention and that is about the courses of study prescribed by the department. I do not wish to suggest for a moment that every school should be permitted to roam at large and teach what it may, but to say that the courses should strictly be those suggested by the department and that the schools should not undertake to teach any course that has not been under express terms prescribed or laid down by the department is, in my view, too narrow and stringent a provision.

**Mr. R. Sanderson :** We are altering it to "approved." It was only an accident that the word "prescribed" was used.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** If it was an accident I am glad that public agitation has helped to remove that defect. We do not wish in all our schools that education should be stereotyped and carried on along set lines. I am glad that this has been removed. May I also draw attention, so far as the terms of the teachers are concerned, to the question of the provident fund. Here again, personally I do not know what the opinion of the other members of the House would be, but I am one who favours the idea of a teacher having a provident fund. The question to my mind is whether that ought to be made rigidly necessary. That is a matter which the Director of Public Instruction might well take into consideration with the help of those employers' representatives and the managing committees and the representatives of the teachers as to what is likely to be the best possible position for our schools.

While we are engaged in criticising the rules, may I make one observation by way of unqualified commendation of the rules in one particular regard. In rule 18 they have recognized headmasters as the sole authority in all matters connected with the internal organization of the institution including class promotions, teachers, time table, discipline, etc. I am glad that the Department of Public Instruction have incorporated that as one of the rules of recognition. That rule is wholly salutary—without such powers in the headmaster, efficiency of teaching cannot be secured, and no discipline can be maintained. I only wish that he can enforce that rule. I am not so sure that he will be able to do so. In just one regard I made a mark on the list of my rules and it is for consideration whether that ought to be made quite so rigid as it is here. That is the rate of tuition fees which will be as prescribed by the department. I am not concerned with the wisdom of that, and I shall not say a word definitely saying that it is erroneous, but it strikes me that this is a matter which requires real inquiry. As I said before, the real principle when all is said and done is this. We all want efficiency, but in the measure in which we can afford it, and in order to secure it we all desire, I am sure I desire it just as much as the Director of Public Instruction, I am sure honourable members here all desire efficiency, we do not want education which leads to nowhere, which means nothing, where scattered bits of information are acquired soon to be forgotten, we do not desire it; but in order to secure efficiency we ought not to tie up our hands and feet too hopelessly (*hear, hear*) and if I may say so we ought not, in order to secure efficiency, even in order to secure efficiency, give one iota of larger control to the Director of Public Instruction, we ought not to give an iota of larger control in official hands, because unnecessary control in official hands

when you are dealing with private enterprise is bound to affect such enterprise injuriously. In this province as has been repeatedly remarked by the Ministers who have been and by the Minister who is now in charge and by the Directors who have been before and by the present Director, we have built up a system of secondary education of which we are genuinely proud, and howsoever you may calculate figures and whatever corrections you may apply, there is no doubt that private generosity, private benefactions and educational charity has built up a fine fabric of education in this province, at a cost, howsoever you may calculate it again, which is much less than that incurred by Government in providing education in Government schools out of state funds. Therefore, in my view, a real case has been made out for the consideration of these rules.

I did not wish to canvass these rules in detail nor to examine any particular one in minute detail. But the rule about the provision of religious education also seems to require consideration. I cannot dilate on these rules with any minute particularity, but there can be no doubt; I am not a person accustomed to immoderate speech and I am not one likely to forget the great work which the Education Department has done in the province. I would like to end by saying that whatever private enterprise may have been able to achieve, if educational authorities had been really unsympathetic, that enterprise would not have been able to bear the fruit which it has borne. Yet an ample case has been made for the Honourable Minister to think over these rules and see in what respect they ought to be amended (*cheers*).

**Khan Sahib Chaudhri Riasat Ali** (Gujranwala, Muhammadan, Rural): I think that the resolution under consideration is not so much a matter of discussion or war of words I should say, as it has been made. I think one speech of an educationist like Mr. Manohar Lal, a man who has himself been Minister for Education for four years, a man of vast experience and learning, should have been alone sufficient to convince the Education Department that the rules are defective and require certain amendments (*hear, hear*). Moreover, he is not a layman like ourselves. He has been in the working of the department and a man who is in direct touch with the thing knows all the parts of the machinery better than any man who is outside it. I also understand that all the headmasters of the non-Government high schools have criticised these rules and I do not see why the Education Department should be so rigid and so inelastic as not to undertake any sort of amendment of these rules. After all the Education Department is a beneficent department which is chiefly concerned with the character building of humanity and such a department should listen at all times to the advice of people whose sons and daughters are under their training, and making of whose career is in their hands. They should not feel like lord of the situation, always turning a deaf ear to the voice of the Raiyat. This department should carefully listen to the voice of the people when they point out the weak points in their working and they should be too glad to accept any suggestion which is made to them in any of the matters concerning their department. I think a good deal of such rules have already been framed by the University in the matter of recognition of high schools and if these rules are adapted there will not be the slightest harm to anyone. Again, I would suggest that as the Director of Public Instruction has admitted in his speech many of the defects in the rules, there is no harm

[K. S. Ch. Riasat Ali.]

if a conference, is summoned and some of the experts are invited to that conference of officials and non-officials and the matter is thoroughly sifted in that conference. If after due consideration and deliberation over the whole matter, the Honourable Minister or the Director of Public Instruction comes to the conclusion that these rules are defective, then he should consider and welcome the proposals and suggestions made by the honourable members. With these words I support the resolution.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan** (Sheikhupura, Muhammadan, Rural): Unfortunately the resolution under discussion was brought before the House yesterday when I happened to be away and I had not the advantage of listening to all the speeches made by the honourable members. But I have listened very carefully to the oration of the honourable member for University and other members and I have studied the rules also very carefully. The rules issued by the Government or which are going to be issued by Government are quite all right. There is nothing absolutely wrong with them and I think no reasonable man can find fault with these rules. What the Government desires is that there should be efficiency, the interests of the teachers and the taught should be safeguarded, and that the mushroom schools which cannot be called in any sense schools should be brushed aside and in their place very good schools should be established, and if there exist any such schools they should be proceeded against. Honourable members are aware that there is a proposal under the consideration of Government that there should be a public school in this province and the cry has always been that the schools in this country are not run on lines of public schools in England. On the one hand you require public school education and on the other hand you require laxity in discipline and inefficiency. Both these things are contradictory. It has also been said that the Education Department has given a fillip to the spread of Education in this province. You have to see whether that education has been sound and has been given on the right lines. What is the good of turning out so many thousands of students who have got absolutely no character and who have no idea of discipline. The result is that half-baked students go out of schools and simply go about hankering after jobs. I think the Education Department has been rather very lenient in the matter of recognition of schools. It would be like building a house on very flimsy foundations. What is the good of having schools which have not funds in which the teachers are not well-qualified. The natural result will be that the students also will be of the same quality. As regards the provision of provident funds, that is a very good rule in the interest of the teachers. The teachers will have something to fall back upon. What happens now-a-days is that teachers are turned out by the caprice or whim of the managing committees. If such stringent rules will not be introduced, there will be no guarantee for the teachers; when there will be no guarantee for the teachers, the latter will not be able to put their hearts into their work. Sometimes it is complained that the Indians generally lack character and initiative, but bad character can be moulded in such ramshackle schools where there is no suitable building, no apparatus, and no good teachers. Only one honourable member pointed out one or two defects in the rules, and

those defects can be removed by the Education Department. All the other speakers had no cogent arguments to advance against these rules. With these words, I oppose the resolution.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh** (Sikh Urban): Much of what I wanted to say has already been said by previous speakers and so I would be very brief in my remarks. The resolution moved by my honourable friend, Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram, raises two points. First that these new recognition rules should not be applied to old schools and secondly that the rules require to be revised. During the course of Mr. Mukand Lal Puri's speech it was suggested by an honourable member that if a committee were to be appointed all these points could be very well taken up and discussed. I think that the appointment of a committee for revising the rules is absolutely necessary. After all it is not an exaggerated demand or an unreasonable request which the Honourable Minister may find difficult to accept. The Director of Public Instruction has stated that the department has accepted one or two recommendations of the non-Government schools committee on these points. It is not possible on the floor of this House to go into the details and discuss every rule. They can be best discussed in a committee. And if the Honourable Minister were to appoint a committee, perhaps he would find that besides one or two amendments which he and his department have accepted there would be other amendments which would be acceptable to them. For this reason he should not, I think, hesitate to appoint a committee for going into the recognition rules. Unfortunately we find that for the last many years the policy of the education department has been to discourage private enterprise in the matter of secondary education. In the beginning the policy had been to rely as much as possible on private enterprise in the matter of secondary education, with the result that a large number of schools were established in the province. But for this private enterprise the progress in education in this province would not have been what it has been. The education department takes a legitimate pride in that progress and we share with the department this feeling. But it should be noted that it would not have been possible for the province to make such headway in education if it were not for the private effort. To illustrate my point, the House will see that even now out of about eleven lakhs of scholars in all the educational institutions, as much as 270,000 are in private schools, and only 99,000 are in Government schools. In the matter of high school education the private schools have played a still more splendid part. The total number of scholars in private high schools is 87,000 whereas in Government high schools the number is only 25,000. So it would be clear that but for these private schools the province would never have made as much progress as it has done. The grants-in-aid rules were made strict with the result that some schools had to close their doors. And with the new recognition rules which they have issued the matter has become worse. To illustrate my point I would take rule No. 1 under Article 232. It states that the need of a school should be established before recognition could be given. That rule is extremely wide and gives great powers to the inspecting authority. To give one example I would quote the case of Khalsa High School at Khanewal. That school was established many years ago much before a municipal school or Government school was established. For the last five years that school has been applying for recognition, not for grant-in-aid, and still recognition has been denied. On what ground?

[S. S. S. Ujjal Singh.]

The ground is that possibly the Government school will suffer. In that locality the Government school in the high classes has got 3 sections in the fourth high and two sections in the fifth high, i.e., the ninth and the tenth classes. The Khalsa School has got also more than one section and still the education department thinks that there is no need for that school and recognition is not being given to that school. The Khalsa School has got a good building of its own and is run by a registered body with a permanent income. But for the last four years the managing body has been approaching the inspector for giving them permission to send up their boys for the matriculation examination. The management has been knocking at his door to give permanent recognition to their school. The headmaster has been running after the district inspector, the circle inspector and the Director of Public Instruction for recognition. It is said that efficiency should be promoted. How can a school be efficient or character-building be promoted in schools when the managing authorities and the staff have got to go from door to door and beg for the recognition of their schools? The second rule on which the honourable members, Mr. Manohar Lal and Mr. Puri, have laid great stress relates to the constitution of the managing body and its approval by the Education Department. This is a very important innovation which the department has made. In the high school rules laid down by the University the only provision is that there shall be a properly constituted body of management. Why should the department consider it desirable that in the case of middle schools that body should be registered and that any change in that body should be subject to the approval of the department. I need not say anything more on that rule. Then with regard to other rules some changes are necessary and those changes can well be discussed in the committee. The department may have their own reasons for sticking to these rules but those who are interested in the cause of education and those who are faced with practical difficulties are strongly opposed to them. If the matter is discussed in the committee it will be possible to convince the department of the desirability of those changes. With these words I support the resolution.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East Rohtak, non-Muhammadian, Rural): The resolution resolves itself into two parts. One part suggests that the existing rules of recognition should not be applied to schools which have already been recognised, which are in existence and are enjoying recognition from the department. The other part of the resolution suggests that these rules should be amended. I beg to submit that if the rules are too stringent there is no reason why they should be applied to schools which are already in existence and have been enjoying recognition, because if those rules are stringent and they are applied to existing schools they may result in recognition being withdrawn from those schools. If the rules are good there is no reason why those rules should not govern existing schools as well as schools which are to come into existence in future and seek recognition from the department. So, the first part of the resolution is nothing short of ridiculous. It has no force in it. With regard to the second portion it has been suggested that the existing rules should be amended. From a few casual observations which were made yesterday by the Honourable Minister it was made plain that these rules came up

before the Standing Education Committee of the Council. That Committee consulted even the representatives of educational institutions existing in this province. Either they were examined as witnesses or they were asked to attend the meetings.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Representatives of non-Government schools came in a deputation to the Director of Public Instruction, about eight or nine of them, and fully discussed all the amendments.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** It is obvious that as many as eight or nine of them have had the opportunity of placing their views before the Director of Public Instruction and discussing them fully and frankly, with the Director. (*An honourable member :* Were the decisions taken by a majority ?) We are told they were discussed and that no votes were taken. Even now if a committee is appointed the decision may or may not go by a majority. After all these committees are only advisory, and constitutionally the Government has a perfect right to reject any advice that is offered by any standing committee although I know that when Government on the transferred side consults any committee it does not reject the opinions expressed. My point is this, that the matter was placed before the Standing Educational Committee elected by this House. Most of the members, if not all, must have been present at the meeting of that Standing Committee. These rules have been passed with their full blessing. And after a time, perhaps, a body representing non-government schools forces certain views upon the members, and now those very members are opposing the rules here. I beg to submit that members of standing committees though not definitely committed to the views that they may have expressed at one particular time may yet be expected to offer only such advice as they will stand by. At the meeting of the Education Standing Committee either no objection was raised, or if any objection was raised it was either accepted or shown to be ill-founded. Is it right that those very members who were present at the meeting should now begin to complain against those rules ? After all the Minister cannot allow himself to be dictated to by the passing whims of individual members of a committee. The Standing Committee has been elected by the members of this House and the Minister is perfectly within his rights if he accepts the views expressed by those members as the views of the various groups of the House by whom those members have been elected. These members go to Simla or come to Lahore at public expense and do not apply their minds to the business which comes up before them, and afterwards somebody else who has vested interests gets hold of them and asks them to give expression to views which are contrary to the views which have been expressed by them at a previous stage. I have no doubt that any defects that may be pointed out by any individual member of this House, will, as the Honourable Minister has already said, be fully considered. The Honourable Minister has not stated that he would not change the rules or amend them here and there. So far as his attitude is concerned, he was perfectly sympathetic yesterday and I am sure he will be sympathetic again to-day. But I think it is unfair to the minister and to the House that members should make changes so frequently. These rules were fully discussed and were framed after the advice of the Standing Education.



[R. B. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

Committee had been sought and had been given. I understand that the honourable member, Mr. Puri, himself was at the meeting.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** As my name has been mentioned, I wish to state that I am not a member of the Standing Committee on Education. The honourable members who represent this party on the committee are Chaudhri Nathwa Singh, and Mr. Labh Singh, who I understand was not present at the meeting. I should like to know from the Honourable Minister whether the Standing Committee discussed these rules, whether they spent even half an hour over these rules.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** We had several meetings of the Education Standing Committee at Simla, and these gentlemen had a very cool time of it discussing these rules from day to day.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Anyway it is unfair to the Minister and to the department that members should tender advice which forms the basis of certain rules and then turn round and say that the rules framed, though framed in accordance with the advice tendered by us at Simla, are not acceptable to us now. After all there ought to be some finality somewhere. Any difficulties which have been pointed out will, I am sure, receive the careful attention of the Honourable Minister. If, however, the resolution is pressed to a division I may declare on behalf of my party that we are going to oppose it unanimously.

**Mian Nurullah** (Lyallpur South, Muhammadan, Rural): I am really astonished to see that such an important matter as is covered by this resolution is going to be handled so lightly by our Council. Most of the ills in our country can, on analysis, be traced to lack of education. The question before the House is whether the rules of recognition conduce to further the educational activity in the province or not. It is only that question that should be considered while discussing this resolution. As President of the non-Government Schools Federation I must inform honourable members that this resolution about the rules of recognition was discussed at the annual meeting of the Federation last year. There was a big stir among the educationists of all castes and creeds whose experience in the educational line ranged from 10 to 25 years, and perhaps even more. These educationists had no axes to grind, and therefore we may safely conclude that their agitation was in the best interests of the province. Therefore any opinion that they have expressed cannot be lightly put off as is being attempted by some members of the House to-day. This is a matter which concerns the rural people as much as it concerns the urban people. It concerns the small zamindars as much as the rich. Therefore it is very important that we must examine carefully whether these rules do help those who take an active and live interest in the education of the masses of our people and who want to start more and more private schools. I am positively of opinion that they do not give such help. On the other hand, in the language of the resolution of the non-Government Schools Federation these rules--

recently added to the Punjab Education Code are retrograde, reactionary and highly injurious to the best interest of education and give arbitrary powers to the officers of the department to unduly interfere in all matters of internal management and organisation of private schools. If these rules are given effect to these schools will be under a stricter departmental control than even the Government schools, without enjoying corresponding advantages.

The resolution of the Federation further says—

This Conference most emphatically urges upon the department the imperative necessity of cancelling or amending these rules in accordance with the suggestions made by the Standing Committee of the non-Government Schools Federation. This Conference is definitely of opinion that these rules should in no case apply to the already recognised schools.

Just now it has been admitted that representatives of the Conference met the Honourable Minister and the Director of Public Instruction in connection with these rules and that some of their suggestions were accepted and changes made in the rules. That only shows that it is for the Education Department to accept or reject the proposals of the Federation, and that it is not the concern of the public. This is not the position which I am prepared to tolerate. That certainly shows that there is scope for further improvement. If the proposals of the Federation are to be given their due weight it is essential that an independent commission should be set up to examine the proposals of the Federation and to submit its recommendations. My contention is that it must be an independent body that should see whether the proposals of the Federation are acceptable or not, and it should not be left to the sweet will and pleasure of the department to deal with the proposals as it likes. As was already pointed out, the members of the Federation had not axes to grind, and it is therefore essential to see that their views are not lightly dealt with. Therefore I suggest that the Honourable Minister should call for a committee of independent persons to examine the rules of recognition of schools. I would not advise the honourable mover to withdraw this resolution unless the Honourable Minister gives an assurance that he will appoint such a committee.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** (East and West Central Towns, Muhammadans, Urban) (Urdu): I concede that there is some force in the criticism to which these new rules of recognition have been subjected by the honourable members of the House. I also admit the truth of the statement made by the honourable member who has just preceded me that in considering these rules we should see whether they will encourage the spread of education in the province or not. But there is one important point which seems to have been altogether lost sight of in considering this question. That is, I think, really the point of view which was before the Government when these rules were framed and that is the point of view which the House should have before it in discussing them. If one were to study these rules carefully one will at once find out that in framing them the real intention of the Government is that the students as well as the persons in the managing bodies of these schools should in no case be permitted to take part in political activities. It is this desire more than anything else that is responsible for the framing of some of the very stringent rules that are now before us. We can trace the presence of this desire in Government circles from 1919 onward when on account of the boycott movement and a general tendency of the students to boycott the schools and other government institutions it was thought necessary by the Government to make a move in this direction and to assume some such powers over private managed schools. It is this desire even now which is at the bottom of these rules, and it would have been better if the Government had made it clear that it was with this desire that these rules had been framed. Otherwise there was no need to make the approval of the Education Department and for the matter of that of the Government

[M. Mazhar Ali Azhar.]

for the managing bodies of the private schools essential and to incorporate such a rule as rule 241 in these rules of recognition. I think I shall do better if I read that rule to the House. It is as follows :—

Recognition is liable to be withdrawn from a school if the management or the staff of the school take part in agitation against the authority of Government, or disseminate opinions tending to excite feelings of disloyalty or disaffection against Government or of enmity or hatred between different classes of His Majesty's subjects, or if the pupils are permitted to attend political meetings or to engage in any form of political or communal agitation.

These are no doubt very stringent rules, but I must say that if we want that the pupils should have nothing to do with political movements or agitations and that they should remain engrossed in matters relating to education alone, then we cannot find fault with these rules. If it is the desire of the Government that politically-minded people should have no opportunity to have access to the educational institutions and their managing bodies then the rules as they exist should be allowed to remain as they are. But if these rules do not exist for any such an end then an amendment should be made in them. But as I have already made clear the underlying desire is not to give an opportunity to the students, teachers and the members of the managing bodies to take part in the political activities. As such I would like to submit with all the emphasis at my command that the honourable members criticising the rules should be prepared to insist on the appointment of the committee which they suggest. It would be of no use to raise a hue and cry here and agree to the Government proposals when the Government places the rules before them in the committee and explains its position.

The honourable members must also keep this fact in mind that if, in the first instance, they would make the approval of the Department and for the matter of that of the Government necessary for a managing body of a school then they will have to make all subsequent changes in that managing body also dependent upon the approval of the Department or the Government. The position of those honourable members who have suggested that in the beginning the approval of the Government for a managing body should be made necessary and that for later changes such approval should not be made necessary, is not tenable. If you do not want that the Government should have power to keep students, teachers and the managing bodies from taking part in political activities then it is necessary that this rule which requires the approval of the Government for a managing body should be expunged. The first part as well as the second part of this rule should be omitted. The honourable members ought to insist on expunging this rule altogether; otherwise their position will not be consistent.

The next point that I want to submit before the House is, that it has been insisted on that these rules should be made applicable only to those schools which would come into existence after a certain date and not to those which were established before that date. This again would be an inconsistency. By the partial application of these rules we will have two kinds of institutions, and there would be no uniformity so far as schools are concerned. If the rule that all those schools which would come into existence after a certain date should have a sufficient reserve fund to meet

the salaries of the staff for at least six months, is made essential, then there would be two kinds of schools—those which came into existence before a particular date and as such are favourably treated and those which came into existence after that date and are accorded a step-motherly treatment by being required to show sufficient funds for meeting the salaries of the staff for at least six months. Such a distinction would be anomalous. The same is the case with other rules.

The next point is with regard to the amendment of these rules. I would like to say that it is not sufficient to recommend that the rules should be amended. What is required is that an amendment of these rules should be suggested. The lines should be recommended on which the rules ought to be amended. If the Government is to constitute a committee in order that it may recommend the necessary amendments, then it is quite possible that such members will be put on that committee as are under the influence of the Government and who are expected to be led by the Government. Such a committee will not serve any purpose. If it is desired that these rules should be amended according to the wishes of the House then we should also see that such members are put on that committee as may be expected to work independently without being subject to influence. If you allowed the Government to form a committee desirable from their point of view then the underlying purpose of the amendment of the rules is not likely to be served. For it is very possible that the Government will put such type of members to work on this committee as would work according to their whims. Consequently it is necessary that the honourable members should elect such members to work on this committee as may be expected to carry out their wishes. The elections for the standing committees are to take place shortly. The honourable members should return such members for the standing committee for education as may be able to represent them efficiently and also to carry out their wishes. Only then these rules can be amended on the right lines. If the matter is left to the Government then I do not think that any satisfactory result will follow. With these words I resume my seat.

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram** (Multan division, non-Muhammadan, Rural): This important resolution has been fully thrashed on the floor of this House by eminent educationists like the ex-Minister for Education (Mr. Manohar Lal), Mr. M. L. Puri, Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit, Mian Nurullah, Chaudhri Riasat Ali, Sardar Ujjal Singh, and other gentlemen of whom we are proud that they take so much interest in educational matters. Every point that should have been discussed has been fully discussed by these gentlemen. What I have specially stood up for now is this. I am extremely disappointed by the attitude taken by the Leader of the Unionist Party. This resolution has not been brought before this House to be made a party question, nor do we feel that if Chaudhri Chhotu Ram by the strength and power of his party can defeat us we will be sorry for it, nor do we think that if this resolution is defeated in this House Chaudhri Chhotu Ram has proved that these rules are very good. Therefore this question should not be made a party question. We do not mean to be communal in any way. (*Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram*: Have you ever voted against your Minister in this House?) There is no question of voting in such a case. We want fair field and no

[R. B. L. Sewak Ram]

favour. This question has been started by experienced educationalists of every community, and by the non-Government School Teachers' Federation consisting of all communities. I do not want to offend the leader of the Unionist Party nor any one of his party. Nor is the resolution meant to be communal or even as a motion of censure on the Minister. The thing is quite clear. Take these rules for whatever they are worth. If these rules can satisfy Chaudhri Chhotu Ram and his party and those who decide to vote with him, they are quite welcome to hold that view. If to-morrow, for instance, my friend Qureshi Sahib in his village gives an application for the recognition of a school and if these rules are applied, will he be satisfied? Therefore if he is going to support his leader and oppose me for the sake of opposition I shall be very sorry. I do not like to hear these threats being given by the leader of the Unionist Party that if it is pressed to a division he would oppose it. What does he mean? Does he want to carry things by threats in this House because he has the strength of a few members at his back? I am sorry for this attitude. This is not a party question at all. We do not want to win or lose in this case because it affects the Minister. I am sure the Minister will come forward with some plan which can satisfy all, and if he can satisfy us, we will welcome his proposal. But we are not going to be led away by the threat of Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** (Minister for Education): I am very grateful to the honourable members of this House for the very kindly manner in which they have debated over this controversial question. If my honourable friend who has just spoken had waited to hear what I had to say, probably there would have been no need for him to get excited particularly in view of his indifferent health, which I am sorry to note has been troubling him for some time. My effort in answering the debate would be to convince my friends opposite of the justification of Government's action in this matter. First of all, let me state one or two principles which I feel ought to be followed in a matter like this. In framing rules for recognition the primary object in view should be the protection of the best interests of the children. While doing that if we annoy any organisations or any individuals, I feel that Government should bear the brunt of that criticism because it is the primary duty of the State to protect the children. The second thing that we ought to see is a certain amount of protection for the teachers, so that they are not left entirely at the mercy of the managing committees. Some of my friends have tried to quote the examples of schools in Europe. I should like to ask them as to how many of them know the amount of power which is possessed by the headmaster of an English school. The headmaster of an English school is like an autocrat. His word is law because he has to keep discipline in the school. No managing committee in England will ever dare to say to a headmaster as to what he should do inside his school. Either the headmaster can be responsible for the running of the school and will run it or else the managing committee. It is always the former. Therefore the second principle to be remembered is that there should be a certain amount of protection for the teacher. The third thing which ought to be kept in mind is that there ought to be a certain amount of independence of character and honour guaranteed for members of the managing committees. I am at one with

members opposite in feeling that it is the duty of the State to see that the self-respect and dignity of members of managing committees should be preserved, and if there is any rule which is derogatory to that honour, I shall be the first person to try and mend it. With these three principles in view, let us see what our views are about the rules as they exist. I have had this morning copies of these rules for recognition circulated to honourable members, and if any honourable member has not got a copy he is welcome to have it from me now so that he could see the rules for himself. With regard to these rules all that I wish to submit to this House is that the vast majority of these rules did exist already, but they existed in the form of departmental circular letters. The complaints of the managing committees were that since this law was not codified they did not know where they stood with regard to recognition. Consequently, with a view to meet that criticism, the department proceeded to codify that law and this new chapter of rules for recognition is a result of that desire on the part of the department to meet the public demand. How did the department proceed to frame these rules? We took hold of the circular letters which existed already. We put forward draft rules. The department did not proceed with one stroke of the pen to enact those circulars into a new code. We took the utmost possible care to consult public opinion. The result was that the non-Government Schools Federation sent in very detailed representations on the proposed rules. Every one of these suggestions has been very deeply considered by the department. Not only this, the Director of Public Instruction gave an opportunity to the representatives of this Federation to come and discuss every one of their suggestions with him. About 8 or 9 of their representatives went to him in a deputation and the Director of Public Instruction spent no end of time in trying to discuss those rules with them, and I am glad to say that a very large number of demands which were reasonable have already been accepted and we have decided to incorporate them in the rules. (*Mian Nurullah* : From whose angle are they reasonable?) The Minister who is responsible to the House. (*Interruption*). The honourable member asked me whether any votes were taken. If a deputation consisting of 8 or 9 members waits on the Minister and discusses the matter, how are votes to be taken? Nine against one? This should be a queer way of administering a department. I was not going to discuss things like that. I will tell him everything if he hears me patiently. We not only invited the representatives of the non-Government Schools Federation to put forward their views but, as I said before, we adopted these new rules after consulting the elected representatives of this honourable House, that is, the Education Standing Committee. I will read out the names of the honourable members that have been elected by this honourable House on that committee (*Mr. Mukand Lal Puri* : And who were present at that time).

SARDAR BAHADUR SARDAR BUTA SINGH—I think he was in England at the time.

SHAIKH MUHAMMAD SADIQ—He was not present.

THAKUR PANCHAM CHAND—He was present.

MR. LARH SINGH—I do not remember whether he was present, but it is his own fault if he does not perform his duties.

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

**PIR AKBAR ALI**—He was present.

**CHAUDHRI MUHAMMAD YASIN KHAN**—He was present at some of the meetings.

**SARDAR JAWAHAR SINGH DHILLON**—He was present at most of the meetings.

**SARDAR BAHADUR SARDAR MOHAN SINGH**—He was also present at most of the meetings.

My honourable friend Mr. Puri referred in rather a contemptuous manner to the fact—

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** : No.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** : He said that he himself was not a member of the committee, but that Chaudhri Nathwa Singh was. As far as the poor Minister is concerned, every honourable member in this House is equally respected by him, and so his vote and opinion are equally weighty for him. If the House elects members for the Education Committee whom—

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** : On a point of personal explanation. Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram pointedly referred to me as one of the members of the Education Committee, and I had to say to him that I was not a member and that another honourable member of my party was. I did not mean any kind of reflection which the Honourable Minister has interpreted in my words.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** : There were other members of your party as well, why did you not refer to them?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** : I do not think Mr. Puri ever wanted to be rude to anybody.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit** : Chaudhri Chhotu Ram would try to get that meaning.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** : I wanted to say that from the Minister's point of view the advice and recommendation of every honourable member of this House is equally valuable and weighty, and therefore as far as I am concerned, all that I could do was to take these problems before the gentlemen who have been elected by the House to advise me in these matters. The rules of recognition have all been approved by the Standing Committee on Education. What more could I or the department have done with a view to ascertain public opinion or the advice of the representatives of this House. We have consulted members representative of opinion in Non-Government Schools Federation, and we have consulted the Education Standing Committee.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq** : May I know the date of the meeting when these rules were laid before the Standing Committee.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon** : When I come to certain rules which I inserted at the instance of the honourable member, I will tell him. Now, I must say that I am very grateful to my honourable friend, Mr. Manohar Lal for his very wise and considered speech over this matter, and I very much appreciate his cool and considered criticism of the proposed rules, but I would like to draw his attention to one or two aspects

of the case which probably have not been put before him. With regard to rule 292 he objected that the approval of the department should not be necessary for the appointment of the managing committee. I think the honourable members will realize that all members of all the managing committees are not angels and, I think, Mr. Manohar Lal himself conceded that a certain amount of check was necessary. Then the only difference is that he wishes the approval of the Government to be changed into a power with the Government to remove a man from the managing committee if they consider him unworthy of that position. As far as our object is concerned, we are agreed. It is only in the matter of detail as to how we are to achieve it that we differ, whether it is to be according to the method which he suggests or according to the method already accepted by Government, but I am willing to have this particular matter placed before the Education Standing Committee again for reconsideration. The second objection was that the managing committee ought not to be registered. But I should like to draw his attention to the fact that if the managing committee is not to be registered, Government have no definite body to correspond with. The Director of Public Instruction informed me once that sometime there are one or two members of the managing committee and there is a dispute and we do not know whom to correspond with. It may also happen that the salary of a poor school teacher is not paid to him for six months and he wants to sue. There is no definite managing body and he goes to the supposed manager who says that he is not responsible. Unless you make them definitely bound down, it is not possible for Government to correspond with anybody nor is it possible for the teacher to sue anybody for any money that is due to him. But if this is a point which the House would like to be reconsidered, I am again prepared to put it before the Education Committee and again invite their advice on the matter whether they want it to be amended (*hear, hear*). Another point brought out by the honourable member is as to why Government should worry about school teachers.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** I did not put it so crudely.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I am glad the honourable member did not. What we have suggested is this that in the case of each school master we have provided a form of agreement which has to be signed by the managing committee and the teacher. The object is that the teacher should know what his salary is and the Government should also know as to what salary is being paid to the teacher. I quote just one instance which may be useful, I do not want to make any allegation. It may happen that a school wants a grant-in-aid and they put up in their registers that such and such a teacher is getting one hundred whereas in fact he may be getting only Rs. 70. I do not say that this is done, but this is a possibility. Some of these poor school teachers are really shabbily treated. We want to protect these school teachers against the vagaries of the managing committees. I have so far heard no definite criticism against this agreement. Why do they protest against this agreement? It is entering openly into a contract the conditions of which are to be stated in the contract. If you are honest about your business why should you object? But this is a matter on which honourable members are against the rules and I will again place this rule also before the Education Committee and seek



[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon] their advice. I have already done this on their advice and if the last Education Committee was not good, give me a better one and I will place the matter before it. I feel it my duty to justify the decision of the Standing Committee and the department. Then objection was raised to the provident fund. There are good many reasons for starting the funds. Unless there is a provident fund a teacher feels no responsibility. He resigns and runs away. On the other hand if he dies the dependents of the teacher remain unprotected if there is no provident fund. With this fund something is left for the wife and children of the deceased teacher. When something of that sort exists in all Government services, why not afford the same protection for these private school teachers? As far as the curricula of schools is concerned, the criticism is very just that the rules about curricula should not be rigid and the private schools should have a certain latitude. With a view to meet that criticism the department has already decided to amend the rules. We have said that not only the curricula devised by the department but also that approved by the department can be followed in private schools. Any schools bringing about a change should send up to the department their suggestions and that laxity of rule has been provided for and the rigidity has been removed as desired by the honourable members.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Was that rule also passed by the Standing Committee?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** Every one of these rules has been approved by the Education Committee. Now another objection related to the rule about religious education. I am sorry that my honourable friend, Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq, is not here, because he was himself in that meeting and in reality the rule was amended on his suggestion. What he said was this. There are certain schools in this province where the managing authorities insist on the school children receiving religious education, as for instance mission schools where they might insist that everybody reading in those schools must read the Bible and some parents might object to it.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** This rule might apply to Hindu boys reading in Hindu schools.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** But there may be Hindu schools in which they might insist on Muslim boys undergoing religious instruction according to Hindu tenets. What the department has done is that should the parent of any particular boy object to his son receiving that education the managing committee should not enforce that rule and who is there in this House who will object to this rule?

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** None.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** One honourable member opposite objected to a rule which prohibits school teachers and the students from taking part in politics. I was just going to reply to a point raised by my honourable friend opposite, Mr. Mazhar Ali. He objected to the rule with regard to prohibition of politics and political activities on the part of school teachers and students.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** And on the part of the managing committee members.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** We legislators then would cease to be members of the managing committees.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I will tell the honourable member what happened in certain cases. He might consider that this is the Englishman's Government here and therefore he must oppose the suggestion, but to-morrow Mr. Puri may be here where Mr. Boyd is, or Maulvi Mazhar Ali may be here ; I want him to look at it from that point of view whether he as a Government would consider it right that members of the managing committees should take part in politics or controversial matters. (*Many voices : Why not ?*) I know of a case of a school where some of the teachers and some members of the managing committee used to take out singing parties in the villages singing songs preaching hatred against the established Government.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** What is the definition of taking part in politics ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** There is plenty of time for boys to take part in politics when they leave the schools. There are plenty of gentlemen who are outside schools who can take part in politics. It may be that a member of the managing committee may be locked up in jail, it is in the best interests of the institution that there should be a continuity of management. You say that because you know that here certain political conditions exist, but if you were in a country where these conditions do not exist, I am sure you will not suggest that the school teachers and managing committees ought to be involved in politics.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar :** Everywhere they take part in politics, excepting the slave countries.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** If the House wants to allow these children reading in schools to go and take part in politics and be jugged up in jails——.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** What about the members of the managing committees not taking part in politics ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I will read out the rule because some of the honourable members perhaps do not realise what the rule is. It runs as follows :—

Recognition is liable to be withdrawn from a school if the management or the staff of the school take part in agitation directed against the authority of Government or disseminate news tending to excite feelings of disloyalty or disaffection against Government or of enmity and hatred between different classes of His Majesty's subjects.

It is not quite the same thing as my honourable friend feared. I do not wish to waste any more time of the House. My position with regard to these rules is clear. Up to now in framing these rules I have been guided by the advice of the Education Standing Committee of this House and for the future I am open to conviction. I am willing to receive any amendments which any member of this House or any member of any managing committee or the staff of any school wishes to send up for consideration. All these suggestions I am again willing to place before the new Education Standing

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Committee which the House is about to elect in a day or two. I, however, appeal to the House to elect a committee consisting of heavy guns of this House, a committee which has the whole-hearted confidence of this House, a committee the members of which will have the courage to come up to this House and back up the recommendations which they make to the poor Minister in the committee room and not leave the minister to defend himself single-handed. I do not see what more can be done. I want to make the rules entirely in accordance with the wishes of the House but I want definitely to know what its wishes are. As far as this resolution is concerned, with this assurance that I want to be guided by the advice of the House, that I will consult the Standing Committee on Education again I hope the honourable mover will withdraw it.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** In view of the assurance that has been given that these rules are again, if I may use the words, in the melting pot and every one of them will be reconsidered again by the Education Committee, I think the honourable member, Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram may withdraw his resolution.

**Rai Bahadiur Lala Sewak Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister agree to take representatives of the non-Government schools and will he take their evidence in reconsidering these rules?

**Mr. President :** I cannot allow the honourable member to make a third speech.

**Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram :** In view of the assurance given I beg leave to withdraw my resolution.

*The resolution was by leave withdrawn.*

#### SUBSIDIARY INDUSTRIES FOR ZAMINDARS.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah** (Lahore, Muhammadan, Rural) : I move—

This Council recommends to the Government that on account of the depreciation of edible grains every possible encouragement be given to the adoption by zamindars of subsidiary industries such as dairy-farming, sheep-farming and poultry-farming, and that for this purpose—

- (i) an expert in these lines of industry be appointed for the whole province, and special training in these branches be given to Veterinary Assistants already in service, and
- (ii) facilities for transport of articles so produced be given—
  - (a) by the grant of licences on fees for wheeled conveyances on the roads of—
    - (1) main canals, and
    - (2) *rajbahs* and minor distributaries, the income from fees being utilised on maintaining the roads in a proper state of repairs,
  - (b) by asking the Government of India to reduce by 75 per cent. railway freight for the produce of these industries.

(Urdu) Owing to a fall in the prices of agricultural produce, the story of the zamindars' misfortunes and tribulations has been often repeated in this House, and I do not consider it proper or advisable to narrate it once again. The representatives of agricultural classes have talked so much and so frequently about this matter that they have hoarse throats, and the pencils

of poor reporters here too, have worn out by taking down notes of their speeches. But the cries and wailings of the zamindar members have failed to produce any effect on the Government. Government may have done something in the form of rural reconstruction work. But by doing so it has not given any substantial help to the poor zamindars. When I say this, I do not mean to depreciate or minimize the good work that the Rural Reconstruction Department will be able to do for the benefit of the zamindars. But I should certainly like to invite the attention of the Honourable Revenue Member and the Honourable ministers to the fact that something substantial should be done for these poor zamindars who are dying of hunger and who are so heavily under debt that they cannot even sleep at night. In winter or in summer they have no cloth to cover their bodies, therefore mere advice to them to have ventilators and mosquito nets will not carry them far. At present the most important question is that the Government should find out some means by which the zamindars may be able to increase their income and thus may be able to have ventilators in their houses. It is good that they should live in fresh air and save themselves from malaria, but the Government ought to supply them the means by which they should be in a position to eat good food and also devote their attention to ventilators and mosquito nets. It is really a pity that the Government has not paid any attention to this important matter.

There are two ways of increasing the income of the peasant. In the first place, the prices of agricultural produce should be raised which have gone down so low. But, unfortunately, it is neither possible for the Punjab Government nor the country to do so. These prices have fallen in other countries and they have fallen here, too. Although the Government of India can do something in this respect, still I will not choose to deal with this subject, as otherwise I shall have to go into details. Secondly, we should take such steps and adopt such measures by which we may be able to do something to enhance the income of the zamindar. In this connection cottage industries have been mentioned the development of which is likely to improve the financial condition of the zamindars. But there are certain things, besides cottage industries, which are carried on in this province with advantage. If the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and other experts in the line would be willing to offer their guidance and help, a good deal might be done for the benefit of the zamindar. By way of example, I have mentioned two or three subsidiary industries in my resolution such as dairy-farming, sheep-farming and poultry-farming. There are one or two more also, namely, honey-bee farming and fruit growing. They are easier than cottage industries; besides, fruit cultivation more or less is already going on in some parts on a small scale. It is not necessary that all these industries should be started all over the province. In fact, different parts of the province which may be suitable may be selected where a particular industry may be developed. In some parts there may be sheep-farming. In other parts there may be dairy-farming and people there may prepare butter and cheese and may send them to the market. Again, in some parts honey-bee farms may be started. We must also devote particular attention to fruit growing. Fruit is being grown on a small scale in different parts of the province. In Muzaffargarh and Multan districts the zamindars possess a few mango trees growing close to one another. They have only

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one kind of tree, but the money which they make from these mango trees by selling them every year is sufficient to pay their land revenue. Then there are orange and other citrus trees which thrive very well, and if cultivated will yield a lot of profit. For this purpose the Government ought to set up nurseries at different places from where the fruit growers and the zamindars may be able to get these plants at a low price. The small zamindars will derive great benefit from this scheme and it will be such a boon to them that they will ever remain grateful for this kindness. At present the Punjab Government possesses only one fruit specialist. It is very difficult for him to go all over the country and tell people how to set about the business. If the nurseries are set up, he can go there and demonstrate how different plants should be grown and protected from danger. If need be, Government should employ more men for this purpose.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** Suggest if you have any special man in view ?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** It will not be difficult to get desirable men. They can be easily trained for this purpose. There should be different men to look after different industries and should help and give advice to people in regard to them. One man should deal with sheep farming, another should deal with honey-bee farming, and another should deal with fruit cultivation and so on.

**Mr. Manohar Lal :** Do you want that there should be an expert for each of these industries ?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Yes, I realize that we will have to spend some money for this purpose, but whatever money is spent in this connection will be most usefully spent. This money will bring a lot of wealth to the poor zamindars. It may mean saddling the province with fresh liabilities likely to cause loss to zamindars if the work is not carried on on proper lines.

Now I would like to say a few words about poultry-farming. No doubt a poultry farm was started at Gurdaspur but the work was not carried on properly and the management was poor. I do not suggest that poultry farms and sheep farms should be started everywhere in the province. Some suitable places should be selected for poultry-farming and some for sheep-farming. Let there be appointed some expert who should advise people as to how sheep-farming and poultry-farming can be carried on with success. But even then you cannot achieve success unless you also start co-operative societies whose duty it should be to promote and market the products of these industries. Let there be a society for say ten or twenty villages and it should be its duty to educate people in these lines of industry and provide them with the best kind of breed. There is still another very important matter and that is that we will stand to gain if proper marketing of these articles of food is ensured. Since a marketing officer has been appointed, it should be one of his duties to see that there are some markets for the consumption of these articles of food. The weaving industry, though worked on proper lines, has failed to produce good results owing to the absence of a suitable market.

**Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** What about the poultry farm at Gurdaspur ?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** That was a demonstration farm which failed for various reasons, one being the high prices charged for articles produced by this farm. Besides other things, the presence of experts in these lines is absolutely essential. If you cannot provide special experts in these lines special training may be given to veterinary assistants already in service. If you do that you will find a veterinary assistant at every eight or ten miles ready to advise the people as to how they can prevent the outbreak of a general disease in goats, sheep or hens.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Do veterinary assistants possess knowledge of general diseases of that kind ?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** They can be given requisite training in these branches. But even if these industries are worked on proper lines and suitable markets are provided for the articles so produced, we cannot be sure of success if we do not provide the people with facilities for the transport of these articles. The articles that are likely to decay, for instance, eggs, butter, milk and cheese, should be brought to the market without much delay, and it is therefore essential that steps should be taken to provide facilities for their immediate transport. In this connection, I would suggest that licences for wheeled conveyances on such roads of the main canals, rajbahs and minor distributaries as may be suitable for motor, ekka or tumtum traffic, should be granted to such co-operative societies or other individuals who need them for this purpose. The fees charged for the grant of these licences may be utilised on maintaining the roads in good condition.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Should these things be arranged before poultry-farming or sheep-farming or any such industry is taken in hand ?

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Yes, steps should be taken to ensure these facilities to the people or else the Government may, after due care and investigation, devise means to do the needful.

**Khan Bahadur Malik Zaman Mehdi Khan :** The roads will then be greatly impaired.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** I do not see why these roads should be seriously impaired when they are not impaired by your motor cars, when they are not impaired in the least during district board elections when the roads are put to much use. Unfortunately the honourable member has been a district magistrate and has therefore become used to say things in the spirit of one in authority. Anyhow if the roads are impaired to some extent, the fees charged for granting licences can be utilised on maintaining them in a proper state of repairs. And even if it involves spending a few hundred or thousand rupees more on these roads for promoting the general welfare of the zamindars, we should not mind it for the Canal Department is after all a public institution and is mainly run for the benefit of the zamindars.

There is still another important matter to which we should divert our attention and that is that a substantial reduction in railway freight charged

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for the transport of these articles should be effected. As a matter of fact, there are already in force concession rates of railway freight with regard to fruits and fish but I think more liberal concessions should be given. I therefore urge that the Government of India should be requested to reduce by 75 per cent. the railway freight for the produce of these industries. If Government agrees to that, I am sure it will give a strong impetus to the zamindars to resort to these industries. These matters require a little attention on the part of the Government and I therefore request the Honourable Member in charge whether he be the Honourable Revenue Member or the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to seriously consider the advisability of promoting these industries. If these industries are encouraged it will alleviate the present sufferings of the zamindars. There are some districts where the zamindars pay government dues out of the income derived from the sale of mangoes. Similarly these industries will enable zamindars to pay their land revenue and other dues. With these words I commend my resolution for the acceptance of the House.

*The Council then adjourned till 2 P. M. on Thursday, 28th March, 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, 28th March 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### OATH OF OFFICE.

*Khan Bahadur Dr. K. A. Rahman (Director of Public Health, Punjab) was sworn in.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PERMISSION TO START WEEKLY *KHATAM-I-NABUWAT* IN QADIAN.

**\*4473. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Maulana Inayat Ullah, Amir Majlas Ahrar, Qadian, submitted an application to the District Magistrate, Gurdaspur, to the effect that he may be permitted to start a weekly paper named *Khatam-i-Nabuwat* in Qadian ;
- (b) what action has been taken on his application ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) After making preliminary enquiries the District Magistrate has summoned the applicant for the 1st of April, 1935.

### HUNGER-STRIKE IN LUDHIANA JAIL.

**\*4474. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Inspector-General of Prisons under orders of the Government went to enquire into the causes of hunger-strike in the Ludhiana Jail in the month of January, 1934 ;
- (b) the number of prisoners that joined the hunger-strike on different dates ;
- (c) the number of witnesses who gave evidence before the Inspector-General of Prisons ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that each witness quoted different number of prisoners who joined the strike on different dates ;
- (e) the cause of the hunger-strike in question ?



**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) No.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to part (4) of question No. \*3011<sup>1</sup> asked in the budget session of 1934.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) The honourable member is referred to the replies given to parts (2) and (3) of question No. \*3011<sup>1</sup> and to part (b) of question No. \*2945<sup>2</sup> asked in the budget session of 1934.

#### CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

**\*4475. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, has issued circular No. 204-S., dated 17th June, 1931 ;

(b) whether the circular was published in *Government Gazette* as laid down in section 44, sub-section 5 of the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 ;

(c) whether notification No. 18819, dated the 23rd June, 1917, limiting the maximum credit of non-members has been cancelled ;

(d) whether Co-operative Credit Societies bye-law No. 22 (6) is now cancelled ?

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

(b) Presumably the honourable member is referring to sub-section (5) of section 43 which prescribes the publication in the *Gazette* of all rules made thereunder. The circular in question contained merely executive instructions regarding maximum credit limits.

(c) No.

(d) No.

#### CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

**\*4476. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, issued a circular No. 386-S., dated the 11th December, 1931 ;

(b) whether he will lay that circular on the table ;

(c) what was the necessity of issuing that circular ?

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

(b) A copy of the circular is laid on the table.

(c) The depression having seriously curtailed the income of agriculturists, it was obviously prudent to adjust their credit limits to their reduced capacity. The circular indicated the lines on which this should be done.

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXIV, page 652.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, page 526.

*Copy of Circular No. 386-S., dated the 11th December, 1931, from the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, to all Gazetted Officers and Inspectors, Co-operative Societies in the Punjab.*

**SUBJECT:—Primary Societies—Maximum Credit Limits of—**

THE two circulars attached are now issued as drafted by Mr. Darling, the late Registrar, in June, 1931. The lapse of time has in no way challenged the need for them. It is understood that pending a detailed review, the maximum credit limits to individual members of societies have already been, or are being, reduced by 10 per cent., and it is requested that this process should be accelerated to the extent possible, and also that the earliest effect may be given to the directions contained in the two circulars where such effect has still to be given.

2. Particular attention is called to paragraph 4 of circular No. 205-S. It is desired to emphasize emphatically that at the present juncture loans should only be given for necessary expenses of cultivation. The only other object for which a loan seems justified at the present time is payment of land revenue, though there are many districts in the province in which no such marked need for loans in this account should ordinarily be experienced.

# **NAZUL LAND IN BHABRA VILLAGE.**

**\*4477. Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether inquiries referred to in the answer to question No. \*3888<sup>1</sup>, regarding Bhabra village in Lahore tahsil, have been completed;

(b) if so, what the result is; if not, what the reasons for the delay are?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan:** (a) No.

(b) The case is highly complicated.

**Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar:** Has anything tangible been done during the last ten months?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan:** Nothing so far, but I am making further enquiries, and I think I will be able to give you a definite reply.

## **LETTER BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA TO ABDUR RAHIM DARD.**

**\*4478. Chaudhri Afzal Haq:** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to what appeared in the issue of the "*Alfazel*", dated 20th December, 1934, with respect to a letter alleged to have been written by the Under-Secretary of State for India to Mr. Abdur Rahim Dard, Qadiani;

(b) whether the Punjab Government was consulted before the letter was written;

(c) whether a copy of the letter has been received by the Punjab Government;

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- (d) whether that letter of the Under-Secretary for India, if received by the Punjab Government, will be laid on the table ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

#### MIRZAI-AHRAR CONTROVERSY.

**\*4479. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the bi-weekly *Alfazal* (Qadian), dated the 20th of December, 1934, pages 1 and 2 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government wrote letters of assurance to Mirza Bashir Muhammad of Qadian ;
- (c) whether the Government will lay those letters on the table ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Secretary of State for India asked the Punjab Government to explain their position with regard to the Qadianis ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government explained their position in the words quoted by Mirza Bashir Muhammad, on pages 1 and 2 of the *Alfazal*, Qadian, dated 20th December, 1934 ;
- (f) whether the Government have been in communication with the Secretary of State with regard to the Mirzai-Ahrar controversy ;
- (g) whether the Government will lay the correspondence on the table ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is not in the public interest to lay the letters in question on the table.

(d) No.

(e) Not in those exact words, but the purport of Government's letters is accurately reproduced in the article in *Alfazal* of 20th December 1934.

(f) No.

(g) Does not arise.

**Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Government let me know if there is any man of the name of Mirza Bashir Muhammad at Qadian ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I do not think that the name is correctly given in the question.

## SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

**\*4480. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the academic qualifications of the present Superintendent of the Punjab Government Press and the technical examination he has passed ;
- (b) whether he has practical knowledge of Typography ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that all the schemes of the Government Press are sent to Mr. Tyson the ex-superintendent for approval ; if so, why ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Member of the Printers' Managers' and Overseers' Association of Great Britain, admission to which implies that the candidate has served a practical apprenticeship in the Printing Craft and has held a managerial position in a printing office.

Served seven years' practical apprenticeship (the recognised term for training in the Printing Craft in England) from 1904 to 1911 with Messrs. Gale and Polden, Limited, Military Printers and Publishers, Wellington Works, Aldershot, Hants, England, one of the largest firms in England as Typographic, Lithographic, Offset and Process Printers.

(b) Yes.

But specialised in Lithographic, Offset and Process branches of the craft.

(c) Certainly not.

## COTTON IN LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**\*4481. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of acres under (i) American, (ii) Desi cotton, in each tahsil of the Lyallpur district in each of the last five years ;
- (b) the average price of each during those years ;
- (c) the average difference between the prices as mentioned in (b) ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a), (b) and (c) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

[Hon. Nawab Muzaffar Khan.]

Statement showing the number of (1) acres under Desi and American cotton in each tahsil of the Lyallpur district in each of the last five years, (2) average price and (3) average difference in prices.

No.	Name of the tahsil.	(1) AREA OF DESI AND AMERICAN COTTON IN ACRES.										(2) AVERAGE PRICE OF EACH DURING THOSE YEARS.			
		1930.		1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.		1930.		1931.	
		Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Toba Tek Singh.	41,250	22,869	38,065	28,583	36,548	37,028	43,275	14,403	52,698	40,438	4 11 0	5 11 0	8 0 0	8 14 0
2	Samundri ..	33,072	29,375	28,190	30,088	28,315	31,295	35,427	27,867	41,625	24,129	4 11 0	5 12 0	6 11 0	8 0 0
3	Lyallpur ..	54,345	22,368	43,727	26,908	35,179	34,011	46,136	29,077	56,457	22,472	5 6 0	6 14 0	7 8 0	8 8 0
4	Jaranwala ..	42,837	33,029	37,377	31,582	32,014	37,223	43,013	31,086	46,485	31,174	4 9 0	6 2 0	8 0 0	8 14 0

No.	Name of the tahsil.	(2) AVERAGE PRICE OF EACH DURING THOSE YEARS—contd.										(3) AVERAGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PRICES OF AMERICAN AND DESI COTTON.			
		1932.		1933.		1934.		1930.		1931.		1932.		1933.	
		Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.	Desi.	Ameri- can.
1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	Toba Tek Singh.	5 11 0	6 11 0	4 11 0	5 11 0	6 11 0	8 6 0	1 0 0	0 14 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 11 0	1 11 0
2	Samundri ..	5 12 0	6 11 0	4 11 0	5 11 0	6 10 0	8 8 0	1 1 0	1 5 0	0 16 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 14 0	1 14 0
3	Lyallpur ..	5 12 0	6 12 0	5 0 0	6 4 0	6 12 0	10 0 0	1 9 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	1 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0
4	Jaranwala ..	5 15 0	6 10 0	4 13 0	5 10 0	6 5 0	9 11 0	1 9 0	0 14 0	0 11 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	3 6 0	3 6 0

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINERS.

**\*4482. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the total number of examiners for various examinations held by the University of the Punjab and their respective numbers community-wise ;
- (b) whether any letter was addressed to the Director of Public Instruction followed by reminders (by Education Committee, Chief Khalsa Diwan, Amritsar) to get the information asked in (a) ;
- (c) whether the Director of Public Instruction replied to the letters referred to in (b) ;
- (d) if the answer to (c) above be in the negative, the reason for not replying ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The honourable member has not specified the year for which he wants the information. If it is for the last year his attention is drawn to my answer to parts (a) and (b) of question No. 4060.<sup>1</sup>

(b) No. A letter and some reminders were, however, received about departmental examinations.

(c) and (d) The Director of Public Instruction had satisfied himself that the Sikhs were already in receipt of their due share of examinership in the departmental examinations, therefore correspondence on the subject was not called for.

## FISHERIES.

**\*4483. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether he has made enquiries from the Madras Government about the success obtained in stocking their rivers with Catla on which the experiments are done in that Presidency by their Fisheries Department ;
- (b) whether he now intends to send a responsible officer of the Punjab Fisheries Department to learn their methods of stocking rivers with Catla ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready.

## FISHERIES.

**\*4484. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) what steps have been taken by the Fisheries Department to stock the streams with fish fry in different localities ;
- (b) the revenue on account of fisheries before and after the inception of the Fisheries Department, also the expenditure on the staff ;
- (c) the reasons for the increase in revenue on account of fisheries ?

<sup>1</sup>See Appendix.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Trout, an exotic species of fish, have been bred successfully at the Kulu Trout Hatchery and have been planted in the waters of Kangra proper, Simla Hill States and Kulu sub-division.

No stream in the plains has been stocked with fish fry up to the present. Experiments on breeding indigenous species were conducted at several tanks in Gurdaspur, Kangra and Ferozepore districts with a view to breed fry artificially for stocking in rivers, but had to be abandoned either because no definite results were achieved or on account of financial stringency.

(b) The Fisheries Department came into existence in 1912. The revenue on account of fisheries during the year 1911-12 was Rs. 9,250 only, whereas the revenue collected in 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 49,000 round. Complete figures for 1934-35 are not yet available.

The expenditure on the staff during the year 1933-34 was Rs. 38,400 inclusive of travelling and other allowances.

(c) The increase in revenue is due to enforcement of fishing regulations in various districts and general improvement in the economic value of the Punjab fisheries.

#### TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE OF INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES.

**\*4485. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the travelling allowance of the Inspector of Fisheries has been raised from Rs. 45 to Rs. 60 (per month) ; if so, on what grounds ;
- (b) whether the Inspector of Fisheries is entitled to second class railway fare for the journeys performed by him in addition to the fixed travelling allowance ; if so, why railway fare is allowed when he receives a fixed travelling allowance ;
- (c) whether he is aware that in other departments of Government, officers who get fixed travelling allowance are not allowed railway fare for the journeys performed by them ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes, because in the absence of a whole-time Warden of Fisheries the Inspector's touring duties have increased.

(b) Yes, subject to the sanction of the Director of Agriculture, under rule 2-7 (3) of the Travelling Allowance Rules contained in the Punjab Financial Handbook No. 2.

(c) No. There are other officers who draw mileage for journeys performed by rail in addition to the fixed travelling allowance, e.g., all naib-tahsildars, certain tahsildars, all zilladars, etc.

#### INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES.

**\*4486. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the post of Inspector of Fisheries has been gazetted ; if so, the reasons ;

- (b) whether the Inspector of Fisheries has to supervise the work of the out-door (Fisheries) staff, which is of a scientific and administrative nature ;
- (c) whether the present Inspector of Fisheries possesses technical qualifications on the scientific side ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes, in the interests of the public service, for administrative reasons, and in view of the responsible nature of the post.

- (b) Yes, but the work of this staff is not of a scientific nature.
- (c) No.

#### FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

**\*4487. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) the percentage of the out-door Fisheries staff whose increments were stopped on account of unsatisfactory work after the retirement of Mr. Donald ;
- (b) the chief reason for the inefficiency of the staff ;
- (c) what steps Government is taking to promote efficiency amongst the Fisheries staff ;
- (d) the avenue for promotion to the staff, below the rank of Inspector of Fisheries and how many promotions have been given and to whom during the last 10 years ;
- (e) whether it is proposed to dispense with the services of those amongst the Fisheries staff who have put in 25 years and employ better educated men in their place ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) 21·4 per cent.

(b) Punishments have occasionally to be inflicted on some members of all establishments who fail to perform their duties satisfactorily.

(c) Close attention to their work and withholding of promotion from those considered to be inefficient.

(d) A copy of the Punjab Fisheries Subordinate Service Rules promulgated with notification No. 546-D., dated the 20th February, 1935, is laid on the table<sup>1</sup>. The following have been given promotion from time to time during the last ten years :—

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Bhai Balwant Singh, late Deputy Sub-Inspector of Fisheries. | } Officiated as Sub-Inspector of Fisheries in short vacancies from time to time.      |
| (2) Lala Chokha Nand, Deputy Sub-Inspector of Fisheries.        |   |
| (3) M. Abdulla Khan, Deputy Sub-Inspector of Fisheries.         |   |
| (4) M. Karam Bakhsh, Deputy Sub-Inspector of Fisheries.         |   |
| (5) S. Ude Singh, Sub-Inspector of Fisheries                    | .. Officiated previously and is officiating at present as Fisheries Research Officer. |
| (6) Lala Bhagwan Das, Sub-Inspector of Fisheries..              | Officiated as Inspector of Fisheries in a vacancy.                                    |

- (e) Does not arise.

<sup>1</sup>Placed in the library.



## DEPUTY SUB-INSPECTORS OF FISHERIES.

\*4488. **Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon** : With reference to question No. \*3694<sup>1</sup> (f) asked by Lala Jyoti Prasad in the last session of this Council will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether increments of some of the Deputy Sub-Inspectors of Fisheries have been withheld on account of the reason that they are only Urdu knowing ;
- (b) if so, how many years' service each has to his credit ;
- (c) whether Government will lay a copy of the appointment order in each case on the table ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that these Deputy Sub-Inspectors were not informed until they reached the efficiency bar that they would not be allowed to cross it until they showed sufficient progress in the knowledge of the English language ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that one of the Urdu knowing Deputy Sub-Inspectors of Fisheries (who probably died later on) was allowed to cross the efficiency bar by Mr. Donald ;
- (f) whether Urdu knowing Sub-Inspectors in the Co-operative Department and Deputy Rangers in the Forest Department are allowed to cross the efficiency bar ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** : (a) Two Deputy Sub-Inspectors of Fisheries have been held up at the efficiency bar in their time scale of pay, as they do not know enough English at present.

(b) Approximately 9½ and 8 years.

(c) It is not in the public interest to lay copies of the orders on the table.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

(f) There is no efficiency bar in the grade of the Deputy Rangers of the Forest Department, or for the Sub-Inspectors employed by the Punjab Co-operative Union.

## PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

\*4489. **Maulvi Mazhar Ali Azhar** : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any Punjab prisoners released in the Andamans are not being granted permits to proceed to their home districts ;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the refusal ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** : (a) None so far as the Punjab Government are aware.

(b) Does not arise.

## HINDU HEAD VERNACULAR CLERK IN MULTAN DIVISION.

**\*4490. Lala Chetan Anand:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of head vernacular clerks in the Multan division;
- (b) how many out of them are Hindus;
- (c) in case of low representation of Hindus what measures Government proposes to take to improve the representation of Hindus in this service?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan:** (a) and (b) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to page 14 of the consolidated statement showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government as it stood on the 1st January, 1935.

(c) The honourable member's attention is invited to the reply given to parts (c) and (d) of question No. 1108.<sup>1</sup>

## OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER, MULTAN DIVISION.

**\*4491. Lala Chetan Anand:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the superintendent, head vernacular clerk, assistant superintendent, head assistant, Local Fund Accounts, and head assistant accountant of the office of Commissioner, Multan division, are all Muslims;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these persons have superseded some Hindus;
- (c) whether it is a fact that superintendent and head vernacular clerk of the Multan Deputy Commissioner's office are both Muslims;
- (d) for how long these posts are being held by Muslims?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (a) Yes.

(b) No. Each appointment is made by selection.

(c) Yes.

(d) (i) During the last ten years the post at present held by a Muslim has been held—

By this Muslim .. .. .	2 years.
By a Hindu .. .. .	3½ years.
By a European .. .. .	4½ years.

(ii) During the last thirty years Hindus held the post for 17 years and Muslims (including the present incumbent) for 18 years.

## LOSS OF FILES IN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, MULTAN.

**\*4492. Lala Chetan Anand:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some files are missing from Commissioner's office, Multan ;
- (b) if so, what is their number ;
- (c) who is to blame for the loss of these files ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Government will consider the supplying of this information if the honourable member will please specify the nature of the files about which he seeks information and the years to which his enquiry relates.

## LOSS OF FILES IN DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, MULTAN.

**\*4493. Lala Chetan Anand:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some files are missing from Deputy Commissioner's office, Multan ;
- (b) who is to blame for the loss of these files ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Government will consider the supplying of this information if the honourable member will please specify the nature of the files about which he seeks information and the years to which his enquiry relates.

**\*4494. Cancelled.**

## SECOND POST OF LAMBARDAR IN VILLAGE BAKHSHU

**\*4495. Lala Chetan Anand:** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Ahmad Yar of village Bakhshu in the Okara tahsil of Montgomery district applied for the creation of a second post of lambardar in that village, and his application was rejected by the Settlement Officer, Montgomery ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Ahmad Yar appealed to the Commissioner, Multan, who also rejected his appeal ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that after the rejection of this appeal the Commissioner wrote to the Financial Commissioner that *chitha* of this appeal was missing and that the permission be granted to hear the appeal *de novo* ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Financial Commissioner ordered the case to be tried *de novo* and that enquiries be made into the loss of the *chitha* and disciplinary action taken against the person responsible for the loss of the *chitha* ;

- (e) whether it is a fact that this file was consigned to the record room ;
- (f) if so, by whose orders and whether any final order has been passed in that file ;
- (g) whether the appellant has been applying for a copy of the final order and whether he has been supplied the copy ;
- (h) what disciplinary action, if any, was taken with regard to loss of the *chitha* and against whom ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a), (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) (i) As regards retrial, " No."

(ii) As regards the remainder of the question, " Yes."

(e) No order consigning the file in its present state to the record room was ever passed by competent authority. The vernacular file has, however, been discovered in the record room.

(f) The file was originally consigned to the record room after the appeal was heard and before reference was made to the Financial Commissioner. After that date no order by any Commissioner appears on the file.

(g) No application is recorded to have been received later than the 15th July, 1931.

(h) The matter is being pursued.

#### SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

**\*4496. Lala Chetan Anand :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of persons in the Subordinate Educational Service with European qualifications, community-wise ;
- (b) the number of persons promoted to Provincial Educational Service from Subordinate Educational Service, during the last decade ;
- (c) the number among them with European qualifications ;
- (d) the reasons why persons in the Subordinate Educational Service with European qualifications were superseded by others ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :**

(a)	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Sikhs.	Christian.	Total.
	6	7	3	1	17

(b) 69.

(c) 4.

(d) In regulating promotions to the Punjab Educational Service many factors besides academic qualifications are taken into consideration. Moreover it will not be safe to lay down the principle that all European qualifications are better than all Indian qualifications.

**MIAN CHIRAGH-UD-DIN AS MEMBER OF A CRIMINAL TRIBE.**

**\*4497. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** With reference to the answer to my question No. \*4000,<sup>1</sup> will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether Mian Chiragh-ud-Din committed any kind of offence in his life and whether he has ever been challaned by the police or convicted in any case ;
- (b) whether Government is aware that the persons with whom he was considered to be associated during the investigations by the Allahabad police as mentioned in answer to part (b) of question No. \*4000,<sup>1</sup> have since been acquitted ;
- (c) the reasons for not removing the name of Mian Chiragh-ud-Din from the list of members of Criminal Tribes ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Chiragh-ud-Din has not been convicted of any offence.

(b) The accused in the Allahabad gang case have been acquitted by the Sessions Judge.

(c) I have not had an opportunity of studying the evidence in the Allahabad case, but will now consider whether it justifies the retention of Chiragh-ud-Din's name on the list of members of Criminal Tribes.

**SANCTION FOR THE ALIENATION OF LANDS.**

**\*4498. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it has been decided that if the Deputy Commissioner of a district gives sanction for the alienation of lands belonging to agriculturists to be sold to non-agriculturists, he shall submit a quarterly list of such sanctions for approval to the Commissioner ;
- (b) whether the Commissioner is empowered to disallow any or all of such sanctions and to submit to the Financial Commissioner all doubtful cases ;
- (c) if answers to above be in the affirmative, the number of such sanctions disallowed by the Commissioners during the last 5 years ;
- (d) the number of doubtful cases sent up by the Commissioners to the Financial Commissioner during the last 5 years ;
- (e) the number of doubtful cases actually disallowed by the Financial Commissioner during the last 5 years ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No. Statements are submitted for the information of the Commissioner and not for his approval.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) It is regretted that the information is not readily available and its collection would involve labour not commensurate with the results.

## TERMINAL TAX RAILWAY MANDI, LUDHIANA.

**\*4499. Mian Nurullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the area known as Railway Mandi, Ludhiana, has come within the municipal limits of the Ludhiana Municipality since 13th December, 1933 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the terminal tax limits of the Ludhiana Municipality for the purpose of assessment of terminal tax are the same as the municipal limits ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the terminal tax on goods imported within the area referred to in part (a) above has not been charged in accordance with the Terminal Tax Schedule in force in the Ludhiana Municipality for a period of four months or more from the date the new area came within the municipal limits ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Committee suffered a loss in the income from terminal tax in this respect due to the negligence of the official in charge of the Department for non-assessment of terminal tax on goods imported within that area ;
- (e) if replies to parts (a) to (d) are in the affirmative, whether the Government is prepared to make an enquiry ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

## DENTAL COLLEGE.

**\*4500. Mr. Nanak Chand Pandit :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether recently there was any enquiry made into the working of the Government Dental College, Lahore ;
- (b) the names of the members of the Enquiry Committee ;
- (c) whether this Committee made any report ;
- (d) if so, whether he will place on the table a copy of the report ;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any action on this report ;
- (f) if so, what action has so far been taken ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

## TRANSFER OF PATWARIS.

**\*4501. Sardar Sahib Sardar Gurbachan Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that patwaris remain stationed at one place for more than 8 or 9 years ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative whether the Government has considered the question of framing a rule whereby the patwaris may be transferred from one place to another at least once in every three years ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes, in some cases.

(b) No.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

## CONCESSION IN ELECTRICITY RATES.

**1144. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the minimum number of kilowatts for use of electric energy from the Mandi Scheme for which Government is prepared to grant concession rate?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The sanctioned tariffs for a supply of energy from the Mandi Scheme vary in accordance with the connected load. A copy of the tariffs was placed on the table in reply to question No. \*3820.<sup>1</sup>

## ELECTRICITY CHARGES.

**1145. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the minimum charge Government will make for a pumping scheme for, say, 40 to 45 tube wells to irrigate ten thousand acres by means of electricity to be supplied by the Hydro-Electric Scheme?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The question does not give sufficient data to admit of an immediate answer.

The whole question of tube well irrigation by hydro-electric power is, however, under investigation and it is hoped that a scheme will be ready within this year.

## ELECTRICITY FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

**1146. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state whether, in order to make a start with Hydro-Electric power supply for the agricultural industry, Government is prepared to set aside 10 per cent. of the power available now, for agriculture?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** All power immediately available is being distributed. Within the maximum capacity of the plant, Government will generate and distribute further power as the demand increases. How much of this power will be devoted to agricultural purposes depends on the demand of agriculturists, that is to say, on how far agriculturists are ready and willing to pay for, and use for agricultural purposes, the power which Government can generate for distribution in the areas concerned. The question of reserving a portion of the whole current available at any time can be considered by Government as a whole and will be submitted for such consideration.

## RENTS FOR TEMPORARY CULTIVATION.

**1147. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state if there are any reasons beyond non-alienation for considering rents for temporary cultivation as ordinary revenue?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I am aware of no reason for treating rents from temporary cultivation as other than ordinary revenue.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME.

**1148. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) the total receipts of a 'Capital' nature including temporary cultivation rents for each of the last 5 years ;
- (b) the total amount for each of the last five years spent on—
  - (i) production ;
  - (ii) capital expenditure ;
- (c) the total of ordinary revenue, if any, spent on capital works ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

PAY AND PENSIONS.

**1149. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state the maximum pay and pensions of Imperial Service officers of the Indian Civil Service, Indian Educational Service, Police, Forest and Agriculture in the Punjab in 1915 and in 1935 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

PENSIONS.

**1150. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state the maximum pensions of Provincial Service officers in the Civil, Education, Police, Forest and Agricultural Services in 1915 and 1935 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

PAY AND PENSIONS.

**1151. Professor W. Roberts :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state the maximum pay and pensions of the subordinate and clerical establishments of the various services in 1915 and 1935 ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

GREY CANALS.

**1152. Mr. E. Mayadas :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount of *khush haisiyati* that Government has received from the Grey Canals in the Ferozepore district during the past 20 years ;
- (b) the amount that Government has spent on the Grey Canals during the past 20 years ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Rs. 12,47,535.

(b) Rs. 1,25,000.



## RESOLUTIONS.

## SUBSIDIARY INDUSTRIES FOR ZAMINDARS.

**Mr. President :** The resolution moved by Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah is—

This Council recommends to the Government that on account of the depreciation of edible grains every possible encouragement be given to the adoption by zamindars of subsidiary industries, such as dairy-farming, sheep-farming and poultry-farming, and that for this purpose—

- (i) an expert in these lines of industry be appointed for the whole province, and special training in these branches be given to veterinary assistants already in service, and
- (ii) facilities for transport of articles so produced be given—
  - (a) by the grant of licences on fees for wheeled conveyances on the roads of—
    - (1) main canals, and
    - (2) rajbahs and minor distributaries, the income from fees being utilized on maintaining the roads in a proper state of repairs,
  - (b) by asking the Government of India to reduce by 75 per cent. railway freight for the produce of these industries.

**Sardar Arjan Singh** (Hoshiarpur and Kangra, Sikh, Rural) : The resolution moved is in a way restricted in its scope inasmuch as it mentions only three industries, dairy-farming, sheep-farming and poultry-farming, but it seems, as the honourable mover tried to explain, that the list is not exhaustive, but is only illustrative. I think in asking for remedies the honourable member has gone rather into details, but shorn of all appendages the resolution seeks to encourage subsidiary industries for the zamindars in the countryside and as such we must support the resolution. Before I speak on the merits of this resolution I want to point out one thing and I would like to sound a note of warning because in the discussions that we have had during this session over industries we have in our over-zeal tried to show that the Punjab can be converted into an industrial province. I do not hold that view, because Punjab is mainly an agricultural province and is bound to remain so for a considerable time. It is therefore only industries that are subsidiary to agriculture that can be developed and should be developed. The question of these subsidiary industries is a very important one, because the question which tries to solve the question of bread for the masses is much more important than any other subject. We have been discussing this question for a long time during this session. I exactly do not know whether this question relates to the Honourable Minister for Agriculture or the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, but the question must be in between both these departments. It has been made clear that the big schemes for the development of agriculture must rest with the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and the attempt to stamp out illiteracy rests with the Honourable Minister for Education. But this question, just as it is, is a very important question and by solving this question the Minister for Local Self-Government will be rendering a valuable service to the masses of this province if he tactfully tackles this question and affords some relief to the masses. He should have the sight of a seer and his outlook on the question of institutions and systems must be that of a Bentham and it is only in that case that he would be able to do some useful service by alleviating the present distress of the people. As a matter of fact, he would be doing a very valuable service if he makes out

a scheme and pushes it on. In this respect I would ask the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to have a sort of rivalry with his other colleagues. I think the Honourable Finance Member can claim, and I think claim justly, being in charge of the portfolio of law and order, that he has created a peaceful atmosphere in the country which is so congenial for the propagation of industry and agriculture. Therefore I would request the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government to do his part of the duty and in that case he would certainly have the support of all sections of the House. It has been stated that the important consideration is the question of money. In the first place I do not think that industries that we require in this country or the facilities which are sought by this resolution require much money, but even if it were so, I think money spent on these facilities would be well-spent. If money can be found for extra police, if money can be found for maintaining this top-heavy administration, there is absolutely no reason why money should not be forthcoming for such beneficial undertakings as the resolution seeks to provide for. It must be left to the Government to make local inquiries and examine conditions locally of each and every district and then find out what sort of industry will suit a certain locality or a certain district, as for instance, in my own district we have got very excellent industries in the form of wood-toys, because we have got plenty of shisham and these toys are prepared on a very large scale. Of course if the Government were to come forward with a little encouragement these people would flourish. Similarly in other districts conditions may be examined. The work should be undertaken with a zeal which this question deserves. I was submitting to this House that this country is an agricultural country; what I mean to say is that when we are making speeches sometimes we bring in the analogies of countries like England and Japan. I assert that conditions in the Punjab are certainly different from those obtaining in Japan and England. When we rush for industrialism, we lose sight of the actual conditions. To say that this country must be developed on the lines which have been adopted in other countries shows a lack of imagination and love for false imitation. We must take things just as they are, because we are peculiarly circumstanced in this country and when we know that the chief industry of this province is agriculture, we know that we have our different problems and different solutions. With these words I support the resolution.

**Chaudhri Afzal Haq** (Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): The subsidiary industries which have been mentioned in the resolution under consideration and other similar subsidiary industries which should be developed and to which the zamindars should resort in order to supplement their income are already known to us and it is my belief that these can be developed without spending large sums for the purpose. I may also say without bringing political considerations into the discussion that the fault does not lie with the Government if these industries have not developed so far, because it will have to be admitted that the Government has been doing its part at least since the Council came into existence to increase the income of the people of the Punjab. It has been spending large sums for ameliorating the condition of the zamindars and we must be thankful to it. The question then naturally arises, why have these industries remained undeveloped so far? I am sure it

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is not the lack of funds that is responsible for this state of affairs. It is something else and to that no one appears to have paid his attention up to this time. It is not the lack of funds nor is it lack of education that is responsible for the zamindars not having so far taken to these subsidiary industries. Money, as I have said, is not required in large sums and the people are sufficiently educated to understand these things. Therefore it is clear that there is something beyond these things which is lacking and which is the cause of these industries not having so far developed. The thing which is required is a change in the psychology of the people. Sir Malcolm Hailey admitted that the Government had tried to ameliorate the condition of the people from all aspects by starting different beneficial departments but it had not done anything to effect a change in the psychology of the rural masses. This is the only thing which stands in the way of our departments achieving success so far as the amelioration of the condition of the zamindars is concerned.

It has been stated that sheep-farming may be encouraged. If this suggestion were to be accepted, within ten years, our country will be turned into a desert. If you begin to encourage sheep-farming the people will begin to graze sheep everywhere and on all sorts of plants and trees. There will be no one to prevent people from grazing their sheep on the tender leaves of young trees, and it is well-known that when the leaves of young trees are plucked away they soon die. In this way within a short time the whole country would become a barren desert. If you spend the sum of one crore which you are going to get from the Government of India on the development of industries on the lines suggested, then I assure you that all that sum would be wasted. If you want to spend that amount usefully then the best way to do it is first to try to change the psychology of the people so as to make them understand the value of industrial development. Thereafter, tell them what they should do for the development of cottage industries. After a change has been effected in the outlook of the people, then you can spend your money usefully and then expect to succeed in your purpose. If industrial development is started in the same way in which you started the co-operative societies and the Public Health Department, then even if you were to spend 10 crores of rupees it would serve no useful purpose and will be a mere waste. Public Health Department would have been a success if only before bringing it into existence you had tried to acquaint the people of the advantages of living in sanitary and hygienic conditions. If you do not cultivate in a child the habit of throwing an orange peel in a plate when he is eating an orange, he would naturally throw it on the floor thus making the house untidy. Consequently it will be necessary for you to first tell the child that he should throw the orange peel in the plate and not throw it on the floor. But if you were to buy a plate and place it before the child when he is eating an orange without telling him that the plate is placed before him so that he may put the peel in it, he will continue to throw it on the floor or in some other place convenient to him. You have a Public Health Department but it is not a success because the outlook of the people has not changed. The same is the condition of the Department of Agriculture. This department may be doing its best to serve the people but it cannot do them any good

unless their present psychology is changed. People do not know that to keep emaciated bulls does not pay, for they nearly eat as much as the strong bulls do but work less. As long as you are not going to bring about a change in the psychology of the people you cannot expect any success so far as the problem of rural uplift is concerned. I remember once a contagion spread in a village and nearly 500 cattle including bulls and cows died. The people of a neighbouring village instead of getting help from a veterinary assistant went to *mullas* and *pandits* to get charms from them. These people do not know scientific treatment. They have only got blind faith (*Interruption*). Faith and action must go hand in hand. Even the Ministers have the same psychology and they have not been able to change it. The most important thing that requires handling is the psychology of the people. Change it and you will effect a change for the better. I say that this change is necessary, but who would effect it? When the Honourable Minister found that he had become prosperous and his practice was established he shifted to the city. Similarly, when Chaudhri Chhotu Ram found that his practice had increased he got a house built for himself in the city and left his village. In the same way when I found that in the village I could not continue my studies and could not get books I shifted to Lahore, for here was a library from which I could borrow books. The same is the case with all who can do anything for the good of the rural areas. All want aristocratic style of living and none wants to help the poor people. If I am a master and you are a master who shall drive the asses? Consequently it is not a question of lack of funds or lack of the means of communication or lack of sympathy on the part of the Government. The means are there but the sense to utilize them is missing. There is a book on rural uplift with the title "Up from Poverty." The authors have suggested work by first forming different centres. The scheme is a practicable one but who would form these centres. Who would come forth to sacrifice his time and comfort? The rural areas do not require anything else but some leaders, but the leaders have come to the cities to live there comfortably and if at times they go to the villages they go there to recoup their health. They do not spend that time even in the company of the people. People go to see them but they do not care to mix with them. On account of this fact that the people are not properly guided the psychology of the people has become a barrier in the way of progress. The people believe too much in a false respectability. If Chaudhri Chhotu Ram were to start a poultry-farm, within a few years he and his family would be nicknamed as *kukrianwala*. Instead of respect he would earn disrespect. Similarly, if anybody were to start a bee-farm within ten years he will be known everywhere as *makhianwala*.

So long as you will not start work whole-heartedly and with a will you cannot ameliorate the condition of the rural areas. You will have to start a department with sufficient strength of workers. You will have to form centres and keep school masters to do the work in connection with the changing of the psychology of the people and teaching them how to live well. The honourable member who stated that there is no need for creating a department for this purpose and employing a sufficient number of men to work it, did not realise the gravity of the situation. I say in the first place this sort of work ought to be started by some non-official agency, by the leaders

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of the public, but if this is impossible then it may be started with the Government's help. Let a department be created which may carry on the work of instructing people and let it be manned sufficiently. The work of this department should be to change the psychology of the people. This is not what has struck me at the moment but it is my deliberate opinion that for the rural uplift work such department is most needed. (*Interruption*). I have written a drama with the same purpose. I have also got a first prize for it. I have given in it the right remedy for our ailments. The name of this drama is "*Shaur*." For our political progress we require self-respect and for our industrial and other kinds of needs we require good sense. If you create a good sense in the people it will help you in changing their condition for the better. So long as good sense is not there you cannot expect good results from your efforts howsoever tremendous and howsoever sincere they may be.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh** (Sikh, Urban) : In a speech in London the other day Sir George Schuster made some interesting observations. He said that what was needed in India was somehow or other to get the rural masses out of the rut of their present low standards, and he went on to say "there is no reason why it should not be possible to distribute certain kinds of industry over the countryside and thus enable the people to improve their standard of living by combining their agricultural and industrial earning power." We on this side have been urging upon the Government the necessity of supplementing the income of the agricultural classes by subsidiary industries, by the encouragement of those industries which can be suitably developed in the countryside. Since economic depression overtook the world that need has become all the more imperative. My honourable friend, Sardar Habib Ullah, has tried to focus the attention of Government on three or four agricultural industries which in his opinion can be started with advantage in rural areas. But he has very much restricted the scope of the resolution. I would suggest that in order that some effective step may be taken by the Government, first of all the Government ought to make a survey of all those small industries for which there is ample scope for development in the countryside. Secondly, Government ought to find out the localities in which certain types of industry can be promoted. Thirdly, Government should determine the form in which State help should be given. To achieve that end I would suggest that some sort of a conference, a council or a development board ought to meet for chalking out a definite plan.

Coming to the specific proposals of my honourable friend I am at one with him that these three or four industries which he has suggested as typical examples can be very easily promoted if encouragement is given to the people. Sheep-farming, in my opinion, is one of those industries to which rural classes ought to have paid very great attention. (*An honourable member* : Most profitable). I am not saying anything of which I have no experience. For last three or four years I have taken to that industry not so much for the sake of profit as for the sake of improving my land. Sheep-farming pays the zamindar in more than one way. In the first instance, as I have said, the zamindar can improve his land by this method more than by any other method. It is a well-known fact that manure of sheep is more useful than

any other form of manure, and as a commercial proposition it is paying too. I have kept accounts of my farm and in one particular place I have been able to get a return of 40 per cent. on my investment in one year. But what is needed is the prevention of disease in the sheep, and if that can be achieved then I think this is the most profitable subsidiary industry. One difficulty in this connection for small zamindars is the lack of pasture land or grazing ground, though big zamindars can afford to keep a portion of their land to be used as grazing ground. Wherever it is possible Government ought to encourage the development of this industry.

Coming to dairy-farming, it is a matter for pleasure that the Agricultural Research Council has taken in hand the development of this industry in a serious manner. I do not know whether dairy-farming would pay the zamindars who are very distantly situated from towns, but certainly it is an industry with good scope for development in villages which are situated near big centres. (*An honourable member* : Through co-operative societies). It may be possible through co-operative societies, but the cost of transport will rather be prohibitive. Certainly villages round about district headquarters can take to this industry, but in this connection too the help and advice of experts are badly needed. For example, this industry will not pay if the zamindar does not know which fodder crop will be of the greatest advantage to him, because the cost of fodder is a great factor in the total cost of dairy products. The Agricultural Department has done good work in this connection and by the introduction of such fodder crops as barsim, sudan grass, etc., it has become possible to grow cheap fodder. Also the industry will not pay if cows of good breed are not obtainable. In other countries you find cows yielding from 16 to 20 seers of milk, but here we consider it a great luck if a cow yields as much as eight to ten seers of milk. In this connection also Government advice and Government help is absolutely necessary.

Another industry which my honourable friend mentioned was fruit-farming. In that category of fruit-farming, I would like to lay great stress upon fruit and vegetable preservation. Fruit preservation has not been developed in this country, and we find that an article which is produced in abundance in this country is being imported from America, California and Australia. The Government will be well advised to start either a model factory for giving training to zamindars in fruit preservation. In fruit-farming I would urge upon the Agricultural Department to make available larger staff than they have at present. The zamindar needs advice on the spot. He cannot afford to go to Lyallpur nor can the advice be given with advantage at Lyallpur. The best advice that can be given to the zamindar is on his own farm, but I regret to say that the staff that the Agricultural Department has at present with the Fruit Specialist is not sufficient. I have personally experienced that I have had to correspond for three months before a specialist or even an assistant could be sent out to my farm to give advice to me. As I have already said, these three or four industries which my honourable friend has mentioned are only illustrative and what Government ought to do is to explore all those industries for which there is scope in this province.

My friend in his resolution has something to say about the canal roads being thrown open for the transport of these articles. I do not know whether

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it is a very important matter which ought to have formed part of the resolution, because it may not be that the places where these industries can be developed are necessarily situated near the canal. Besides, the canal licences if given are likely to be abused. It is impossible to check whether the licence is being used for the transport of that particular commodity. Once a licence is granted, it is likely to be used by zamindars for all purposes. Anyhow it is a minor point, but the most important point which has been suggested is with regard to the reduction of railway freight. In this connection, I would say that the Punjab Government ought to press the Government of India for a revision of their railway freight policy in general.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** They have always done it.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** I am glad to learn that the Punjab Government has always done so, but I do not know what success their efforts have met with.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Except once, not much.

**Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Situated as we are we have got to send our stuff to different parts of India and the railway freight is so highly pitched that it is not possible for us to send our commodities like wheat to places like Calcutta. I am informed that it is cheaper to import wheat from Australia to Calcutta than it is to transport by rail from Lahore to Calcutta. Besides, we have got Sind next to this province and it is so advantageously situated that in exporting our produce through Karachi we stand in an unfavourable position as compared with Sind.

*(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and the Deputy President occupied it.)*

The North-Western Railway should revise its railway freight policy in general in order to help the Punjab zamindar. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Punjab Government to another point in which they ought to have taken interest and fought with the Government of India. It is about the proposed reduction of the import duty on wheat. I do not know what step the Punjab Government has taken, but it is a matter for the greatest regret that the Government of India should consider it advisable at this time to reduce the duty on foreign wheat by eight annas per cwt. The present wheat prices do not justify it at all. In fact the prices are falling and have fallen considerably during the last month. *(The Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government :* What is the price now ?) It is Rs. 2-1-0 per maund in the markets and Rs. 22 per candy in Karachi. The prices are practically the same as they were at this time last year. I do not see why the Government of India should come forward with that proposal. If the Punjab Government have not already submitted their strong protest they ought to do so now.

I have already suggested that these matters ought to be discussed thoroughly in a committee or in a conference. What the Government ought to do is to convene a conference and to draw up a plan. Of course

that word 'plan' has become very much hackneyed, but there is nothing which can be done properly unless there is a plan for it. Government should have an objective and should have a proper programme to carry out that objective. With these words I support the resolution.

**Professor W. Roberts** (Nominated non-official): I believe that there is lack of progress in regard to these three industries, but the reasons for the lack of progress are economic and lack of organisation. We do not know sufficiently about the state of industry in the province to know the best lines on which to carry on. Take the dairy industry for example. I consider that the first step should be taken in the bigger towns. Lahore, for example, is still keeping cattle in the city, and until something can be done to take the cattle out very little hope is possible. It is unfair to compel the owners of cattle to cease to keep them without establishing some milk depôts. This involves some legislation to penalise the sale of impure and watered milk. There must be some form of subsidy by Government in the way of inspectors. But there is no doubt that the first step should be taken in the bigger towns. Say some section of Lahore may be started with, and a study may perhaps be made in the first instance of what is being done in Bombay and Calcutta where some progress has been made in tackling this question.

As regards sheep-farming, here again I feel that no one seems to have taken the industry as a whole and studied the provincial aspect of it. We have 50 lakhs of sheep in the province and there is extensive grazing in the hills in the summer and so far up to now there has been a slipshod way of winter sheep feeding. I think that it is possible with the present low prices of food-stuff that we can stop growing wheat on such a large scale. We can grow very cheap and excellent fodder and a great deal of irrigated areas can be much improved if we grow less wheat and cotton and produce more fodder. I feel that if we can establish an industry in frozen mutton we should enable the farmer to convert the grain into more concentrated form. It takes from 4 to 6 lbs. of grain to make one lb. of meat. This would incidentally establish other industries in the province. In this respect again I feel that a more detailed survey is required as mentioned by my friend Sardar Ujjal Singh. I would suggest that the advice and perhaps to some extent the services of Mr. Branford from Lyallpur may be sought. He is available though I do not suggest for a moment that he should be engaged as a servant of Government. He can be asked to survey the whole problem of sheep-breeding and mutton trade of the province and perhaps study the question abroad, possibly in Great Britain and Australia. This may cost only about five or six thousand rupees. It is well worth trying.

With regard to fruit and vegetable preserving, my friends tell me that the fruits of the Punjab are not worth canning to any very large extent. I do not know much about that, but I am told that vegetable canning ought to be a success in the Punjab, because excellent vegetables are available here.

Another point which will affect our industry is hydro-electric power. With hydro-electric power it is not like discovering a coal mine. It means that people will not have to pay for engines and boilers or heavy machinery. The power is there at certain points. I suggest to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government that he should make every effort to bring to the



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notice of the villages the points from which power can be had. It is desirable that he offers power for village industries at concession rates.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath** (Punjab Land-holders, General): I am very grateful to the honourable member for Lahore, Sardar Habib Ullah, for having moved this resolution. As a matter of fact it was at my request that the resolution as now put before the Council was framed. I support every part of the resolution.

Before speaking on the merits of the resolution I may point out one thing. The suggestion about the reduction of railway freights by 75 per cent. made in the last part of the resolution should be applied also to the transport of fruits. I find that the railway freight on the transport of milk is very heavy. With that freight it is very difficult for villages distant from big towns to profit by the industries mentioned in the first part of the resolution.

I now turn to the suggestions made in the first part of the resolution. First comes dairy-farming. I do not know much about it, the experiment in my estate is in an incipient stage. But from what I have read about it and from what I have learnt about it from actual experience I find that every effort should be made to reduce the cost of production. If we begin with milch cattle which yield small quantities of milk, the cost of production will be high and naturally the profit will be low. The first thing therefore that we must do is to get cattle which yield large quantities of milk. For, the cost of maintaining a buffalo which yields 14 seers of milk and another yielding 6 or 7 seers of milk is nearly the same. Similarly, the cost of maintaining a cow is the same whether she yields 4 seers or more. The cost of maintaining milch cattle is nearly the same irrespective of their yielding capacity. It is therefore desirable, if one wants to earn more profit, that he should maintain cattle which have got greater milk yielding capacity. It is only in that case that the cost of production can be reduced and the margin of profit increased. The next subject is the proper arrangement for growing fodder crops. About this I wish to say nothing. The third matter which is important is that veterinary advice should be easily available and that too of a proper kind. Veterinary sub-assistant surgeons are generally posted to village dispensaries. They generally have very poor training and are not of much use to the villagers. Better veterinary skill should be made available to zamindars. The next important thing is that there should be greater facilities for transport. This can be achieved by improving the roads and by the reduction of freight and in other ways too numerous to mention here.

With regard to sheep-farming, I should repeat what I have said already, namely that good veterinary advice should be made available. The idea that prevails in the province that there is mortality of sheep and goats on a large scale is to a certain extent exaggerated. I have had some experience of sheep-farming for more than two years and I find that with proper supervision and proper feeding their mortality can be very much reduced. About poultry-farming I find that there are not sufficient number of institutions to give the necessary training. In Gurdaspur fifteen days' training is given for poultry-farming. Poultry-farming, I think, is a very delicate process,

more delicate than sheep farming or dairy farming, but it would be profitable even in villages which are distantly situated from big towns provided that freights are reduced and roads improved and facilities given for utilising canal banks. These canal banks can be allowed to be utilised without material harm being done to the banks. I would lay very great emphasis on this suggestion, or rather on the value of this suggestion. As has been proposed licences may be granted and fees prescribed. The income from fees realised can be utilised for keeping up the roads or maintaining them in good repair. There should be no difficulty in accepting this suggestion. Another suggestion with regard to these industries which deserves the serious consideration of the Honourable Revenue Member is this. Government ought not to start rival institutions to compete with private industries of this kind. Where Government dairies exist they should not be allowed to come into competition with private dairies wherever such dairies have been started. I hope that the resolution as a whole will commend itself to the Council and will be accepted by the official benches.

**Khan Bahadur Nawab Fazl Ali** (Gujrat, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu): Honourable members have made speeches on this resolution from different points of view. Rightly or wrongly the request which is embodied in this resolution appears to me a very simple one. My honourable friend, Sardar Habib Ullah, wants to impress upon the Government only this fact that for the benefit of those people who may start subsidiary industries there ought to be some one who should give them proper advice and help. In my opinion this is a very simple and modest request that he has made to the Government. He has not asked for any financial help for the zamindars. Even the appointment of such an expert as he has proposed will not entail a lot of expenditure. His sole object in moving this resolution is that there should be a certain expert who should be able to offer guidance and advice to those people who should start poultry farming or sheep farming or any other such occupation on a large scale. As a matter of fact, there are many such persons who started these industries, but suffered great losses for want of proper guidance and help. It is certainly impossible that expert advice can be given to every person who keeps three or four hens or sheep. The expert cannot go to everybody's house and tell him how to look after his hens or sheep properly. This advice will be meant for those people only who will seriously take to poultry or sheep, etc., farming and will keep a certain number of hens or sheep.

An honourable member has said that the zamindars have no sense of starting these industries, and we should first cultivate in the zamindars a sense of doing these things properly. But I would submit that the zamindars have been carrying on this work for a long time and without that sense which my honourable friend wants to cultivate in them. However, the old proverb while the grass grows the steed starves may not, I am afraid, come out true.

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Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that the Government should take immediate steps to secure the help of an expert who should give competent advice and help to those who are already carrying on this work, so that by sustaining losses for want of guidance even they may not give up these

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industries. In fact, people had been doing this work on a large or small scale, but as they did not get any help or advice they suffered heavy losses and abandoned this work in despair.

It is no longer possible for the zamindar to depend merely on agriculture. He must do something to supplement his income in order to keep the wolf from the door. So, if he takes to subsidiary industries there must be some one to offer him help and guidance lest he should make mistakes and suffer losses. Even other people besides the zamindars who may start this work can profit by the advice of the expert. In this connexion the Government will have to bear neither any great expenditure nor any any trouble.

I think Sardar Sahib has particularly referred to our road. I cannot support the suggestion that the petrol road should be open for general traffic. In my opinion that road will be totally spoiled by doing so. But I feel that if the boundary roads which at some places run along both sides of the canals, are thrown open to public traffic, there would be no trouble at all and the department also will not have to incur any considerable expenditure. The canals have been in existence for the last fifteen or twenty years and the people are in fact using these roads though under the rules they are not open to public traffic. It is only the baildars who can be profited by this law, by taking something from the people. In many cases the village is situated between two canals or rajbahs and there is no road by which the people may carry their goods, gram, etc., to mandis and to their house. In other cases villages are situated on one side of the canal and the lands belonging to the villagers are situated on the other side of it and consequently the villagers experience great difficulty in driving their carts loaded with fodder, manure, etc., to the village. And when there are no other suitable routes leading to the village their difficulty becomes almost insurmountable. I am sorry to submit that the Canal Department has not cared to realise this difficulty of the zamindars. I take this opportunity to request the Government that in order to remove these difficulties of the zamindars, the boundary roads may be thrown open to public traffic. In this connection I would like to make one suggestion and that is that if the department can accede to this request of ours, whenever any district board may request the Canal Department to hand over to them the charge of a particular road the request should be granted on the condition that the latter will have as usual the right to stop all traffic on that road for one day in a year in order to maintain their title to that road. If that is done, it will greatly benefit the zamindars and the Canal Department will also stand to gain in as much as the expenditure on the maintenance of the road will have to be borne by the district board. The plight of the poor zamindars is very miserable and if we start subsidiary industries suggested by the honourable mover, it will go a long way in mitigating the present sufferings of the zamindars. Another observation that I like to make in this connection is that railway freight for wheat and other agricultural produce should be considerably reduced in order to enable the zamindars to make their two ends meet. With these words I support the resolution under consideration.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (Urdu) : I support the resolution under discussion. I should like

to draw the attention of the House to the peculiar circumstances in which our province is placed. It is primarily an agricultural province but income derived from agriculture is not very large. There are neither mines nor flourishing industries for people to fall back upon in times of need. Most of the labourers employed on construction of public buildings and roads come from Afghanistan, those employed for wood cutting belong to Kashmir State and those who work on canals come from Bikaner. At present the whole business is at a stand still. When this is the state of affairs, is it not in the fitness of things that we should divert our attention to subsidiary industries in order to enable the people to keep their body and soul together? The agricultural land in this province is quite insufficient to meet the needs of zamindars. Some lands have already been washed away by rivers. Of course, canals have been dug for their benefit, but even this has brought in its trail water-logging. It is therefore essential that some steps should be taken to provide the starving people of this province with some subsidiary means of living. Maulana Hali has beautifully depicted the real state of industries in this country, and I cannot help quoting a few of his verses in this connection. He says—

اگر وہ پہننے کو ٹوبی بنائیں۔ تو کپڑا وہ اک اور دنیا سے لائیں

You have created a desire among the people to wear hats and caps, but it is a pity that they have to look to foreign countries for material used in their manufacture. The poet says further—

جو سینے کو وہ ایک سوئی منگائیں۔ تو مشرق سے مغرب میں لینے کو جائیں

ہر ایک شے میں غیروں کے محتاج ہیں وہ

منڈیکس کی رو میں تاراج ہیں وہ

نہ پاس اُن کے چادر نہ بستر ہے کھر کا نہ برتن ہیں کھر کے نا زور ہے کھر کا

نہ چاقو نہ قینچی نہ نشتر ہے کھر کا مراہ ہے کھر کی نہ سانپ ہے کھر کا

کھول مجلسوں میں قلم دفتروں میں

اُٹانہ ہے سب عاریت کا کھر وں میں

This is what Maulana Hali felt about the real condition of industries in the country. Previously we thought that the Government did not consider it in the interest of the British trade to promote indigenous industries and therefore these were thrown into the background. But it is a pity that while sitting on these benches we strongly advocate the cause of our industries and severely criticise the policy of the Government in this respect. But as soon as we go over to the opposite benches we forget all this and as the saying goes—

ہر کہ دربان لک رفت نمک شد

we begin to feel with the Government.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The matter relates to goats and sheep. This is a subject of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** The Honourable Minister has simply started some factories of his own but has done nothing to promote nation-building activities. Our country is now face to face with a very serious situation. The income of the people has alarmingly decreased. The zamindar is hardly able to keep his body and soul together. Public expenditure and the salaries of public servants are as high as ever. No substantial reduction in railway freight for agricultural produce has been made. The indebtedness of the zamindars is as alarming as before. Under these circumstances, is it not fair and advisable that we should turn our attention to the indigenous industries of this country? No country has ever advanced economically without the development of its industries. England and America have become the wealthiest countries of the world only because of their industrial development. The daily wage of a labourer in these countries is one pound sterling and here it is four annas only. This shows that we are most backward economically. The other countries are self-sufficient, but we look to other countries for our daily requirements although we produce the largest amount of raw material. Is it not a pity that we produce wheat and cotton but articles made of these raw materials are imported into this country from foreign countries? Why not manufacture such articles here? So is the case with cotton. At present we have to export and send out our raw cotton to other countries at a very cheap rate so much so that the zamindars get practically nothing in the bargain. In return we get cloth which is manufactured in those countries and for that we have to pay a very heavy price. Now if cotton factories were to be opened here and the manufacture of cloth were to be encouraged in this province and for the matter of that in this country, we can save not only a lot of money that we have to send out of India, but we can also supply work to the zamindars and to so many other people who are wandering unemployed in the streets and who are proving a burden on the society.

**Honorary Captain Sardar Raghubir Singh :** Why not give up using foreign cloth?

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** But is it not better if we begin to manufacture the same kind of cloth here and in this way kill two birds with one stone? That, I think, is decidedly the better course.

Then take the case of sugarcane that we produce here and for which we get very low prices. If sugar industry were to be started here on a very extensive scale and if this industry were to be encouraged by the Government, we can raise the price of sugarcane by 100 and even 200 per cent. (*Honourable Members :* How is it possible?) There is nothing to be surprised at and I shall presently explain how that can be done. As the Honourable Minister for Agriculture will bear me out, we can make one acre of land yield as much as 600 and even 1,000 maunds of sugarcane by using the improved seed and by working with improved implements. If we sell this sugarcane in its raw condition, as we do at present, we get only 4 annas per maund as its price. In other words we can get Rs. 250 for one thousand maunds of sugarcane if we sell it in its raw condition and this is what we have to do. Now if, instead of selling it in its raw condition, we were to manufacture sugar out of it, we can get at least one hundred maunds of sugar out of that and this

quantity of sugar will fetch us at least one thousand rupees. Therefore it is clear that we can raise the price of sugarcane to a very high level.

**Honorary Captain Sardar Raghbir Singh :** Sugar factories were started and have failed.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** May be it is so, but I can guarantee that these factories will not fail if they are run on proper lines. If you start these factories on co-operative basis and if the labourers are also masters, the chance of these factories failing will altogether be eliminated. Therefore we should have no fears on that score. Similarly, we can get much more price out of linseed which we produce here and which we send out to foreign countries only if we begin to prepare colours and paints here instead of depending for these things on the manufacturers in foreign countries. We can also start the preservation of fruits here and thereby we can provide work for the unemployed and also cater to the needs of our men who have to look for these things to the people of foreign countries. Then we can open factories for manufacturing machines and their parts and these motor cars, lorries and engines and so on and so forth. If we do all this and even something out of it, we can provide employment for so many of our unemployed youngmen and also the zamindars.

But all this can be done if the Government were to try to tackle this problem in a serious manner. I understand that in other countries or at any rate in other agricultural countries, 30 per cent. of the revenues of the states are spent for the benefit of the zamindars. But here in this country not more than one per cent. of the total revenues of the Government is spent for the good of the zamindars. Even that one per cent. is spent, if I may say so, in papers and is not utilised in the best possible manner. The reason of it is that the officers of the Government do not take interest in the welfare of the zamindars and the general public and they do not care to know the troubles from which the latter may be suffering. No doubt they go on tours and thereby show that they try to know personally the needs of the people. But I take this opportunity to tell the Government that the real purpose for which these tours are undertaken is never served. The officers who go on tour go flying and come back running and you can very well guess that in this way they cannot ascertain the sufferings of the people. If these tours are intended to do some good to the people, I would request the Ministers and the Honourable Members to hold darbars at least once a month in every district where the people should have free access and where they should be encouraged to put forth their demands and to state what their difficulties are and how they can be removed. These darbars will enable the officers and the people to understand each other and also to know what one set of persons can do for the other. I once made this suggestion to an officer and requested that such darbars should be held frequently on the borders of each district in ilaqa Bait, but my suggestion fell flat on the ears of the officer concerned. It was what I expected because the officers have become used to the ways of the flatterers who will always say ditto to what the officers may say. If the latter say that it is night time although it may be day time, the flatterers gathered round the officers will say that it is certainly night time and vice versa.

**Mr. Deputy President :** The honourable member should speak to the motion.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Very well, Sir. If the officers of the Government were to act according to this suggestion, I am sure that much of this agitation will die. It is not an exaggeration. It is what I sincerely believe because I know that when the officers begin to ask every man individually what his troubles are, the people will begin to love them.

I would now like to say a word about the canal roads. It will not be denied that the lands in which these roads pass are ours or at any rate they were ours. The canals are also ours and if I may say so the Government is also ours. This is at least what we are told. And then these officers are never tired of saying that they are public servants. Let us assume for a moment, that they are really public servants. Then, the wonder of wonders is that in spite of all this they are seen to be motoring on these roads without any obstruction and without any licences and nobody checks them or dare check them, but if we, who are the masters and who are admitted to be the masters, happen to walk on these roads, never mind if it be by mistake, we are at once sent to a jail (*laughter*). What a pity it is that the servants are masters and the masters are worse than servants.

Then a few words about the education and the system of education in this country. I ask a straight question and that is this : what is the use of teaching us in our primary classes that cocks crow and frogs croak and this and that. What good can this teaching do to us? Why not tell us from the very start how sugarcane is pressed and how lands are ploughed and cultivated? I have received a warning that I have exceeded my time limit and so I would not weary the House by any further remarks. I would accordingly resume my seat.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*) : Much of the ground has already been covered and I think there is very little left for me to say. However, I cannot help saying that what my honourable friend, Nawab Chaudhri Fazl Ali, has said deserves full consideration at the hands of the Government because he has said everything from his personal experience. I should say that he is an expert in this line of goat and sheep-farming and also poultry-farming. When recently I happened to go to Gujrat and had the honour of staying with my friend I was taken round his poultry-farm and I saw that he had a large number of hens in that farm and they were all of the choicest breed although I am much grieved to say that many of them were dying. I am also sorry to say that my friend, as he told me, was not able to get even one pice out of the bargain although he was told that people in England were making as much as thousands of rupees every month from this very business of poultry-farming. In any case his views on the subject are really worth very much and the Government should give due weight to them.

The honourable mover of the resolution has suggested that an expert in these lines of industry should be appointed for the whole province. I am sorry to observe that I cannot persuade myself to give my support to this suggestion. It will be better, in my opinion, if instead of an expert in these lines an officer should be appointed who should help my friend Nawab Sahib and others who may take to these subsidiary industries in saving these goats, sheep and hens from falling prey to diseases so that the

experience may not prove bitter as it has already proved in the case of my friend and others who have adopted these professions with very high hopes. The proposed expert will only add to the difficulties of men like my friend unless a specialist in the diseases of these animals is appointed. While on this point, I may say that the zamindars in general already consider it below their dignity to take to these subsidiary industries so much so that any one who fortunately or unfortunately begins to do some such work is shunned by his *bradri*. It becomes well nigh impossible for such a man to contract relations with the other members of his kith and kin. Such a man hesitates to disclose his dealings in such a business even if he is put a direct question to tell the profession in which he is engaged. And if anyone knowing him more closely disclosed the profession he may have taken up, he is advised to give it up for fear of excommunication. It is the general impression amongst the zamindars that as it is not possible to kindle fire with warm water so it is not possible to better their condition by taking to these subsidiary professions or industries. When this is the mentality of the zamindars for whom you are proposing the development of these industries, it is very essential that you should proceed very cautiously and should not make any haphazard suggestions. Otherwise you will only help to produce hatred in the minds of the zamindars for these subsidiary industries. I know of a man who having been influenced by the lecture of an Arya Samajist or of a Congressman, was duped into losing a large sum, it was really a large sum from his point of view, on taking to poultry-farming. He was told that like fabulous Shaikh Chilli he would be able to get a large income from this business and calculations were actually made before him to convince him of the soundness of the proposal. In short he was induced to take up this work and he ran to the office of the People's Bank where he had his money deposited and took out his money to the last penny. He purchased hens of foreign as well as native breed and also from Multan and other places where he could get the best kinds of them and mixed them all. But the result was what my honourable friend Chandhri Nawab Fazl Ali had from his farm. The poor man was totally ruined. This is what came of this poultry-farming of which so much is being made. Once I happened to be a guest of Nawab Sahib. In his house all complained of the fact that on account of the poultry-farm of my friend much jeevi (small flies) had also been bred. Jeevi is a sort of a small fly which bites and when you are once bitten by it for hours together you feel the pain. You cannot go to sleep. But my friend Nawab Sahib had such prescriptions with him to destroy it that I did not find much jeevi in his house although the whole village was complaining of it. My friend was successful in killing jeevi in his house.

4 P. M.

The zamindars are not fit to carry on any subsidiary industry. They are meant for agriculture and for nothing else. If a zamindar were to take to trade, he is bound to prove a failure. If he were to enter some service he is bound to prove his incapacity for it. Similarly, if you were to prevail upon him to start some industry he will only waste some money and prove a failure. That is why I have said that the zamindar is made for the profession of agriculture only. Any other trade or calling does not suit him. Moreover if all the people in the villages are to take to subsidiary industries the main industry of agriculture will fail. Zamindars



[ Ch. Allah Dad Khan. ]

will have no agricultural labourers to help them in their agricultural work. There would remain no labourers to help zamindars in cutting the crops. In this way you would be destroying the village community.

The next thing recommended in this resolution is that all the roads running parallel to the canals and minors should be thrown open for public traffic. If these roads were to be thrown open for the public traffic in no time would they become dilapidated. The canals will also suffer from this traffic. Their banks will be broken. In the Karnal district near the village Murtzapur once a lake was over-flooded and its water spread all over the country around. Consequently all the traffic in the vicinity of that lake was stopped. Feeling the difficulties of the zamindars a canal road was thrown open for traffic. Only for a few days bullock carts passed on that road and the road was broken up at many places on account of that small traffic. If the canal roads were thrown open for motor cars it would not harm the roads very much but if bullock carts were given permission to pass over these roads, they would in no time dilapidate them so much so that there will remain not even a sign to show that at some time a road or something similar to it existed there. Again what are the zamindars to take in the carts over these roads? Are they expected to carry fowls or sheep in the *gadas* over these roads. The recommendation made in this behalf is very inconsistent. It will be something which is conveyed by :—

وہ عربی نہ ماری نہ زنی۔ تاروخ کہی ہے یہہ کسی سز کی  
دوبلای مار نقی خان بہادر کی۔

The produce of the poultry farms would be eggs or fowls. Will the zamindars carry in *gadas*, fowls or eggs? I can admit that agricultural commodities can be carried in *gadas*, but how can expect that fowls and eggs will be carried in the *gadas*?

The next thing recommended is the employment of an expert. The expert will at the most advise them about what should be given to the fowls or how they should be kept but he would not be able to advise them as how to save them from diseases.

Then comes the question of dairy farming. The zamindars already keep cows and buffaloes. They get milk from them and also produce butter and out of the latter they make ghee and sell it. They are experts in dairy-farming. You are not expected to tell them anything more about dairy-farming. They are already experts in this industry. Moreover a zamindar can be proud of his buffaloes or cows but he cannot be expected to take pride in his hens. If you ask a zamindar how many cows he has got, he will tell you proudly that he has 6 or 7 cows. But if you were to ask him as to how many hens he has got, he will look at your face and will not reply. He cannot be expected to take pride in his hens and tell you that he has got 100 hens.

Then comes the question of the reduction in the railway freight. I am glad my honourable friend, Pir Sahib, has reminded me about it. In the Simla session I pressed that the railway freight should be reduced. All admitted the necessity of it. Sir Sikander Hyat-Khan also admitted this urgent necessity. I consider that at least 50 per cent. should be reduced.

At this time this reduction in the railway freight is most urgently wanted and the official mentality in this behalf is most deplorable. They have not done anything to help the people so far as marketing of agricultural produce and reduction of railway freight are concerned. There is no arrangement for marketing ghee. If the zamindars bring it here in Lahore they cannot expect that the whole quantity could be disposed of here for a good price. Not only this, but here they will have to sell it very cheap. If ghee could be taken to Bombay perhaps there it might sell. (*An honourable member*: What about *panir*? Can the zamindars prepare it?) No, the zamindars cannot prepare *panir* (cheese). The zamindars can only prepare ghee. You should try to teach them how cheese can be prepared. You can also train them in preserving milk. The zamindars prepare ghee and it is so clean and pure that you cannot get it here in Lahore. Once a rich friend of mine visited me in my village and I treated him with eatables prepared with home made ghee. He liked them very much and enquired about the ghee. I told him that it was home made. He praised it very much and told me that such ghee is not available anywhere in the towns and cities. (*Interruption*). The result is that now he gets all his ghee from the villages and never purchases it from the cities. The ghee that is sold in the cities is not free from adulteration.

I submit that all the disjointed parts in this resolution should be omitted. There is no need for dairy-farming in the villages. There is no need for poultry-farming also. Let the zamindars breed good buffaloes and cows. The sheep-farming should be started after an expert has been appointed and he has prepared the people to take up this industry. I think in this matter our Nawab Sahib can give you a lot of help. All Gujars are experts in sheep-farming. He being a Gujar can help you in this matter. I do not mean any disrespect to him by mentioning it. But my fear is that when he has not succeeded in sheep-farming, how can anyone else succeed? Therefore, we must approach this problem very cautiously. If the resolution is accepted in its present form the zamindars will not gain anything by it.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh** (Minister for Agriculture): Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan has completely proved the contention of Chaudhri Afzal Haq that what we need is complete change of psychology in the villages. The paths of progress will remain closed as long as the psychology of the villages is not changed. Sardar Ujjal Singh frequently mentioned the progress which the Japanese have made during the last fifty years and I am quite prepared to say that if the Punjabis become as patriotic, as self-sacrificing, as completely united and purposeful, as the Japanese it would not be difficult for us to achieve what the Japanese have achieved in such a short time. As long as we remain disunited and without any practical purpose, we have to wait a long time before we can aim at or aspire to such a complete transformation of the country towards industrialisation. There is only one word I would like to say in reply to what Chaudhri Afzal Haq said

دھم کے جلوہ افروز ہو ایک شمع نور کا

کل کو دیو چراغ ہمارے شعور کا

Have dazzled the eyes with the glow of a little lamp

Putting out completely the light of right understanding.

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

I am sure that Chaudhri Afzal Haq will agree that a concerted attack is being made by the Department of Rural Reconstruction, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and this concerted attack I am sure will bear fruit and ignorance will disappear and people will unite in making the land productive.

I need not wander into the realms in which my friends have wandered as my friend sitting next to me points out that my domain is confined to the sheep, goats and buffaloes. So I think I had better remain in my proper domain and talk about the sheep and the goat and the buffalo and the poultry farming.

So far as poultry farming is concerned, in other countries it has made a great deal of progress but in the Punjab, so far, it has not taken root. We have now poultry farms at Gurdaspur, Lyallpur and Jullundur, and a poultry expert is engaged in breeding up a better variety of country fowl in Gurdaspur, and his efforts, so far, have greatly succeeded. He has brought out a bird which gives greater number of eggs and is heavier in weight. I am hoping that his efforts will give you a *murgi* which would be very valuable to the agriculturists. The poultry expert is also training people in poultry farming. He has received 740 applications and has trained 135 people in poultry breeding.

Then again in the matter of sheep farming little progress has been made and as Chaudhri Afzal Haq pointed out, the problem of grazing is a very grave one. So far as the hills are concerned the forest officers are absolutely united in their verdict that they cannot allow the forests to be opened out for fresh grazing grounds. In the plains the grazing grounds are limited, but as Mr. Roberts pointed out it is possible to improve the very large flocks that exist and to improve the market for wool. At Hissar selected breeding is in progress. The Bikaner breed and another breed which we are now calling the Hissardale are a great improvement. We have now a good flock and we are sure that in the course of the next two or three years it will be possible to introduce a better bred sheep in the villages. Perhaps I am not wrong when I say, that the mover of the resolution is a member of a sub-committee that was appointed to inquire into the marketing of wool. The report of that sub-committee is still awaited. Anyone who has paid a visit to Fazilka and seen the marketing of wool, will agree that there are great possibilities of improvement, both in the marketing and in the breed of sheep and I welcome the suggestion which Mr. Roberts made that this matter should be further examined. I shall certainly look into this matter and see if it is possible to put an officer on this work to carry out a survey as proposed by Mr. Roberts.

A great deal has been said in this House regarding the finances which are necessary for any development schemes. I can assure this House that our Finance Member is large hearted and keen on the development of the province. If he had money I could draw on him to an unlimited extent, but the trouble is, that he has not the money, and within his resources I can assure the House he has never refused any money that I have asked him for. If any scheme is produced, I am sure I will be able to get the money I require for it.

Now regarding fruit farming, I think you will be glad to hear that I have secured now two forest officers who were surplus and I have got them in the Fruit Department where they are under training at Lyallpur. These are provincial service officers who have all the theoretical training and after a short course in Lyallpur I am sure they will be able to do a good deal of work in improving fruit. (*An honourable member* : Why not get men from the Veterinary Department ?) (*Laughter*). (*Another honourable member* : Why not send two lawyers ?) (*Laughter*). I think the honourable members are not altogether right in their objection, because the training in forestry is also of the same kind as in fruit growing. They have had the whole scientific training and it is only the question of specialising in fruit that is needed. They will be very useful in establishing nurseries. Government is at present considering the question of opening new nurseries and I think it would be possible to get a grant from the funds which we are going to get for the development of rural areas from the Central Government and set up a model fruit preservation factory in Kulu. Last year I was told that nearly 7,000 maunds of fruit had to be destroyed because in Kulu they could not find a market for it. I am hoping that when these nurseries are established, we might be able to do what they have done for Palestine. Perhaps you know that Palestine Settlements were started after the war and now Palestine is exporting fruit to a very large extent and they distribute freely fruit trees to the people in general, and if we have nurseries it may be possible for us to push fruit trees into the villages. Fruit growing will provide a very good source from which money could be secured by agriculturists. There can be no question that in the modern world if the agriculturist is to hold his own and to have some purchasing power he must develop subsidiary industries. So far as the small agriculturist is concerned in spite of what Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan said, it is essential for him to develop subsidiary industries, and so far as large landlords are concerned it is necessary for them to put more effort in large scale industries, if they are to keep their position in the country. As I am on the point, I might say that we have been concentrating our attention on the cow and the buffalo, because they after all are the largest milk producers in the country. The Royal Commission on Agriculture has a very interesting chapter on cattle breeding and Col. Oliver, Cattle Expert with the Government of India, has directed attention, and very properly too, towards the improvement of cattle breeding and marketing of milk products. They are going to start an experimental station which I hope will be of very great use to the country. I will tell you one thing to show what can be done by selected breeding. In 1914 at Lyallpur a small herd of Montgomery cows were established. The average yield of milk per cow was then 5.16 pounds. Within the last fourteen years by careful selected breeding this average has been raised to 15.5 per cow. What can be achieved at Lyallpur can be achieved elsewhere also and there is a great deal in what a friend of mine said that we agriculturists should take the best milk-giving cows. It is no use keeping animals which you cannot properly feed. I asked the Veterinary Department once to carry out a survey of the grazing that was available in a few selected villages and then limit the number of stock according to the available food supply. I think it is quite possible that if we have a better breed of cows and buffaloes we may get more milk than we do at present by keeping large herds of cows and buffaloes that do not give milk.

[ Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh. ]

Let us take the goat. The Hissar Farm in the beginning objected that it was no use wasting time on goats, but goat is the poor man's cow ; and I insisted on an experiment being made. I am glad that high yields from the goats have been secured. One thing more. You can easily get milk free from the smell which the goat's milk is usually known for. All that is necessary, is, that you do not let the male go into the herd and then you get the milk without any smell whatsoever.

The Co-operative Conference which met under the presidency of His Excellency the Governor the other day has decided that we should try to improve cattle breeding through co-operative societies. The honourable mover of the resolution laid a great deal of emphasis that this work should be taken up by the co-operative societies. He will be glad to know that the Co-operative Conference also has supported his view. I am very glad to say that His Excellency takes very keen interest in the development of agriculture in the province generally. He has a way about him of getting things done. As the House knows the Seed Conference which he called, has led to our intensifying the campaign for distribution of seed. Similarly the Co-operative Conference has resulted in our reaching concrete conclusions and I have no doubt that in time to come another conference would be called to consider just the problems which we have now been considering, that is, the promotion of subsidiary industries as well as large scale industries. It is true that the villager at present has very little purchasing power. The fall in prices has hit him hard. I am equally puzzled with Sardar Ujjal Singh at the decision of the Government of India to lower the import duty on wheat. I suppose that when we have a federated Government such decisions will be reached after consultation with local governments. It is very difficult to say what the effect on prices of this lowering of the import duty on wheat will be. If it tends to reduce the price of wheat it will hit the agriculturists very hard.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq's complaint is justified. I think the psychology of the villager is due to stagnation of centuries and poverty. But I am sure and the honourable members will admit that we are now on the track of the problem. Not only the Government but the members of this House also are taking keen interest which means an awakened interest in the country. This awakening is a happy augury for the future. We shall now all combine together to make this province prosperous and happy. So far as the Agricultural Department is concerned, within its resources it will do all it can to promote agriculture, and to promote subsidiary industries. I shall always welcome criticism and helpful suggestions of honourable members whether made inside the House or outside for furthering the object which we have all in view, for we must all join and work together in securing larger happiness more universally if possible. (*Cheers*).

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member): Personally I am in entire agreement with the resolution. Officially I am concerned with only a small portion of it and with regard to that I shall lay the position frankly before the House. With regard to canal roads I may say that there are several kinds of roads on our canals. Firstly canals where both banks are wide enough for roads and boundary roads also exist ; secondly both banks are wide enough for roads and no boundary roads exist.

The third is that one bank is wide enough for road and boundary roads exist. The fourth is, again one bank is wide enough for road and no boundary road exists. The fifth kind is that the banks are not wide enough for roads, but boundary roads exist; and the sixth is that the banks are not wide enough for roads, but only one boundary road exists. As far as these boundary and bank roads are concerned, with the exception of one inspection road whether it is a boundary road or a road on either of the banks, all the other roads will as heretofore be open to motor cars, lorries, etc. (*Hear, hear*). We have no intention of charging any fees for their use because that would again create difficulties and will lead to a lot of confusion. As regards inspection roads—

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** We do not ask for inspection roads.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** As regards freight, we have already done enough. We have requested the Government of India to reduce the freights. I do not at all agree that a reduction of 75 per cent. in freight is a fair demand. We have already asked the Government of India to reduce the freight if possible and I am prepared to forward to the Government of India the debates on this resolution with the recommendation of the Punjab Government.

**Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah (Urdu) :** The amount of support which my resolution has received from various sections of this honourable House clearly indicates that all honourable members have thoroughly appreciated the importance of subsidiary industries. I am gratified that the Government has accepted nearly all points raised by me. I did not ask for the inspection roads myself and I am thankful to the Honourable Revenue Member for agreeing to open all boundary roads for the use of private motor cars and lorries. This will not only facilitate the transport of industrial produce, but will greatly increase the general traffic also. My thanks are due to the Honourable Minister for Agriculture also who has agreed to look into all the important matters arising out of the discussion on this resolution. He has promised to convene a conference as suggested by Sardar Sahib Sardar Ujjal Singh. It is not necessary, therefore, for me to press this resolution. I beg leave to withdraw it.

*The resolution was by leave withdrawn.*

#### NON-OFFICIAL CHAIRMEN FOR DISTRICT BOARDS.

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak (Lahore city, Muhammadan, Urban) :** I should like to move the resolution in a slightly modified form. It will read as follows :—

This Council recommends to the Government to so change the rules of election of chairmen of district boards as to allow the district boards to elect non-official chairmen in cases where a resolution is passed by a bare majority of non-official members to that effect and without obtaining Government's approval; and also to allow the voting for deciding the question about official or non-official chairmen to take place by ballot.

**Mr. Deputy President :** Does the Government agree to the resolution being moved in the modified form?

**Mr. P. Marsden :** Yes.

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** This resolution is the direct outcome of the authoritative pronouncement made during the last budget session by the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, the Secretary, Transferred Departments and by Mr. Garbett, the then Chief Secretary to Government. Briefly put, the speeches made by these three high dignitaries amounted to this, that the Government was exceedingly solicitous to foster and increase the elective element in district boards and that the local authorities did not, in point of fact and ought not as a matter of policy, to interfere with the discretion of the members of local boards in the matter of the election of their chairmen, and that the non-official members themselves preferred official to non-official chairmen. Mr. Marsden also gave us a brief resumé of the steps Government have already taken in this direction in the following words :—

To show how the Government has endeavoured to extend the non-official element in the district boards, I would remind the House of the two steps taken by the Government in that direction in the years 1925 and 1930. In 1925, when the policy of the Government was communicated to the boards, the Government intimated its willingness to consider the question of there being non-official chairmen, and of the official chairmen being withdrawn if the district boards so desired. The procedure by which the district boards were to intimate their desire was at that time to some extent restricted. They were informed that in a district board where 75 per cent. of the members were elected and where a majority of 60 per cent. of the non-official members were in favour of it, then the Government would consider the desirability of allowing non-official chairmen. Five years later the Government modified its previous instructions and made it somewhat easier for the elected and non-official members of the boards—

\* \* \* \* \*

I am only briefly referring to the general policy so that honourable members may be satisfied that the policy followed with regard to Lyallpur has not been different from the policy followed in regard to district boards in general. I was mentioning that in 1930 the terms were modified, to an extent which I will explain. It was then decided that any district board could express its desire for a non-official chairman whether there was 75 per cent. elected members or not; and the requirements for a majority of 60 per cent. of non-official members was withdrawn.—*Punjab Debates, Volume XXIV, page 836.*

Such being the policy of the Government and such the ready willingness of their officials to carry out this policy, I do not think that on principle there can be any objection to the Government accepting this resolution. As regards the question of capacity of members of district boards to carry on their own administration, I would once more refer to the opinion of Mr. Marsden himself. I attach great importance and I think the House as a whole will attach great importance to his views, firstly because as Secretary for Transferred Departments he is in the best possible position to know intimately the affairs of local bodies and secondly because whatever else one may say or think of his likes and dislikes one cannot fairly accuse him of having ever betrayed the least partiality for local bodies. (*An honourable member :* He must have shown partiality to local bodies.) He has never shown the least partiality for district boards. That is why his opinion carries so much weight with me. I say with reference to the opinion he expresses on that occasion that he was impartial. It was quite refreshing to have from Mr. Marsden a glowing account of the doings of district boards; it was particularly gratifying to learn from him that in spite of the official chairmen having left the determination of policies largely to the elected office-bearers still the administration of

district boards continued satisfactory. In the course of his speech on that occasion he affirmed :—

And I think the honourable member would agree that of late years the administration of the district boards taken as a whole has been more satisfactory, and that there have been less complaints and less grounds for complaint on behalf of the public about district boards than about municipal committees. The honourable member said that it was the duty of officials and servants of Government to foster local self-government, and to assist and encourage the management of local self-governing bodies by non-officials, and that it was their duty to repress as far as possible any relapse from the system of non-official control of local bodies. In that respect my own experience tells me that officials have done all in their power. In the two district boards with which I have been lately chiefly associated, those of Rohtak and Gurdaspur, I can say that the chairmen of the boards have as far as possible left questions of policy to their vice-chairmen, and that whenever the district board, the non-official members of the district board, have shown their wishes in any matter, the chairman has, as a rule given way and not endeavoured to exert his influence in the opposite scale. In the district board of Rohtak, which is one of the most successful of all district boards of the province, there has always been very close co-operation indeed between the distinguished members—some of them are, and some of them have been members of this Council—the very closest co-operation between the non-official vice-presidents and the members of the board on the one hand and the official chairman on the other. And the same I can say has been the case in Gurdaspur. Those are cases that I take from my personal experience. And I can say from the experience of the last two or three years, while I have been dealing with the reports received from all the districts, that the same has been the endeavour of all official chairmen in the boards. As far as possible they have been limiting the amount of influence which they have brought to bear on members, in all matters.

I would finish by saying that I am quite certain that the public considers that the district boards have been doing their duties satisfactorily, and that their administration has been more satisfactory than of the municipal committees.—*Punjab Debates, Volume XXIV, pages 337-38.*

Accordingly if both the public and the Government, according to Mr. Marsden, have found out that the members of district boards are more honest, more responsible, sensible of their civic responsibilities and better possessed of administrative ability than the members of the municipal committees, I do not know why Government should not have taken any steps so far to relieve the already overburdened official chairmen of their *pro bono-publico* duties. The argument that district boards prefer to have official chairmen can convince neither the House nor the public unless Government makes up its mind to proceed under sub-section (2) of section 18 of the Punjab District Boards Act and notifies in the gazette that in future chairmen to district boards will not be appointed either *ex-officio* or by name and that the district boards shall have to elect their own chairmen. It is queer reasoning to be sure that to one class of local bodies, namely, the district boards, you will not allow the controlling power, because according to you although they are quite up to the mark they do not want it and from the other class of local bodies, namely, municipalities, you want to take away the powers already possessed by them because according to you again they have been tried and found wanting. This resolution is a very modest one. It does not go far enough, but as a compromise our party has decided that at the present moment it would perhaps be wise not to ask for the same powers as are enjoyed by the municipalities. But if Government refuses to accept this resolution, it will amount to an admission that they are only concerned with keeping both sets of local bodies, competent as well as incompetent, pinned down to the apron strings of officials. In my opinion Government would be wise to accept this resolution with good grace.



**Mr. Deputy President :** Resolution moved—

This Council recommends to the Government to so change the rules of election of chairmen of District Boards as to allow the district boards to elect non-official chairmen in cases where a resolution is passed by a bare majority of non-official members to that effect and without obtaining Government's approval; and also to allow the voting for deciding the question about official or non-official chairmen to take place by ballot.

**Mian Nurullah** (Lyallpur South, Muhammadan, Rural): I rise to give my whole-hearted support to the resolution moved by the honourable member from Lahore. Recently I put a question in the Council to know the progress made in the matter of local self-Government under the various ministries in the Punjab. I am sorry I do not know what the reply was, but when I look round the province and compare it with other provinces, I see that the progress made in this province is the least as compared with that made in other provinces. That is so at least in the matter of district boards. You will be astonished to know the progress in other provinces. Last time when this resolution was on the agenda, I got a statement from the various provinces about the number of chairmen of local bodies. I have mislaid that statement somewhere, but if my memory does not play me false, then I do remember that out of 42 local boards in the United Provinces, practically all have non-official chairmen; there might be at the most in one or two cases official chairmen, but I doubt it. In Bengal out of 28, there are 25 non-official chairmen; in Madras 24 out of 26 and Bombay probably 22 out of 24. Look at the position in the Punjab, it is just the reverse. Out of 29 we have three non-official chairmen. The very meaning of the word local self-government is inconsistent with official chairmen. If you read the definition of local self-government given by Mr. Montague Harris, M.A., O.B.E., Bar-at-Law, you will find it to mean "a system under which the people of the locality possess certain responsibilities and discretion in the administration of local public affairs and in the raising of the money to meet their expenses." Is the position in the Punjab consistent with this? Does the deputy commissioner belong to the locality? Never. He is not one of the locality and, therefore, having official chairmen is quite inconsistent with the meaning of the phrase "local self-government." I just said that Bombay has non-official chairmen in 22 out of 24 district boards and they are doing very well there. They have passed an Act, the Bombay Local Boards Act of 1923 in which they debar all officials from occupying this position. Section 22 of their Act reads—

- (1) Every local board shall be presided over by a president elected by the board from among its own members.
- (2) The board shall also elect one of its members to be the vice-president.
- (3) A salaried servant of the Government shall not be elected president or vice-president on a local board and the election of any such servant as such shall be void.

There you are. They are debarred from becoming chairmen and this is a position consistent with the famous resolution of Lord Ripon when he was Viceroy. I had better quote extracts from this resolution:—

The Governor-General in Council would wish to see non-official persons acting, wherever practicable, as chairmen of the local boards. There may, however, be places where it would be impossible to get any suitable non-official chairman, and there may be districts where the chief executive officer must for the present retain these duties in his own hands. But His Excellency the Viceroy in Council trusts that the Local Governments will have recourse sparingly to the appointment of executive officers as chairmen of local boards and he is of opinion that it should be a general rule that when such an officer is chairman of any local

board, he shall not in that capacity have a vote in its proceedings. This arrangement will to some extent tend to strengthen the independence of the non-official members, and keep the official chairman, where there must be such apart from the possible contention of opposing parties.

For aught I know, the deputy commissioner in the Punjab very often tries to act as leader of parties, absolutely against the spirit of this resolution. I will like to read a few more useful extracts from that resolution. You will find that they have pointed out that whether they were going to succeed or not was not the question. The question is one of political education in this country. If we are going to get provincial autonomy we do not want that the tree of local self-Government should be distorted by a stunted growth at the bottom. The growth should be wholesome and should not be stunted at the bottom lest the tree should topple over. Though the resolution has been passed 50 years ago, I feel ashamed to see my province in this state. I think the fault lies on the Government and on nobody else. If a nationalist Minister is in charge of the subject and has not succeeded, the fault must lie somewhere behind the screens. There must be some steel frame acting as an obstruction and we must do everything to make a hole in that steel-frame to get to the object laid down in the resolution of Lord Ripon. It is a change in the mentality of the officers in the districts that is needed. It is a change in the mentality of the local Government that is needed. Have they patted any deputy commissioner who advised non-official chairman? Have they encouraged us in any way? I do not think so. The duty of local Government was to encourage a deputy commissioner who tries to put a board under a non-official and make it run successfully. The Government has failed in that duty. That is my grievance.

On the other hand, they have always patted the deputy commissioner who has never allowed the district board to pass that resolution. This is my feeling and experience and that is what I see from the results that have been achieved. So far we have only two or three non-official chairmen out of 29. The great defect that the resolutions under discussion hints at is that even after a district board has passed by a majority even as great as 75 per cent. a resolution to this effect, that goes to the Government and it sits over it while in the meanwhile every effort is made to get the resolution reversed. I know it personally and I made mention of it long ago. Before the matter is reconsidered all sorts of influences are exerted and the resolution is reversed. That was not the idea of the famous resolution of Lord Ripon's Government. The resolution runs :—

The Governor-General in Council must explain....

and it is a very important paragraph of this resolution—

that in advocating the extension of local self-Government and the adoption of this principle in the management of many branches of local affairs, he does not suppose that the work will be, in the first instance, better done than if it remained in the sole hands of the Government district officers. It is not primarily with a view to improvement in administration that this measure is put forward and supported. It is chiefly desirable as an instrument of political and popular education.

Mind these words—

His Excellency in Council has himself no doubt that in course of time, as local knowledge and local interest are brought to bear more freely upon local administration, improved efficiency will in fact follow. But at starting, there will doubtless be many failures, calculated to discourage exaggerated hopes, and even in some cases to cause apparent discredit upon the practice of self-government itself.

[Mian Nurullah.]

Fortunately our province has been lucky and there are no failures.

If, however, the officers of Government only set themselves, as the Governor-General in Council believes they will, to foster sedulously the small beginnings of the independent political life, if they accept loyally and as their own the policy of the Government, and if they come to realize that the system really opens to them a fairer field for the exercise of administrative tact and directive energy than the more autocratic system which it superseded, then it may be hoped that the period of failure will be short and that real and substantial progress will very soon become manifest.

That is where I want to lay emphasis. We should do so as soon as possible so that we reach the goal early, in a year, two years or ten years, as soon as possible. I cannot believe that we are inefficient and that we cannot run the administration. Nobody can argue that when we have produced capable ministers, when we have produced capable executive councillors and when we have produced a Governor who has done so well, that we cannot produce good and efficient non-official chairmen. If you look at the administration report every year and see the district of Gujrat run by our honourable friend here who has been a chairman for the last so many years, you will find all praise for it. He has done most efficiently and has set a very good example and even after that example we see that when a district board passes a resolution the local Government sits on it for 5 to 6 months. I can point out even now that the case of Multan is an instance, Lyallpur is another instance. Recently Multan passed a resolution, 26 against 12 votes, for a non-official chairman and it came up to Government. No action was taken on it for 5 months and the Government sat over it and probably wire pulling was done, but nothing could be done and the resolution could not be reversed, and probably the Government saw that even if the resolution were sent back to the board, it would be passed by a greater majority and nothing could be done. Then this case came to my notice and I asked the Leader of my party to put a short notice question as a result of which the Government at once yielded and to-day we have our third non-official chairman in Multan. I need not dwell more on this. I will just add a few remarks made by the Royal Commission on Decentralization appointed in 1909 by the British Government who reviewed the whole situation with respect to the affairs of local self-government in British India and reported—

Lord Ripon's Government desired that district officers should usually not take part in the work of rural boards which should as a rule, elect non-official presidents. But though a quarter of a century has passed since that pronouncement, this position, as regards district boards, has only been reached in the Central Provinces.

Now another 25 years have passed and we are practically in the same position. The same Commission remarked—

From the evidence we have received it would appear that the Deputy Commissioners have in some instances, been in the habit of ruling rather than guiding district boards, and in so far as this attitude exists, we consider it unfortunate.

It is really unfortunate. This is what the Royal Commission on Decentralization reported in 1909. So we are still in the same position and we will never be allowed to learn, never be allowed to feel responsible, never be free to act and never be allowed to make mistakes and to correct mistakes. I would, therefore, ask this House to support this resolution. During the last budget session we hardly passed any cut and in order to

help in the realisation of the principle underlying the resolution passed 50 years back we must pass this resolution.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Why did you not pass any cut in the budget ?

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan** (Ambala division, North-East, Muhammadan, Rural) : In rising to support this resolution I must express my wonder and surprise that when this department has been in the hands of a Minister who was all for democracy before he came into the present office, how it is that there are only three district boards with non-official chairmen out of 29 district boards. When these three district boards have done excellent work, does it not show that there ought to be an increase in the number of non-official chairmen as quickly as possible ? The resolution is a modest one. It does not ask for wider powers, it only asks that the impediment and obstacle which has been in the way of getting non-official chairmen may be removed. The district board passes a resolution for non-official chairman, but as my honourable friend remarked, it has to go to Government before any action can be taken on it. It is a great obstacle in the way of having non-official chairmen. What is the good of getting the approval of Government when a resolution is passed ? Let the election proceed at once. If, for instance, this process were to be followed in the case of elections to the Council what would be the result ? If after nominations of members are accepted it takes a long time, as the position of the Government and the great power that it possess can enable it to do, do you think that the members nominated will ever be successful ? I do not think so. In this case the power of the deputy commissioner is there and the power of the officials is there and the result is that no non-official chairman is elected. Whether the rule is good or bad can be seen from the sad state of things. If the rule were not so obstructive, surely there would have been more non-official chairmen. In Bombay out of 24 there are 22 non-official chairmen and now an Act has been passed debarring an official chairman altogether. There is no reason why the Punjab should lag behind so much. If we cannot pass an Act like that, at least a rule might be made removing this obstruction. If the answer is given that official chairmen are appointed for insuring greater efficiency, that is not an argument which was expected from the authors of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. It says as follows :—

In advocating the extension of local self-government and the adoption of this principle in the management of many branches of local affairs, he does not suppose that the work will be, in the first instance, better done than if it remained in the sole hands of the Government district officers.

Further on it says—

That it is chiefly desirable as an instrument of political and popular education. His Excellency in Council has himself no doubt that in course of time, as local knowledge and local interest are brought to bear more freely upon local administration, improved efficiency will in fact follow.

If you do not give trial to non-official chairmen where will the efficiency of these administrations be ? If a man always holds his child by his arm, he will never learn to walk. It will be better to allow us to make mistakes. In the process of time these mistakes will be avoided and the work will be done satisfactorily. Now when the spirit of reforms is in the air, when reforms are coming to-morrow, it is very sound that at this time we should have a rule like that in order that we might be able to say that we have already so many non-official chairmen. I do not think

[Ch. Allah Dad Khan.]

that if you remove this little obstruction any harm will be done. It will on the contrary help to some extent. If you do not have many non-official chairmen you will not be able to show your face to the world in comparison with the United Provinces where second chambers have been sanctioned. The Punjab has not been given a second chamber even by the Parliament only because Punjab is known to be democratic in spirit and, therefore, they felt no necessity for a second chamber. If this is so why should you not have all official chairmen in the district boards, as they are at present, for, three is a very insignificant number. I think the Honourable Minister should remove this blot from himself that during the four years that he has been in the office he has not striven for this very necessary reform. Any other Minister would have seen to the increase of non-official chairmen of district boards. But nothing has been done by him and this is a sufficient condemnation of his work as a Minister. With these words I support the motion.

**Honorary Captain Sardar Raghubir Singh** (Amritsar, Sikh, Rural) (Urdu): I rise to oppose the resolution and the reason why I do so is very simple. It is within the knowledge of every one of us that the condition of local bodies which have non-official presidents is anything but satisfactory and if I may say so their condition is becoming worse every day.

**Pir Akbar Ali**: Is it due to the fact that these local bodies have non-official presidents?

**Honorary Captain Sardar Raghubir Singh**: I have a good deal of experience as a vice-president and also as a member of the District Board of Amritsar and I know the very wholesome influence which the presence of official presidents has on the local bodies and particularly on the district boards. I do not hesitate to confess that once when I had the opportunity of acting as President of that District Board, it was a tough task for me even to control the meetings that were held under my presidency. In these days when we think and act communally and when communal considerations prevail even in very ordinary matters, it is no use asking for non-official presidents for the district boards. Most of us know that where the Sikhs are in a majority, the Muslims are ejected or their rights are trampled under foot and where the Muslims have their majority the Sikhs and Hindus have no place. Therefore it is better that we allow the officials to preside over the destinies of the district boards at least for sometime to come. There is no help for it under the present conditions (*Voices*: But in these days most of the deputy commissioners are either Hindus, Muslims or Sikhs).

5 P.M.

I know what sort of treatment was accorded to Malik Hardit Singh when he was a deputy commissioner and what complaints were made against him by members of the other community and how in view of these complaints he was shifted from place to place. That treatment does not reflect good on us and it is better that we should not close our eyes to facts and should not insist on any change in the present law relating to district boards.

**Mr. P. Marsden** (Secretary, Transferred Departments): This question comes fairly often before this House. It was discussed not very long ago, and on that occasion I spoke with such burning eloquence and conviction, resembling that of Mian Nurullah's, that I thought I had managed to persuade the three honourable members who have raised this question

to-day and have made very much the same remarks as they made on that other occasion. It is a great privilege to be able to rise here and to defend and expound the work that generations of deputy commissioners have done in the districts as chairmen of district boards. Perhaps we shall not be able, I mean my colleagues here, and I will not be able, after a little time, unless some extraordinary accident arises, or some die-hard works some miracle, to rise and defend them, although there will be some very good protectors of them on these benches in front. While it is a privilege to be able to explain the work that deputy commissioner after deputy commissioner in districts throughout this province have done for the district boards, it is also easy to defend them, because all one has to do is to rise anywhere in this province and to say "circumspice," *dekho*. Wherever you are, you can look around you, in all the districts of this province and you can see the work which deputy commissioners acting as chairmen of district boards have accomplished. The results are palpable. And I think that that is what ought to give some of the members who support this resolution cause for thought, the fact that at any rate the system has undoubtedly proved a success. Deputy commissioners have always identified themselves with their duties as chairmen of district boards. They have been wrapped up in their duties as chairmen of district boards. I might almost say that they have revelled in those duties, they have been so anxious to benefit the district in which they and themselves stationed.

For a moment I would like to refer to the constitutional position, as that has been mentioned. I mean the question whether the retention of official chairmen is contrary to the trend of political development in India and in the province. I do not know why the constant cry is raised that it is undemocratic for the government for the time being to arrange to have officials to be members of and to assist those departments of local Government in the districts which are known as local bodies, as district boards or municipal committees. You have to consider what is suitable to the time and the place and the circumstances. The local bodies in different countries differ very much in their composition, in their duties and in their powers. District boards as they exist in the provinces of India are not quite like any other local bodies, that I know of at any rate, in any country. Their duties are far wider, and they are concerned with far more affairs of the country-side than we find in the case of any other body in any other country.

*(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair.)*

In England, as Mr. Muhammad Din Malak, I think, was suggesting, you have much more freedom from official leading strings in the case of local bodies than you have in India. But why should one, although it makes one proud as an Englishman to hear it, why should one always want so slavishly to copy every model of another country? Surely you ought to look round to see if there is any other country that has a model that suits your particular circumstances better. The system that is followed in that happy and prosperous country of peasants, and, I was almost going to say, of statutory agriculturists, France, is very different from that in England. The temperament of the French is different, the history is different, the circumstances are different. And they have found a different system of local administration suitable for themselves. They have far more official

[Mr. P. Marsden.]

control over all the affairs of local administration than is the case in England and in America and in some other countries. And it has worked very admirably. It would be difficult to find a happier and more smiling and prosperous countryside than that of France. Surely it is quite possible that a system which suits the fiery Frenchman may perhaps suit the sunny hearted Indian more than it suits the dull-witted and unimaginative Englishman. It is quite possible that that system is more suited to the temperament and the peculiar circumstances of this country than the other. At the same time, I should add, you can hardly say that France is an undemocratic country. Say it is a bureaucratic country, if you like; that cannot be denied. There is certainly a great deal more of bureaucracy in France than there is in England and in most countries, but you cannot say that it is undemocratic. You have successive Governments in France almost stumbling over each other. The popular will is so anxious to assert itself that it very often asserts itself too quickly, and as the people cannot get Governments that suit them they choose to have one Government after another. But, although France is as democratic a country as any other, it still goes in for systems of local administration in which the official plays a part. And I, therefore, maintain that this constant complaint that it is undemocratic, that it is contrary to the principles of democracy to see that your will, the will of the Government, should prevail, and that there shall be representatives of government in the local bodies who shall be able to give them the benefit of their experience, is not tenable. Such a system is not one which is contrary to democratic principles.

Now, Mr. Nurullah alluded to the reforms, which he said would be coming in a day or two's time, and he remarked, if you are going to have the principle of self-government, of responsible government, at the centre and, in the provincial government, is it not illogical not to insist on having the same thing immediately in all other spheres, in all departments of local government by local bodies? Now in any case as I have said, that argument can be shown to be fallacious, if you take the analogy of other countries. And, in this country also, I think it is quite possible that, if you consider the situation carefully, the argument is quite the other way. If you are now going to have a change in the system of government, let us hope it is going to be a successful change, let us hope that it will not be a dismal failure. Who knows? But at the same time, if you are going to have this vast, this revolutionary change, is it wise that you should carry out at this juncture a complete break with the past in all other spheres of government, that is to say, in your local government, or local self-government, call it what you will? At any rate when the new government comes in, it will find 29, or I might perhaps say 28, happy and contented district boards. They will find law and order prevailing in their affairs. They will not find a body of disgruntled people cursing and swearing at the district board administration as is the case in towns. Therefore, I would suggest that possibly this is not just the crucial moment to change your systems in the local administration, and I would suggest that for the very reason that you have this change in the methods of the central government coming in, for that very reason perhaps this may perhaps not be the right time to bring in too many other changes.

Now there is one important point to which I am always rather surprised to find that the three honourable members who supported this resolution rarely or never allude. I refer to the fact that no less than fifty per cent. of the income of the district boards is by way of grants-in-aid from Government. In the year 1932-33, which is the last for which there are accurate figures, Rs. 97 lakhs of the income of the district boards were from Government grants and Rs. 97 lakhs from other sources. If the Government is so closely associated with the administration of district boards that it gives no less than half of their entire revenues, surely it is only natural that they should endeavour to do their utmost to see that those revenues are wisely spent, and that there is none of the mal-administration such as we have seen in several of our municipalities.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** Which are those municipalities ?

**Mr. P. Marsden :** I do not think it is necessary to mention the municipalities.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq :** I would like to know the names of those municipalities against which this accusation is made.

**Mr. P. Marsden :** I certainly am not referring to Amritsar.

**Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Where does all that money come from ? If it comes from the public, why not give it back to the public ?

**Mr. P. Marsden :** Well, I would point out that, so far as I know, it would be extremely difficult to find any example in other countries of local bodies receiving such an enormous subvention, such an enormous proportion of their revenues, from the Government. Now it is a cardinal principle that the more a government gives by way of grants to local bodies the more it should, and the more it does, all over the world, exercise control over them. In England there has been very little control in the past, but the amount of control over local bodies in England now is steadily on the increase. The reason for that increase is the principle that I have just mentioned. The grants-in-aid to local bodies have been on the increase for some years in England, and especially in connection with the great de-rating scheme which took place five or six years ago. I need not go in detail into that somewhat complicated question now, but the result of it was an enormous increase in the grants-in-aid which were paid by the British Government to local bodies, and from that time onward it has always attached a condition to all grants-in-aid, that is to say, it only gives grants on condition that the local bodies will consent to the Government having a larger measure of control and inspection of their affairs. So I think one has to admit that, as there is no other sort of local body in the province which gets such enormous grants from Government, it is reasonable that in the case of this particular form of local body, the district board, the Government should endeavour to retain some measure of that control over its proceedings, which it has had in the past—apart altogether from the question of the vastly greater issues involved and greater number of people concerned in the case of district board than in the case of other local bodies.

**Mr. Muhammad Din** alluded to the history, and slightly erroneously, of Government's policy in the matter of non-official chairmen. There are as a matter of fact four district boards which are allowed to elect their own



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chairmen. I think he forgot that the district board of Sialkot is one which has had, I was going to say from time immemorial, but at any rate—

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** But you said three in your speech.

**Mr. P. Marsden :** At the time I made my speech, there were only three. I think, I was saying, that the honourable member has forgotten the case of sialkot, which has had the power of electing its own chairmen since before the reforms, and which has always elected the deputy commissioner. The Government first laid down a definite policy in 1925, with a view to making it easier for district boards to make their will known to Government. At that time certain conditions were attached to these rules, or rather to these instructions, of Government. One of them was that it was only those boards where there was an elected element of 75 per cent. that should exercise this privilege. Since then, in 1930, the concession has been broadened. There are now no conditions attached. It is open to all the non-official members of the district board to hold a meeting at any time in order that they may decide whether to ask Government for leave to elect a non-official chairman. Not only that, but Government directed that every district board should as a matter of course at a meeting held after every new election put the matter to the vote of the board. Since that time, as I said, in addition to the Sialkot District Board which had the privilege before, three other district boards have exercised the right, and those district boards are Gujrat, Gujranwala and Multan. It was very interesting to hear Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan say that all these three district boards have done magnificent work, especially as Mr. Nurullah had just pointed out that it was only a few days ago that this right came the way of the District Board of Multan. At any rate therefore Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan must be out by 33½ per cent. As regards the Gujranwala Board I was rather surprised to hear Mr. Allah Dad Khan sing pœans of praise. I had always understood, and I have seen a good deal of evidence to the effect, that the work of the Gujranwala District Board has been singularly bad, so much so that a special inquiry had to be made into the affairs of that board. A very careful and detailed inquiry was carried out.

**Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan :** But that is no defect according to Lord Ripon.

**Mr. P. Marsden :** Some people are out for the greatest happiness of the greatest number in the districts, and I am one of those, and Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan is apparently not. As I was saying, the inquiry was carried out with great care and detail, and it was found that there had been an enormous number of irregularities, both financial and others. It was left to the board to try and right the position. The Commissioner desired that it should be left to the board to do so, and it was. But whether there has been any radical improvement in the affairs of that board, I think that neither I, nor God, nor Chaudhri Allah Dad Khan, can possibly say. (*An honourable member :* So you link yourself with God ?)

I now come to the third district board, the Gujrat District Board. Nobody is happier than myself to be able to express myself as delighted at the magnificent work that has been done by the Gujrat District Board and its chairman. There may be special circumstances in Gujrat. The gentleman

who is chairman undoubtedly has enormous influence and prestige in the district. He has always worked in co-operation with the deputy commissioners and utilised the advantage of their knowledge and experience and advice, and the results have been most excellent. I say that, not with any desire to flatter any honourable member of this House, but I do absolutely and sincerely believe that the experiment in the Gujrat district has so far proved an unqualified success. (*Hear, hear*). All that can be said against Government therefore is that it is pursuing rather a cautious policy. (*An honourable member* : Retrograde). It has not yet refused to accede to the wishes of any district board about which it has been satisfied that there has been a definite and unequivocal majority in favour of having a non-official chairman.

I will not go into the details of cases which have been considered. But I would mention that there were two cases in which the boards purported to have declared in favour of a non-official chairman, but it was not clear, when the matter was looked into, what the procedure had been, and whether the real wish of the majority had been properly recorded. But at any rate, in all those cases where there has been no doubt about the wish of the majority of the members of the board, Government has acceded to the request. (*An honourable member* : And that is exactly what the resolution asks for).

I do not think there can be any doubt about the reason for Government pursuing a policy of caution. Although Mr. Muhammad Din seems to be of a contrary opinion, I am sure that the majority of honourable members will agree, that more caution is necessary in the case of district boards than of municipalities, and other local bodies. You have a wide, scattered population in district boards areas. You have a large number of illiterate and ignorant people, and it is extremely hard for them to criticise effectively any mal-administration that there may be, not by the officials of the district, but by the leading people of the district who are members of the district boards. In the municipalities the people have a chance of making their voices heard and of criticising municipal administration, but even there the effect which they are able to produce is small enough. Look at the municipality in which we are now sitting. Look at all the furious, raging attacks that have been made on the Lahore Municipal administration, by all sorts of persons, by all sorts of bodies and by all sorts of communities. Look at the excited meetings of rate-payers' associations and other bodies, and look at the volumes of facts which they have adduced to prove their case, and yet how hard it is to wring any efficient administration out of the Lahore Municipal Committee. Of course I have very little doubt that for certain reasons we may in a few days see the administration in Lahore improve. It may be so. I have every confidence that it will be so considering the result of the presidential election. But up to the present it has always been extremely difficult for the various groups of inhabitants to get their most legitimate grievances heard, and to make their voices effective, and if that is the case in the municipalities how very much more it must be true in the case of district board areas !

Some honourable members may not agree with me, but I think that it is for that reason that a great number of the inhabitants of district board

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areas do prefer to feel that the chairman of their board is the deputy commissioner. (*An honourable member*: How do you know that? Have you had a brain wave or have you received a radio message?) It is the experience of twenty-three years' residence inside district board areas. Whenever I have toured round in districts, certainly to me at any rate it has seemed that the people are rather glad that the chairman of the district board is the senior officer of the district. (*An honourable member*: They pretend.) They may pretend, but that is my impression, and there are reasons why they should be glad. It is because they like to get things done. In municipalities they cannot get things done, but in district boards they do like to feel that there is some one to whom they can go and through whom they can get things done. That has always been the guiding motto of deputy commissioners, of old times and of modern times, to get something done. I remember once, a good many years ago, a certain deputy commissioner, who was not, I am afraid, very popular—he was one of the *zabardast* type—was touring along the district board road in a buggy, when he found his springs in danger. He found that about half a mile of the metalled road was in an exceedingly bad state. Now, he was not going to wait; he was not going to have a long discussion about it. He was determined to get the road mended. So he called for a tent, and he called for the district engineer, and he had them both deposited at that spot, and in a few days that piece of road was repaired and there was no longer any danger to the springs of the carts, passing along that road. Certainly, those days are not these days; but that spirit of getting things done still prevails with the gentlemen who hold the office of deputy commissioners. There may be different ways of getting things done now. Perhaps one has to employ more talk and less action. But I am sure that all the deputy commissioners are adjusting themselves to new circumstances. (*Interruption*). We come here to this House, to learn to talk, as Mr. Manohar Lal says. (*Mr. Manohar Lal*: I said that this is a talking era). Yes, we learn to talk here. And that is one of the instruments which the modern official has to use, and is learning to use—talk. And, Sir, even in these times, I really believe that the inhabitants of district board areas do feel glad that the chairman of the district board is, as he has been in generations past, responsible for the efficient functioning of district boards. (*Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq*: Would you be prepared to take a referendum?) Referendum is an extremely difficult thing to take. But I think that if there was a referendum in each district, the result would be unfavourable to a change in the present system in more cases than if you took the vote of district board members. (*Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq*: Let us try it then in one district.)

I have also no doubt that the people of the districts feel that when they have as the chairman of the board a senior official, a deputy commissioner, he is able to stop several evils. One of them is communalism. We very rarely find that there is any communal excitement in the meetings of districts boards. (*Interruption*.) I repeat, and it is a fact, that we very rarely find district board's business impeded by communalism. And we do not find, as we do in municipal committees, that the work is impeded by favouritism, or by what is even more dangerous, too great a timidity in seeing that

employees who commit offences are punished. The result of this influence of deputy commissioner chairmen is, as all of us can testify, the smooth working and efficiency of district boards as compared with the working of municipal committees. After all, the deputy commissioner is in a far better position than anybody else could possibly be to correlate the activities of all the departments which are able to serve the district boards. After a few years' service, he gets a very good knowledge of the working of the different departments, and he is able to bring that knowledge to bear in his capacity of chairman of the district board. The need of some one who is in a position to bring that knowledge and experience to bear is increasing more and more. The uplift work which is now to the fore everywhere will never prosper, cannot prosper, unless there is expert, sound knowledge behind it, and the driving power and influence of some one who is able to extract from all the departments the necessary knowledge for advancing the work of rural uplift. A few years ago there were not many districts where rural uplift was in active progress, or where there was any definite programme of rural uplift. Now there are, and it is absolutely essential for the progress of rural uplift that our officers and our district board chairmen should be in possession of all the expert knowledge, and closely acquainted with the working of all those departments, which can be of assistance in the furtherance of rural reconstruction.

Now, I come to one other reason for the smooth and efficient working of district boards, for the absence of any friction, and the absence, so far as I have seen, of any objections to the present system outside the walls of this House. The deputy commissioners who are chairmen of boards have as a rule been able to pull on well with their fellow officers, with the vice-chairmen of the board. Some years ago the Government actually issued instructions to official chairmen of boards, urging them to delegate responsibilities and duties and to leave matters of general policy as far as possible, to the vice-chairmen. The deputy commissioner is always there, and able to assist, —and I think that his presence is always helpful at district board meetings, but as far as possible he has undoubtedly left it to the elected vice-chairman to perform the major part of the duties, and to take a leading part at district board meetings. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak, in quoting me as having said that this system had worked well, seemed to think that this was an argument the other way round. He said, if the vice-chairmen have functioned successfully, there should be no reason why they should not function equally successfully as chairmen. But, as I have pointed out, their successful functioning is largely due to their co-operation with the chairmen. The vice-chairmen are not quite in the same happy position as the official chairmen, and they are not able to command the same experience. The deputy commissioner is always touring round his district and is able constantly to see at first hand all the needs of the inhabitants of the district. Not only is he able to see the needs of the inhabitants of the district, but he is also able to have a look at the working of other local bodies. For, one has to remember that there is a lot of inter-connection, necessarily between small town, notified areas, the smaller municipalities, and the district boards, and also between district boards and panchayats. I admit that so far the deputy commissioners and the leading officials of the districts have not had the leisure to go closely into the affairs of panchayats. But

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as soon as they have leisure it is most essential they should do so. The panchayats, according to their constitution, are closely connected with district boards. A resolution was passed the other day by the Standing Committee for Local Self-Government, urging that the number of panchayats should be increased, and that some legislation should be initiated for increasing the powers of the panchayats, and for ensuring that they shall act more closely in co-operation with district boards with a view to carrying out sanitary improvements. Here there lies enormous scope for the chief officer of the district board, and it is to be hoped that in future the chairmen of boards, when touring round the districts, will co-ordinate closely the work of the panchayats and of the district boards.

Well, I think I need not impress upon honourable members that the will at any rate of the deputy commissioners who are chairmen of boards is to do the utmost for their districts; and I am quite convinced that they are the people who have the greatest power, as chairmen, to increase the efficient working of the boards. District officials are of course going to be in rather a different position in the future from what they were in the past. But in the case of deputy commissioners, they have generations of tradition behind them to help them, and judging from the material that is still coming into the service, both into the Indian and the Provincial Civil Services, there seems to be very little doubt that in the new order of things the officials of districts will be able to function as successfully as they have been doing in the past. I thoroughly appreciate the position of honourable members who have supported the resolution and who may want to support it. But I would urge upon them just to consider for a moment whether there are not some advantages in the present position. District boards have functioned efficiently. Many honourable members who are now sitting in this House have worked in close co-operation with the official chairmen of district boards and they realise better than anybody else could whether what I say is correct. So, I sincerely hope that honourable members will not too quickly, just because at first sight it appears to be a democratic move press Government to remove all official chairmen. I would urge them just to pause and reflect for a moment. After all it is nothing but just a rather cautious policy which the Government are pursuing, the policy of surveying the condition and circumstances of a district with utmost care and thoroughness, when a resolution is sent up to them for removing the official chairmen, before they decide to act upon it. And I say that that is a policy which ought to command itself to this House, particularly when it is realised that in every single case where the Government has been satisfied that it is definitely the will of the majority of the people that there should be a non-official chairman, Government has in every case made the concession.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan** (Jullundur, Muhammadan, Rural) (*Urdu*): I rise to offer my whole-hearted support to this resolution. I have been a member of a district board for the last twenty years and I know from my personal experience why it is necessary that the district boards should have non-official chairmen. It is generally said that these bodies have been constituted to give us training in self-government, but still an official president is imposed upon us that we may not learn the

art of self-government. There are already such rules in existence as empower the deputy commissioner to accept or reject a certain proposal of the district board. Moreover, the deputy commissioner is already hard-worked ; so if a non-official president is appointed, it will greatly lighten the burden of the deputy commissioner. In fact, wherever non-official presidents have been appointed, they have done their work in an excellent manner. There was a time when no local men were appointed as judges, but later on when they were selected for these jobs they acquitted themselves very creditably. If local men can successfully work as Revenue Member, deputy commissioners and judges, I do not see why they should not be able to work as presidents of district boards.

When Dr. Gokul Chand Narang had not assumed the office of minister, he used to say that non-official members should be appointed as chairmen. He made a very bold and bombastic speech on this resolution when it was previously moved in the Council and very emphatically said that the district boards should have only non-official presidents.

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I never said so.

**Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** I shall find out that speech and show you. But ever since he has occupied that seat he has changed his attitude. Perhaps when a person holds a responsible position, he hesitates to do anything on account of his responsibilities. I think he would be ready to accept this resolution if he is assured that the presidents of district boards will all be Hindus. Now if he hesitates to accept this resolution the reason is that he wishes that Muhammadans may not become chairmen of these boards. The Governor has nominated two Muhammadans on the Lahore Municipality, and the result is that Dr. Narang's community is asking him to resign his ministership. Under the present circumstances, it is very difficult for the members of the district boards to express their views independently. The district boards consist of zaildars, sufedposhes, jagirdars, magistrates, and others. When the official chairman comes into the meeting, they cannot even raise their heads and sit like pigeons with their eyes closed before a tom cat. It has been said that if the members of a certain district board decide by votes that they do not want an official chairman, their proposal will be accepted. But in the presence of the deputy commissioner it is impossible for the members to express their opinion independently. I am reminded of a case in my own district board. The civil surgeon asked the deputy commissioner that two cooks should be employed for every dispensary. The deputy commissioner approved the suggestion without consulting the district board, which did not want this appointment. Sardar Kuldip Singh, Honorary Magistrate, asked the deputy commissioner, " what is the good of these boards when they are not even consulted in such matters ? " The result of this impudence was that Sardar Kuldip Singh had to lose his magistracy. I do not for a moment say that I am against every deputy commissioner. There are good and useful deputy commissioners also. They may remain presidents of the district boards. There has been no deputy commissioner whose photo is not hanging in our district board room, whether he was good or bad. If the decision regarding non-official president is to be made by votes, I am afraid the members will not be able to express their honest opinion, but if it is done by ballot, they might do so.

[Ch. Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.]

When Dr. Sahib was on these benches, he was very good, but the moment he went to Government benches he changed his attitude altogether. Therefore, if you earnestly want to teach us the ways of self-government, you must allow the district boards to have non-official presidents. There are some district boards which have non-official presidents and they are working very well. My friend, Nawab Fazal Ali, is the chairman of his district board and he is one of the finest chairmen. He is very honest and upright. Once a contractor came to me with the request that I should ask Nawab Sahib to help him. But Nawab Sahib told him that it was not possible for him to do anything. The contractor told me that if there had been an English officer he would have derived great benefit. The servants of the district board are always working at the bungalow of the deputy commissioner. Nobody takes any notice of these things, but once some servant carries grass to the house of our vice-president he is asked to submit an explanation for his action. It is not possible for the members to express their views on any subject in an independent manner. My position is very awkward just now and I cannot expatiate upon these things as I like. When my position improves a little, I shall tell you everything in detail. Now I am afraid that warrants for my arrest may be issued against me for speaking the truth.

It is not necessary that the district boards should have official presidents. There are deputy commissioners and financial commissioners to watch the working of the district boards. If the boards are guilty of any misconduct or bungling, the Government can reprimand them. If this change will not be brought about during the regime of Doctor Sahib, we shall conclude that the elephant has a different set of tusks with which it eats and a different set which it displays. In the course of his speech Mr. Marsden has been pleased to observe that Government will make this change at the time when the new councils will come into being. Then we shall get great power and we shall be able to do many things ourselves. There will be no official block. If there will be no official chairmen of district boards, at that time we shall feel grateful to ourselves and not to Government. (Laughter).

*At this stage the Council adjourned till 2-30 P.M., on Friday, 29th March 1935.*

## PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5TH SESSION OF THE 4TH PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 29th March 1935.

*The Council met at the Council Chamber at 2-30 P.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the chair.*

### STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LOSS OF PISTOL BELONGING TO DR. KIDAR NATH, SIMLA.

**\*4502. Thakur Pancham Chand :** With reference to the reply given on the 29th October, 1934, to question No. \*3880 (d),<sup>1</sup> will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) on what date Dr. Kidar Nath of Ayrecliff, Simla, gave information to the Simla police, on the basis of which Mr. Joshi's house was searched ;
- (b) whether Dr. Kidar Nath gave the information to the police in writing or verbally ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Dr. Kidar Nath reported the loss of his pistol to the police on the 8th August, 1931.

(b) He made the report in writing.

DECREE IN FAVOUR OF MUNSHI RAM, SUB-INSPECTOR OF POLICE.

**\*4503. Lala Bhagat Ram :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a decree has been granted against two papers of Lahore in favour of Munshi Ram, sub-inspector of police ;
- (b) the expenditure incurred by the Government in the above mentioned case ;
- (c) how the decretal amount is proposed to be allocated between Government and the said Munshi Ram ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 2,070.

(c) The balance of the amount decreed after paying the expenses incurred by Government will be handed over to the sub-inspector.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. R. R. SETHI, AS UNIVERSITY HISTORY LECTURER.

**\*4504. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the academic qualifications the Punjab University has fixed for the recruitment, respectively, of University professors, readers, lecturers and the procedure in this behalf ;

<sup>1</sup>Volume XXV, pages 713-14.



[Mr. Muhammad Din Malak.]

- (b) whether it is a fact that in January, 1984, one Mr. R. R. Sethi, was appointed, by the Syndicate, as University Lecturer in History without the post being advertised and without previous consultation with the committee of selection and the Board of Advisers on the plea—
- (i) that he had been carrying on research on the Anglo-Sikh period of the History of the Punjab in the Punjab Government Civil Secretariat Record Office ;
  - (ii) that this research was a valuable contribution to the Punjab History, and that it was highly appreciated by the University Professor of History ;
  - (iii) that the above research was being published in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, Lahore, in a series of articles, as also in some Indian and foreign journals ;
  - (iv) that he had been recommended by the University Professor of History to whom he had been already of great assistance ;
- (c) if the reply to (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government will lay on the table the letter of the University Professor, recommending to the authorities concerned, the appointment of Mr. Sethi as University Lecturer ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

**APPOINTMENT OF MR. R. R. SETHI AS UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN HISTORY.**

**\*4505. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the subjects in the Matriculation, Intermediate, B.A., and M.A. examinations and the total number of marks and classes obtained by Mr. R. R. Sethi, Punjab University History Lecturer, in each of these examinations ;
- (b) the minimum number of marks necessary to pass in the M.A. examination ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that at the time of the appointment of Mr. Sethi, first class M.A.'s of the Punjab University in History were available ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The information required is contained in part III-A of the following issues of the *Punjab Government Gazette* :—

- (i) Regarding the Matriculation Examination—*Punjab Gazette*, dated 21st September, 1923.
- (ii) Regarding the F.Sc. Examination, *Punjab Gazette*, dated 13th November, 1925.
- (iii) Regarding the B.A. Examination, *Punjab Gazette*, dated 4th November, 1927.
- (iv) Regarding the M.A. (Economics) Examination, *Punjab Gazette*, dated the 18th October, 1929.
- (v) Regarding the M.A. (History) Examination, *Punjab Gazette*, dated 17th October, 1930.

(c) 45 per cent.

(c) Not known.

It may be stated that appointments made by the University are not subject to the sanction of Government.

**Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Is not the Honourable Minister the only authority to give a reply to part (c) of the question ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** At the time of the appointment the names of all applicants did not come to the notice of the Government. We had no power to interfere. University invited the applications and they selected the candidates and they appointed the man they considered most suitable. We had nothing to do with it.

RESEARCHES OF MR. R. R. SETHI, UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN HISTORY.

**\*4506. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that a circular letter, dated the 21st December last, was sent to the University authorities and the Press by Khan Sahib Sheikh Muhammad Hasan, P.C.S. (retired), in which he pointed out that 17 of the articles of Mr. R. R. Sethi, Punjab University History Lecturer, published in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, etc., and based on the so-called original research, were mere transcriptions from Edwin Arnold's "Dalhousie's Administrations" (published in 1862), and suggested that the remaining articles, out of a total of about 107, might also be found to be mere transcriptions, if an inquiry were made into the matter ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a circular letter, dated the 13th February last, he—

(i) showed that 12 more articles of the series were also mere copies from Key's and Malletson's "History of the Indian Mutiny" and other books ;

(ii) suggested the association of some senior Professors of History of the local colleges in the inquiry ;

(c) whether any inquiry committee was formed ;

(d) if the reply to (c) be in the affirmative,

(i) how many sittings did the committee hold,

(ii) how many articles were examined,

(iii) by whom, and

(iv) with what results ;

(e) if only the articles referred to in the letter of Khan Sahib Sheikh Muhammad Hasan were examined, whether the Government will order an enquiry as to the rest ;

(f) whether Mr. R. R. Sethi has been suspended ; if not, why not ;

(g) whether it is a fact that Mr. Sethi has merely been reprimanded and debarred from examinership for two years ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

MR. R. R. SETHI, UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN HISTORY.

**\*4507. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay on the table all the letters of Khan Sahib Sheikh Muhammad Hasan to the University authorities respecting Mr. R. R. Sethi, together with their replies ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** It is not in the public interest that Government should try to secure the publication of letters which were neither written to nor by a Government servant.

MR. R. R. SETHI, UNIVERSITY LECTURER IN HISTORY.

**\*4508. Mr. Muhammad Din Malak :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that it has been the duty of Mr. R. R. Sethi, University Lecturer, to teach Honours School and post-graduate classes and to supervise research work in History ;
- (b) whether the University has recently ruled that no third class M.A. can teach the Honours School or post-graduate classes ;
- (c) if the reply to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons why Mr. Sethi is being retained as University Lecturer ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Yes, it is a fact that it has been the duty of Mr. R. R. Sethi to teach Honours School and post-graduate classes and to supervise research work in History.

(b) The University informs me that it has not ruled that no third class M.A. can teach the Honours School or post-graduate classes.

(c) Does not arise.

PANIPAT MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

**\*4509. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) the total population of Panipat, community-wise (Hindus, Muhammedans, and others) ;
- (b) whether the electorates are joint or separate for election of members of the Panipat Municipal Committee ;
- (c) if the electorate is separate, the total number of Hindu and Muslim electors and the number of Muslim and non-Muslim members of the said Municipal Committee ;
- (d) the total number of members belonging to Muslim and non-Muslim communities in the said Municipal Committee ;
- (e) the total number of employees in each grade of pay of the said Municipal Committee belonging to Hindu, Muslim and other communities in that Committee ;
- (f) these numbers in the years 1915, 1920, 1925 and 1930 ;
- (g) whether any of the employees of the said Committee have been recently retrenched and come under reduction ; and if so, to which community they belong and what was their period of service ;

- (h) whether it is a fact that many of the senior Hindu employees have been reduced and junior employees retained in service ;
- (i) whether the Hindus of Panipat have been seriously perturbed on account of this retrenchment of Hindu employees and whether any representations have been received by the Government in this matter ;
- (j) if so, what action the Government proposes to take in the matter to allay the grievances of the Hindus of Panipat ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

#### HONOURS EXAMINATION IN VERNACULAR.

**\*4510. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that people who have passed any of the Honours examination in any of the classical languages can appear in the Degree Examination in one subject, English only, and be thus entitled to the degree of B. O. L. ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the students who pass the Honours examination in any of the vernaculars are not entitled to get the degree of the Punjab University ;
- (c) whether he or the University has received representations in this matter ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Candidates who have passed an Honours examination in any of the classical languages can appear in the B.A. examination in the subject of English only, after passing the Matriculation and Intermediate examinations in English only, but they are not entitled to the degree of B.O.L. but are entitled to the B.A. degree.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

#### ARYA SAMAJ, PANIPAT.

**\*4511. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Arya Samaj of Panipat, district Karnal, applied for licence for taking out a procession in connection with their religious celebrations ;
- (b) if so, whether this licence was granted or not ;
- (c) if it was not granted, what were the chief factors for refusal ;
- (d) whether such licences have been granted in the past without any untoward incident ;
- (e) whether he will place a copy of the orders of Superintendent of Police and District Magistrate, Karnal, in this connection on the table of the House ;

[Sh. Lekhwati Jain.]

- (f) whether it is a fact that the licences for taking out religious processions have been freely granted to other communities ;
- (g) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, why Arya Samaj was particularly chosen for this ban ;
- (h) whether Government realizes that great injustice has been done to a section of His Majesty's subjects and their religious susceptibilities wounded by the partial and discriminatory order of district authorities ;
- (i) whether Government has received any representations in this respect ;
- (j) if so, what action Government proposes to take in this matter ?-

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Licence was not granted.

(c) In consequence of the strained relations between Hindus and Muhammedans of Panipat in 1930, it was decided that no licence for *sankirtan* processions should issue until the two communities concerned came to an agreement as to the route to be followed and the conditions to be observed generally. As the parties concerned have not yet come to an agreement, no licence has been issued.

(d) Licences were granted only in 1928 and 1929 : In 1930 as a result of tense communal friction in Panipat orders were issued as described in the answer to (c) above and these orders still hold good.

(e) A copy of the orders passed by the Superintendent of Police, Karnal, is laid on the table.

(f) No. Licences are not granted for any processions which are not established by long usage.

(g) The *Sankirtan* processions at Panipat come under the category of innovations.

(h) No.

(i) Government received from the President, Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, Punjab, a copy of the memorial addressed by him to the Deputy Commissioner, Karnal, on 15th July, 1933.

(j) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer to part (c).

*Copy of the orders of the Superintendent of Police, Karnal, dated the 24th February, 1935.*

To—

- (1) Pandit KUNDAN LAL, Pleader, President, Arya Samaj, Panipat.
- (2) DEARAM SINGH, son of Raghunath Sahai, Panipat.
- (3) SOHAN LAL, son of Ganga Ram, Vaid, Secretary, Arya Samaj, Panipat.

#### MEMORANDUM.

With reference to your application, dated 14th February, 1935, for a licence for *Sankirtan* processions from the 26th February to the 4th March, 1935, I have to inform you that the position was made clear to your deputation which was seen by Mr. Salusbury, District Magistrate, on 2nd February, 1935. It was pointed out that no licence could be issued until the two communities concerned came to an agreement as to the routes to be followed, and the conditions generally. Exactly the same objections exist this year, and I have, therefore, to inform you that, after consultation with the Deputy Commissioner, I cannot issue a licence on the terms desired by you.

## AGRICULTURISTS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

**\*4512. Shrimati Lekhwati Jain :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) how many agriculturists, statutory (non-Muslim), have been taken into Government service each year since 1921, in each branch of the service ;
- (b) how many of them are Jats ;
- (c) how many of these Jats belong to the Rohtak district ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The information is not available and its collection would involve an expenditure of labour and money incommensurate with any public advantage to be gained.

## LINE SUPERINTENDENTS, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4513. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) the number of Line Superintendents in the Hydro-Electric Department ;
- (b) the pay drawn by each Line Superintendent ;
- (c) the number of applications submitted by Muslim candidates for the post of Line Superintendent and the number of Muslims actually appointed to these posts ;
- (d) the engineering qualifications of Muslim Line Superintendents ;
- (e) the number of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh Line Superintendents, respectively, appointed in the Hydro-Electric Department so far ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) 52 including 3 temporary posts.

(b) Most of the men are in receipt of between Rs. 60 and Rs. 65 per mensem. Exact amounts cannot be given as service books are in divisions where different men are serving and it will take a long time to collect the information.

(c) From 1st April, 1933 up-to-date—

Applications received	..	..	..	45
Actually appointed	..	..	..	22

(d) The information is given in the attached statement and would show that out of the 22 Muslims 10 had no engineering qualifications.

(e) Hindus	..	..	..	..	83
Muslims	..	..	..	..	22
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	10
Others	..	..	..	..	5
Total					70

Out of these, 12 men were subsequently found to be unsuitable and discharged, two died and two were promoted to gazetted rank.

[Hon. Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang.]

*Statement showing the engineering qualifications of Muslims appointed as Line Superintendents in the Electricity Branch.*

Serial No.	Name.	Engineering qualifications.
1	M. Baggu Khan .. ..	" B " Class MacLagan Engineering College.
2	M. Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh .. ..	Ditto.
3	M. Siraj Din Bedil .. ..	Ditto.
4	S. M. K. Anwar .. ..	No engineering qualifications.
5	M. Muhammad Rafi .. ..	D. F. H. London.
6	M. Nazir Ahmad Chishty .. ..	" B " Class MacLagan Engineering College.
7	M. Muhammad Sarwar Khan .. ..	No engineering qualifications.
8	M. Basharat Ali Khan .. ..	Ditto.
9	M. Rashid Ahmad .. ..	" A " Class MacLagan Engineering College.
10	M. Iqbal Bahadur .. ..	No engineering qualifications.
11	Mr. S. A. Khan .. ..	Ditto.
12	M. Muhammad Yakub .. ..	Ditto.
13	M. Muhammad Saleem .. ..	" B " Class MacLagan Engineering College.
14	M. Muhammad Yusuf .. ..	No engineering qualifications.
15	M. Hafeezur-Rahman .. ..	Completed three years theoretical course of MacLagan Engineering College.
16	M. Muhammad Shafi .. ..	" B " Class MacLagan Engineering College.
17	M. Haidar Ali Khan .. ..	No engineering qualifications.
18	S. Ghulam Shah Khan .. ..	Ditto.
19	M. Atta-ur-Rahman .. ..	Ditto.
20	Mr. F. R. Ghani .. ..	Ditto.
21	M. Abdul Ghani .. ..	Ditto.
22	M. Bashir Ahmad .. ..	Ditto.

## LINE SUPERINTENDENTS, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4514. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan:** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) the qualifications required for appointment to the post of Line Superintendent in the Hydro-Electric Department;
- (b) the considerations that are taken into account while filling the posts of Line Superintendents?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) and (b) No qualifications have so far been prescribed by Government. The Chief Engineer has recommended the following educational qualifications :—

- (1) B Class Diploma from the MacLagan Engineering College, Moghalpura.
- (2) Certificate of having completed full course at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Hindu Institute, Lahore.
- (3) Diploma from the Benaras Hindu University.

The Chief Engineer has also suggested that he may be permitted to recruit men with practical experience who were considered suitable although not possessing the prescribed educational qualifications. Pending Government's decision on these recommendations applications from all qualified candidates (including some unqualified ones from the Muslim community) have been forwarded to the Line Construction Engineer and invariably only those have been appointed as Line Superintendents who have been passed as suitable by him.

#### LINE SUPERINTENDENTS, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4515. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that in the course of his speech delivered on 6th March, 1935, the Chief Engineer, Electricity Department, stated that the Muslims as a community are afraid of the work of a Line Superintendent ;
- (b) whether the above statement is based upon the Chief Engineer's own experience or on the reports made by some other officer in the Department from time to time ;
- (c) if the statement made in (a) was based upon the Chief Engineer's own experience, the number of Muslim candidates actually examined by the Chief Engineer for the post of Line Superintendent ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) The Chief Engineer made no such statement.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### MUSLIMS IN ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4516. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether he is aware of the fact that Mr. Thomas, Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Department, in the course of his speech delivered in the Council on 6th March, 1935, stated that the Muslim representation in the Hydro-Electric Department is 48 per cent. ;
- (b) whether the percentage of Muslims stated in (a) includes coolies, peons and clerks ;



[Ch. Faqir Hussain Khan.]

- (c) whether it is a fact that there are only 48 gazetted posts in the Hydro-Electric Department, out of which 9 are held by Muslims, 8 by Sikhs, 15 by Hindus and 16 by Europeans and Anglo-Indians ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the total monthly salary of gazetted officers in the said branch is Rs. 19,940 Rs. 4,428 overseas pay ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the above salary bill is shared by different communities as under—

	Per cent.
Muslims .. .. .	8.0
Sikhs .. .. .	9.2
Hindus .. .. .	20.7
Europeans and Anglo-Indians .. .. .	62.1

- (f) if the answer to (e) above be in the affirmative, why no steps have been taken to give the Muslims their due share in this department, and why the three posts recently filled up have been given to non-Muslims, one to a Hindu and the other two to Europeans ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) No ; Mr. Thomas stated that the Muslim representation was 40.8 per cent.

(b) It does not include coolies and peons. Clerks are included.

(c) No ; the correct number of gazetted posts in the Electricity Branch (including temporary posts) is 51, out of which 9 are held by Muslims, 10 by Sikhs, 17 by Hindus, 14 by Europeans and Anglo-Indians and 1 by an Indian Christian.

(d) No ; the total monthly salary of gazetted officers in the Electricity Branch works out to Rs. 24,488 per mensem, out of which Rs. 3,978 per mensem represents Sterling Overseas Pay.

(e) The correct figures are given below :—

	Per cent.
Muslims .. .. .	7.00
Sikhs .. .. .	8.86
Hindus .. .. .	22.55
Europeans and Anglo-Indians .. .. .	60.92
Others .. .. .	0.67

(f) The persons actually appointed were the best qualified of all the applicants.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4517. Chaudhri Faqir Husain Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state—

- (a) whether the posts of Messrs. Mukerji, Taggart and Turner were advertised for by the Hydro-Electric Department ;
- (b) if so, how many Muslims applied for these posts ;

- (c) the name of the Muslim candidate who possessed the highest engineering qualifications and the period of his previous experience;
- (d) the respective qualifications and previous experience of Messrs. Mukerji, Taggart and Turner as compared with the qualifications and previous experience of the Muslim candidate mentioned in (c);
- (e) the reasons why the Muslim candidate was not appointed?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Yes.

(b) No Muslim applied for the posts against which Messrs. Taggart and Turner have been appointed. Only 4 Muslims applied for the post against which Mr. Mukerji has been appointed.

(c) and (d) It is not in the public interests to state names of candidates who have not been considered suitable for employment or to compare their qualifications with those who were actually appointed. It would not be in the interests of the candidates themselves also.

(e) Because those actually appointed were better qualified.

#### SEDUCTION OF BOYS BY TEACHERS.

**\*4518. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly lay on the table a copy of the instructions that have been repeated to deal with cases of seduction of boys by teachers promptly and efficiently as referred to in reply to question No. \*3537<sup>1</sup> (d)?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** A copy of the instructions is laid on the table.

*Copy of demi-official letter No. 17145-G, dated the 15th September, 1934, from R. Sanderson, Esquire, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, to the Divisional Inspectors of Schools, Inspector of European Schools, Principal, Central Training College, and Principals of Government Arts Colleges in the Punjab.*

I FIND that departmental officers do not observe the instructions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Sir George Anderson's C. M. No. 406-M.S., dated the 5th July, 1923, in regard to immoral offences by teachers and pupils. There is generally delay in the institution of legal proceedings or the conduct of the enquiry with the result that the offender often goes without adequate punishment or any punishment at all, and not a few departmental officers have shown an utter lack of a sense of proportion in dealing with such cases. Consequently the discipline of the department is being adversely criticised in certain circles, and there have also been questions in the Legislative Council on the subject. I desire, therefore, to impress upon you the extreme importance of dealing with such cases promptly and efficiently in accordance with Sir George Anderson's C. M. referred to above, and to issue the following further instructions for your guidance:—

- (i) Every case of immoral conduct in which there is any evidence at all, should be reported to me at once for advice on the action to be taken.
- (ii) No teacher who is dismissed for an immoral offence should be employed in any school in the province.

2. I find that a number of cases have not been submitted to me for advice because it was considered that there was no legal proof. I wish to point out that I am in a position to dismiss an offender where I am morally convinced of guilt. As a result of increased departmental activity in these matters, there is danger of an increase in false accusations and special care should be taken in reporting cases to indicate your suspicions of false charges.

[Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon.]

*Copy of a demi-official C. M. No. 406-M. S. (Confidential), dated the 5th July, 1923, from G. Anderson, Esquire, C.I.E., M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, to the Divisional Inspectors of Schools; the Chief Inspectress of Schools; and the Principals of the Government Colleges, Central Training College Intermediate College for Women, Lahore, Multan College, Multan and Ludhiana College, Ludhiana.*

I AM writing to you generally on the question of punishments and to lay certain principles for your consideration and guidance.

2. Certain incidents have recently been brought to my notice, in which boys have committed offences which bring them within the cognizance of the Indian Penal Code. One was a most serious act of immorality; another was a breach of peace by certain boys at a district tournament. In both cases there was an attempt, well intentioned no doubt, to hush up the affair and to prevent its coming before the Courts. The result was that, in the former instance, the punishment seemed to me extremely inadequate and, when the matter eventually came to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, it was considered too late to institute legal proceedings. In the latter instance, the informal arbitration was not accepted by one of the parties concerned with the result that it became most difficult to dispose of the case satisfactorily.

3. In such cases promptness of effective action is essential. I would, therefore, suggest that you or the officer immediately concerned should lay the facts immediately before the Deputy Commissioner and leave it to him to decide whether legal proceedings should be instituted or not. If they are instituted, then the report of those proceedings should be forwarded to me at once (together with your own proposals) so that departmental action should succeed, and not precede, judicial inquiry. If the Deputy Commissioner does not consider that the case should be taken before the Court, then you should invite his official advice regarding the validity of the charges and decide whether action should be taken departmentally. Should the Deputy Commissioner so advise, a full departmental inquiry should be instituted. In all such inquiries the grounds for holding the inquiry should be fully stated, complete evidence recorded, and a statement taken from the accused. In forwarding these documents to me, you should be careful to refer to the evidence pointing to the validity of the charges and state your recommendations. It is scarcely necessary to point out that, in cases of grave immorality care should be taken to obtain medical evidence at once.

4. The same procedure in this respect should be adopted in cases relating to teachers as well as to pupils.

5. The same principle applies also to a refusal to permit a student or a boy to appear for a university examination. This, in itself, is not a satisfactory form of punishment. It should succeed the infliction of some other and more direct form of punishment which would then be sufficient ground for refusal to sign the guarantee to the University that the student or pupil is of good behaviour. The mere refusal to permit a boy to appear for a University examination is often a somewhat uneven form of punishment in that a bright boy is heavily penalised whereas the dull boy is scarcely punished at all.

6. The adoption of this principle is easy in the case of Government institutions. If an inspector is of opinion, after due enquiry, that certain boys in a private institution deserve severe punishment, he should advise the authorities concerned that punishment should be inflicted, which punishment should be sufficient reason for refusal to sign the University certificate. In such cases, a report of the advice together with the names of the boys concerned should be forwarded at once to the University which will then decide whether the boys should be admitted to the examination or not. If your advice is not accepted by the school authorities, then you should forward to me the necessary correspondence together with an explanation by the school authorities.

7. Another similar matter which has been engaging my attention is the continued negligence and apathy of several teachers in Government employ. I would point out again that transfer in such cases is rarely a suitable form of punishment. The most suitable form of punishment is to stop increments in pay. I should, therefore, be glad if you would kindly forward to me (when necessary) your proposals in this respect, stating specifically in what manner the teacher concerned has been remiss in carrying out his duties.

8. I also feel that there are one or two head masters who have been sufficiently tried in the balance and found wanting. It seems to me time that these men should be relieved of their important duties and sent to other schools as assistant masters. I should be glad to receive your proposals if you feel it necessary to take such drastic action.

9. I have also noticed that certain masters are in the habit of frequently taking casual leave on the score of ill-health. In such cases, applications for short leave will not be entertained. Such teachers should take long leave to restore themselves fully to health.

## SIKH PATWARIS IN MADHOPUR DIVISION.

**\*4519. Sardar Jawahar Singh Dhillon :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) the total number of permanent patwaris in Madhopur Division, Upper Bari Doab Circle, Amritsar, community-wise ;
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above indicates that the representation of the Sikh community is *nil* or very meagre, what measure Government is prepared to take to redress the grievance of the Sikh community in this respect ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a)—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	..	6
Hindus	..	..	..	..	..	10
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	..	<i>Nil</i> .

(b) Patwaris are on divisional lists. Prior to 1932 appointments were made in the order in which candidates were enrolled. Since 1932 no vacancies have occurred and when one does occur Government's orders re communal representation will be complied with.

## COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN HIGH COURT OFFICE.

**\*4520. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of appointments held by each community (stating also the number of notified agriculturists under each designation) in the following branches of the High Court Office :—
  - (i) the Accounts Branch,
  - (ii) the Gazette Branch,
  - (iii) the General Branch ;
- (b) the reason why Muslims have not been employed in these branches for a long time ;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government in regard to subordinates in the High Court to fulfil the pledges given regarding communal representation by Sir Geoffrey deMontmorency on the 19th July, 1927, in his speech reported in Volume X-B (1927) at pages 874 *et seq.* of the Council proceedings, and, if so, the exact details of those steps ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) Does not arise ;

(c) Appointments to the ministerial staff of the High Court are made by the Honourable the Chief Justice under clause 6 of the Letters Patent. The policy of Government in this matter has been brought to the notice of the Honourable Judges.

[Hon. Mr. D. J. Boj d.]

*Statement.*

	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.
(i) Accounts Branch ..	7 (non-agri- culturists).	1 (non-agri- culturist).	4 (including one-agri- culturist).	..
(ii) Gazette Branch ..	2 (non-agri- culturists).	..	1 (non-agri- culturist).	2 (non-agri- culturists).
(iii) General Branch ..	12 (non-agri- culturists).	2 (non-agri- culturists).	..	2 (non-agri- culturists).

## COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN HIGH COURT OFFICE.

**\*4521. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(1) the total number on the 1st of January, 1935, community-wise (stating also under each designation the number of those who are notified agriculturists and those who are not) of—

(a) Superintendents in the High Court office who are in the—

(i) senior grade,

(ii) junior grade,

stating also—

(i) the pay of the grade ;

(ii) the total annual amount drawn as salaries by each community ;

(iii) the age of each of the Muslims in the cadre ;

(iv) the percentage of each community in the cadre ;

(b) Assistants in the High Court office, stating also—

(i) the pay of the grade ;

(ii) the total annual amount drawn as salaries by each community ;

(iii) the age of each of the Muslims in the cadre ;

(iv) the percentage of each community in the cadre and whether it is a fact that the appointments to the cadre of Superintendents are normally made by promotions from this cadre ;

- (c) *Judges' Readers* who were —
- (i) permanent ;
  - (ii) officiating or temporary ;
- stating also—
- (i) the pay of the grade ;
  - (ii) the total annual amount drawn as salaries by each community ;
  - (iii) the age of each of the Muslims in the cadre ;
  - (iv) the percentage of each community in the cadre ;
- (2) similar figures and percentages (except the age of the incumbents) about the judgment writers, translators (exclusive of any who may be officiating as readers) and about such of the senior clerks in the High Court Office as are not covered by any of the other categories mentioned in this question ;
- (8) whether any steps have been taken by the Government in regard to these branches of service to fulfil the pledges given regarding communal representation by Sir Geoffrey deMontmorency as Finance Member on the 19th July, 1927, and reported at pages 874 *et seq.* of Volume X-B (1927) of the Council proceedings, and, if so, the exact details of those steps ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The required information cannot be obtained without the expenditure of labour out of all proportion to the value of the answer. In the circumstances Government regret that they are unable to answer this question.

MUSLIM REPRESENTATION IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

**\*4522. Khan Bahadur Nawab Muhammad Hayat Qureshi :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) the number community-wise (stating also the number of notified agriculturists under each designation) of—
  - (i) the senior clerks in the grade of Rs. 75—125 ;
  - (ii) the junior clerks in the courts subordinate to the High Court ;
- (b) whether Government is prepared to draw the attention of the Honourable Chief Justice to the poor representation of Muslims among clerks in courts subordinate to the High Court and particularly among those mentioned in (a) (i) above ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

STAFF OF CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT, LUDHIANA DISTRICT.

**\*4523. Khwaja Muhammad Eusooif :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Joginder Singh, Managing Director, and Sardar Sahib Sardar Tehal Singh, Director, the Ludhiana Central Co-operative Bank, met the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, in Ludhiana when the Registrar toured that district and made certain complaints against

[Kh. Muhammad Eusoof.]

the staff of the Co-operative Department in the Ludhiana district ;

- (b) the reply given by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, to the two gentlemen mentioned in part (a) ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) and (b) Yes ; but as the incident is more than a year old, the exact purport of the oral representations made and the reply given by the Registrar thereto, are not remembered.

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR DIRECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE BANKS.

**\*4524. Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) the educational qualifications and banking and co-operative experience of each director of the Ludhiana and the Ambala Central Co-operative Banks ;
- (b) the Managing Directors of the Ludhiana Central Bank previous to 1934 and their educational qualifications and those of the present Managing Director ;
- (c) whether the said bank is worked by these directors or whether the Department controls them ;
- (d) whether Government proposes to fix any requisite qualifications for directorship ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The directors are elected by the members and Government have no information regarding their qualifications ; nor do they propose to fix any qualifications.

#### DEPOSIT UNDER CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT.

**\*4525. Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether there are any rules framed under section 43 of the Co-operative Societies Act, which fix the maximum amount of money which a society can take by way of deposits from members and non-members ;
- (b) whether Circular No. 204-S of 17th June, 1931, fixes any such limitation and on what grounds ;
- (c) whether the said circular referred to above was sent to the Co-operative Societies in the Punjab for information ; if not, why not ;
- (d) whether the circular mentioned in part (b) is being complied with in the district of Jullundur ;
- (e) how the societies which had received the members' deposits before the advent of the circular referred to above are being treated ;
- (f) whether Government proposes to allow the old societies to repay the deposits gradually ;
- (g) whether the rule referred to in (b) was published in the official gazette as required by section 43 (5) of the Co-operative Societies Act ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes, rule 6 of the Rules under the Act requires every society from time to time to fix in a General Meeting, the maximum liability it may incur in loans or deposits from non-members only.

(b) A copy is laid on the table. The object of the circular was to prevent societies entering into excessive borrowing from any source.

(c) No. The circular is merely a direction by the Registrar to his officers, indicating the principles which should be followed in according sanction to maximum credit limit, as required in the Rules under the Act.

(d) There is no information to the contrary.

(e) If the honourable member will explain what he means by 'how the societies are being treated,' enquiries will be made and a reply given.

(f) Deposits are for fixed terms, agreed between the society and the depositor. It is for the parties themselves to agree on the time and method of repayment.

(g) No. The circular is merely a direction by the Registrar to his officers, indicating the principles which should be followed in according sanction to maximum credit limits, as required in the Rules under the Act.

*Copy of circular No. 204-S., dated the 17th June, 1934, from the Registrar, Co-operative Credit Societies, Punjab, to all Gazetted Officers and Inspectors.*

**SUBJECT :—Primary Societies—Maximum Credit—Limits of.**

1. In calculating a society's Maximum Credit Limit, members' deposits should be taken into consideration, and any deposit accepted which brings its borrowing above this limit should be invested outside the society. If any society refuses to do this, its Maximum Credit Limit should be cancelled.

2. A society's Maximum Credit Limit should ordinarily be calculated by—

(a) making the following deduction from the total maximum credit limits of its members :—

	Per cent.
Class (A) societies .. .. .	20 to 25
Class (B) societies .. .. .	25 to 33
Class (C) societies .. .. .	33 to 55
New societies .. .. .	50

(b) deducting the society's owned capital from the result.

In the case of (a) Circle Registrars should use their discretion within the limits indicated.

3. If a society's Maximum Credit Limit fixed in this way averages considerably more than the following scale per member, the position should be carefully reviewed before the amount is fixed :—

For a village that is predominantly :—

	Per member.
	Rs.
(1) Barani .. .. .	100
(2) Chahi .. .. .	150
(3) Dofasli nahri .. .. .	250

This is a guide, not a formula.

4. In the case of miscellaneous income the register Had-i-qarza should give each source of income and the amount earned from each. This is of particular importance in the case of non-agricultural societies.

In future no value need be stated for land in the Had-i-qarza. The figures at present given have little value.



## APPOINTMENTS IN VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

**\*4526. Khan Bahadur Malak Zaman Mehdi Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Director, Veterinary Services, Punjab, recommended seven names to the Public Service Commission for appointment to class I posts ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that three temporary officers of the Veterinary Department whose names were not recommended by the Director requested Government to submit their names to the Public Service Commission for selection ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that one permanent class II officer also approached the Honourable Minister that his name be forwarded to the Public Service Commission since the names of juniors were recommended ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the names of all the four officers mentioned in (b) and (c) above were sent to the Public Service Commission against the recommendations of the Director ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the four Provincial Service professors of the Punjab Veterinary College made representations to the Honourable Ministers in June, 1934, requesting that their names also be submitted to the Public Service Commission along with those of other candidates ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the professors referred to above were senior-most members of the Provincial Service who had been held out an assurance by their officers and the Ministry of Agriculture that they would not be passed over by their juniors, i.e., temporary officers and other junior Provincial Service Officers ;
- (g) whether it is a fact that the names of the officers mentioned in (e) and (f) were not sent to the Public Service Commission ;
- (h) if the answers to (e) and (f) are in the affirmative, the reasons as to why their names were not forwarded to the Public Service Commission along with those of other candidates ;
- (i) whether it is also a fact that the Director, Veterinary Services, Punjab, invited applications from other officers besides those mentioned in (a), (b) and (c) above and forwarded the same to the Government, but their names were not sent to the Public Service Commission ;
- (j) if the answer to (i) be in the affirmative, the reasons for not doing so ;
- (k) whether Government proposes to take any action now to redress the grievance of these officers ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Seven names were recommended by the Director, Veterinary Services, Punjab, to Government and not to the Public Service Commission.

- (b) No.
- (c) Yes.

(d) It is not in public interest to disclose recommendations of Heads of Departments. Only names of those officers were forwarded to the Public Service Commission who were considered suitable.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes.

(h) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to part (d) of question No. \* 4088<sup>1</sup> answered on the 28th February, 1935.

(i) Yes.

(j) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to part (d) of question No. \*4088<sup>2</sup> answered on the 28th February, 1935.

(k) The question of placing certain of the professors in class I is under consideration.

DEPOSIT OF MUSSAMMAT JAGIR KAUR IN MANOLI CO-  
OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

**\*4526-A. Khwaja Muhammad Euseof :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that one Mussammat Jagir Kaur deposited a sum of Rs. 1,100 in the Manoli Co-operative Society in the Ambala district ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a certain Sikh gentleman, with the sanction of Mr. Amir Chand, Inspector, withdrew that amount ; if so, why and who was this Sikh gentleman ;
- (c) if the answer to (b) above be in the affirmative, which of the rules warrant this procedure ;
- (d) whether Mussammat Jagir Kaur then demanded her money ;
- (e) whether the Circle Registrar wrote to the said society that there was no fault of the Inspector, and the society must pay the said amount to Mussammat Jagir Kaur, and then recover it from the Sikh gentleman ; if so, why ;
- (f) if the answer to (e) above be in the affirmative, whether Government proposes to take action against Amir Chand and the Circle Registrar who went out of his way to help his subordinate ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes. Two deposits, totalling Rs. 1,165 were made by her, through her relative Harnam Singh. But they were, by a mistake of the society, entered in the name of Harnam Singh.

(b) Harnam Singh was afterwards permitted to withdraw the deposit without proper authority from Mussammat Jagir Kaur. This mistake was made by the society and the Inspector had nothing to do with it.

(c) As stated above the procedure of the society was irregular.

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(d) Mussammat Jagir Kaur afterwards demanded payment of Rs. 165 only, admitting receipt of the remaining Rs. 1,000.

(e) Yes; except that as there was no question of the Inspector's responsibility, no reference was made to him in the order.

(f) Does not arise.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### SHAH CHIRAGH MOSQUE, LAHORE.

**1. Khweja Muhammad Euseof :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state when Government is likely to hand over to the Muslim community the Shah Chiragh Mosque, Lahore, which is occupied at present by the office and court of the District and Sessions Judge, Lahore and Montgomery?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I can add nothing to the reply given by my predecessor to question No. 3157<sup>1</sup> (starred).

#### LALA DES RAJ KHANNA OF CHUNIAN.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Lala Des Raj Khanna of Chunian, district Lahore, has been ordered under the provisions of the Criminal Law Amendment Act not to leave the town;
- (b) whether the Government is prepared to state the reasons of confining him to his native town under the Criminal Law Amendment Act;
- (c) whether he applied to the Government to grant special permission to go about at will for one month to arrange the marriage of his sister;
- (d) whether it is a fact that his repeated requests were not acceded to; if so, why;
- (e) whether it is a fact that he fell seriously ill and on medical advice the Government permitted him to be treated in Mayo Hospital in the year 1934;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, during the treatment ordered him to leave Lahore and come twice to the hospital for treatment;
- (g) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner consented to give him travelling allowance for the journey between Chunian and Lahore;
- (h) whether it is a fact that the travelling allowance has not been given to him;
- (i) whether it is a fact that he requested the Government to either give him some allowance to maintain his family or permit him to work as insurance agent in Lahore district only;
- (j) whether it is a fact that that request was not acceded to?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Des Raj is restricted to the limits of the revenue area of Chunian ;

(b) No ;

(c) No such application can be traced ;

(d) Does not arise ;

(e) He had some skin trouble for which he wanted X-Ray treatment at Lahore. He did not receive the treatment at the Mayo Hospital, Lahore, as he preferred to make his own private arrangements for treatment ;

(f) No. He applied for permission to visit Lahore once a week for X-Ray treatment and permission was granted ;

(g) No ;

(h) Does not arise ;

(i) Yes ;

(j) Yes. It was not considered safe to relax the restrictions imposed on him. No allowance was sanctioned because he is interned in his home town, where he possesses facilities for earning his livelihood.

**M. TAJ DIN, DRAFTSMAN, INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT.**

**3. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state, if, as a result of the enquiries, Government have satisfied themselves that M. Taj Din, Draftsman of the Industries Department, was not at all related to Mr. Muhammad Din Malak and that Mr. Muhammad Din Malak had not approached the Director of Industries, whether directly or indirectly, on behalf of M. Taj Din, Draftsman or any other employee of the Industries Department ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** It has not been proved that Mr. Muhammad Din Malak is related to M. Taj Din or that he approached the Director of Industries on his behalf or on behalf of any other employee and I am satisfied on the assurance personally given by Mr. Malak that the information conveyed to the Director of Industries on these points was incorrect.

**Mr. Labh Singh :** May I know whether the original source of information was reliable ?

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** Yes, as reliable as an honourable member of this House can be.

**Mr. Labh Singh :** In view of what the Honourable Minister has said, may I express my regret that the supplementary question should have been asked at all.

**BHARAT CARBON AND RIBBON MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD., LAHORE.**

**4. Lala Nihal Chand Aggarwal :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a representation originally addressed to the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government on the 12th December, 1984, by the Bharat Carbon and Ribbon Manufacturing Company, Limited, Lahore, soliciting the patronage of the Punjab

[L. Nihal Chand Aggarwal.]

Government for the goods manufactured by the company in preference to similar goods of foreign make, came to his notice ;

- (b) if so, what action was taken on this representation ;
- (c) whether he is aware that carbon papers, ribbons, stamp pads, etc., manufactured by the company are on the approved list of the Central Stationery Office, Calcutta ;
- (d) whether the Government offices under the control of the Punjab Government specify any special make of articles of stationery while indenting for them from the Central Stationery Office ; whether they can do so or not ;
- (e) whether the local Government has considered the advisability of issuing instructions to offices subordinate to it that in their indent for articles like carbon papers, ribbons, stamp pads, etc., from the Central Stationery Office, they should specify that the goods manufactured by a local company should be supplied ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) The Company was asked to send samples of their products for test.

(c) The Company have stated that their tender for ribbons and a variety of carbon papers, has been accepted by the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta.

(d) The Punjab Government has, in the past, relied on the Central Stores to procure their stationery from suitable sources. Since purchases are made by the Central Stores by open tender on a price and quality basis only, it is not easy to arrange for any particular firm to be given preference.

(e) This will be considered.

HISTORY PAPER IN GOVERNMENT GIRLS SCHOOL, LUDHIANA.

**5. Khwaja Muhammad Eusooif :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Head Mistress of Government School, Ludhiana, has made the girl students of the 9th class to answer the History Paper in English ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the candidates for Matriculation Examination have the option to answer the papers of History and Geography either in English or in Urdu ;
- (c) the reasons for departing from this standing rule and why ;
- (d) what action the Department proposes to take in the matter ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) English of the class being poor, the Circle Inspectress advised that the subject should be taught and the class examined through the medium of English.

(d) If any of these students fail to secure promotion because of low marks in History the Head Mistress will be asked to re-examine them in that subject in their own vernacular.

**Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof :** What about those who did not succeed in the first attempt ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** They will be examined again.

**Khwaja Muhammad Eusoof :** Some of them gave their answer papers blank.

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** They will certainly be given a second chance.

#### HOLI FESTIVAL AT PANIPAT.

**6. Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Hindus of Panipat have always been allowed to take out a procession on the Holi day ;
- (b) whether this year the Deputy Commissioner of Karnal used section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, for prohibiting such a procession ;
- (c) whether on account of this the Hindus of the town observed *hartal* for two days, and refused to burn *Dulendi* (Holi pyre) which was removed under orders of local officers in lorries ;
- (d) whether there are any reasons for imposing this restriction on the exercise of a religious rite highly valued by the Hindus ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The honourable member has asked this question at short notice. The reply I am about to give is based on the information which is at present available to Government.

(a) No. There has never been any custom in Panipat of taking out a regular procession on the Holi day. The celebrations have, by custom, consisted of groups of persons passing through the bazaars and "playing holi," as it is called. A favourite route has been through Chowk Qalandar.

(b) It having come to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner that the Hindus this year intended to depart from precedent and take a more or less formal procession with a band through the Jumma Masjid gali, he issued an order under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, forbidding this. The order did not forbid, and there was no intention of forbidding, the customary celebrations in which small parties pass through Chowk Qalandar, provided of course that no provocative demonstrations were made.

(c) No. No *hartal* was observed. The Hindus left their *Dulendis* or Holi pyres in the street without burning them and, as they constituted an obstruction, they were removed by the authorities. This was done after the situation had been discussed by the Commissioner with Bhai Parma Nand, M. L. A., and Lala Sham Lal, M. L. A., who visited the town with him and with the consent of the local Hindus.

(d) No restriction whatever on the exercise of their religious rites has been imposed upon the Hindus at Panipat. All that the local authorities did was to take steps to see that the Holi processions were carried out in accordance with custom and that no innovation was allowed. Up to 1932.

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there was never any trouble over the celebration of the Holi festival at Panipat, but lately there has been ill-feeling between the two communities, and as a result of this the Hindus are trying to develop their celebrations into a formal procession with music and singing passing through Chowk Qalandar, while the Muslims seek to interfere with the old custom by which parties of Holi players passed without objection through Chowk Qalandar. The official attitude is to permit no innovation either in the direction of extending or of restricting the nature of the celebrations.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** How can a group of persons passing through a street be distinguished from a procession ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I understand that when a group of persons passing through a street playing holi do not move in any formation at all but irregularly, then I do not think it can be called a procession.

**Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath :** I am afraid so far as the legal interpretation of the term 'procession' is concerned, it will be very difficult to distinguish between the two. I do not think that if persons passed through a particular street according to old custom and the Deputy Commissioner said that the persons formed a procession, it will be easy for the deputy commissioner to prove that the persons formed a procession.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### PROVINCIALISATION OF HOSPITALS.

**1153. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that almost all the civil hospitals at the head quarters of several districts in the province have been provincialised ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the hospitals in a few districts (including Jhang district) have not yet been provincialised ;
- (c) whether Government is aware that the public of these districts is suffering great inconvenience on account of the absence of provincialised hospitals and consequent lack of up-to-date equipment in these hospitals ;
- (d) if answer to (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, whether Government proposes to provincialise these hospitals also ; if so, when, if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Out of 29 district headquarters hospitals, 18 have been provincialised.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

## GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL IN CHINIOT TAHSIL.

**1154. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that practically in every tahsil of each district in the province there is a Government high school ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is no Government high school in the Chiniot tahsil of Jhang district ;
- (c) whether a few years ago it was proposed to provincialise one of the existing schools in that tahsil ;
- (d) if answers to (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, whether Government proposes to provincialise one of the district board schools in that tahsil ?

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) Government high schools for boys exist in most of the tahsils in the province.

(b) and (c) Yes.

(d) The honourable member is referred to my answer to question No. 1124.<sup>1</sup>

## HAVELI PROJECT.

**1155. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether the Haveli Project scheme is ready ;
- (b) the approximate date for the commencement of its construction work ;
- (c) whether Government are considering the proposal to start the work and avoid delay ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) Unknown.

(c) Scheme is under consideration at present.

COMPENSATION FOR LANDS DESTROYED BY RIVER ACTION IN  
LYALLPUR DISTRICT.

**1156. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has reserved a considerable area of lands in jungles Pir Mahal and Kamalia (Lyallpur district) to be distributed amongst the people of this province whose lands have been destroyed by river action ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, the approximate area reserved for this purpose and also the time when it is proposed to be distributed ?



**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes, in the Pir Mahal and Khikha Extensions of the Lower Chenab Canal. There is no jungle Kamalia.

(b) 185 squares, out of which 160 squares have already been allotted and the remaining 25 will be allotted shortly.

COMPENSATION TO MALAHAS ON THE CHENAB.

**1157. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that prior to the construction of the combined bridge on the Chenab river at Chiniot, there used to be a flourishing ferry at which several Malahs were employed earning much to support themselves and their families, and this they had been doing for generations ;
- (b) whether Government is aware that owing to the construction of the bridge almost all of them have been put out of their work and there is great suffering among them, and there is no means left for them to support themselves and their families ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that they have made several representations to the local, as well as to the higher, authorities requesting therein to grant them sufficient lands for their maintenance ;
- (d) whether there is a precedent of the same kind in the same district (Jhang) connected with the same river where the Malahs of the affected ferries were granted considerable lands after the construction of the Rivaz Bridge near Jhang ;
- (e) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, whether Government proposes to allot lands sufficient to support the affected Malahs families in order to remove the suffering of all concerned ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The honourable member is referred to the reply given to his question No. 595<sup>1</sup> in February, 1933.

WATER RATES ON LOWER JHELM CANAL.

**1158. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are two schedules of water-rate charged in the Lower Jhelum Canal irrigated areas ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that most lands situated on this canal within the Jhang district are not assessed at the higher rates, while most of the colony lands of the Shahpur district adjoining these Jhang areas are assessed at the lower rates ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that while most of these Shahpur lands are supplied with much higher *haq-i-abpashi* (75 per cent.), those of Jhang are getting much less *haq-i-abpashi* (40 per cent.) ;

- (d) whether it is a fact that while these Shahpur lands are situated on the upper reaches of the Lower Jhelum Canal the Jhang lands are situated at the tails of the several channels of Lower Jhelum Canal suffering all the hardships and disabilities of the unfortunate *Taihealas* ;
- (e) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, (i) what justification Government has to levy these higher rates on Jhang lands while those of Shahpur enjoying much more facilities have lower rates ;
- (f) whether Government proposes to revise these schedules ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) Schedule A applies to the whole of Jhang district. The Shahpur district is under both Schedules A and B.

(c) Yes. The Shahpur district is mostly Bar while the Jhang district is mostly Khadir.

(d) The Jhang district lands are situated on the lower reaches of the canal, but it is not admitted that they suffer on that account.

(e) The land revenue rates in Shahpur district are higher and assessed on sown area. In Jhang district, the land revenue rates are lower and assessed on matured area only.

(f) Does not arise.

#### SUPPLY OF WATER TO LANDS ON LOWER JHELUM CANAL.

**1159. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that almost all the new *abadi* lands on the Lower Jhelum Canal are supplied with a *haq-i-abpashi* at 75 per cent. annually ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that all the *purani abadi* lands are receiving the supply of water at 40 per cent. annually ;
- (c) the reasons that led to this differential treatment to the lands situated on the same system of canals ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that several representations have been made from time to time by the zamindars of *purani abadi* to the authorities concerned to abolish this difference among new and old *abadi* lands ;
- (e) whether his attention has been drawn to fact that this question has been raised on several occasions in the Punjab Legislative Council in the shape of question and cuts moved in the irrigation demands ;
- (f) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, what steps, if any, Government has taken so far either to abolish this invidious distinction or to improve the *haq-i-abpashi* of the old *abadi* land ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) No—some old villages on the Bar receive 75 per cent. annually.

(c) The honourable member is referred to the speech of Honourable Member for Revenue made in the Punjab Legislative Council on 29th November, 1928.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

(f) The reply to (c) above explains the situation.

#### GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

**1160. Sayad Muharak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual grants (percentage) to district boards made by the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, are permanently fixed for each district board or whether they are fixed each year ;

(b) if permanent, the period for which they have been in force and the points which are observed at the time of fixing these grants ;

(c) if annually revised, then the rules under which the grants are made and the salient points which are observed in fixing these grants for each district board ?

(d) whether he will lay on the table a statement showing the percentage of grants fixed for each district board of the province by the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Percentage maintenance grants are fixed each year. Grants for development works are sanctioned in accordance with the merits of each case.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Grants are distributed under rule 22, Appendix B, Punjab Budget Manual, and calculations are made in accordance with the following formula :—

“ An estimate A is prepared of the cost of maintaining the class II roads to a reasonable standard and a calculation B is made of the normal income ” of the District Board. “ Normal income ” means the local rate levied at the legal maximum *plus* the consolidated grant.

The percentage is the percentage of A to B *plus* 5 per cent. subject to a maximum and minimum of 55 and 25, respectively.

(d) The percentage of grants fixed for each District Board during the year 1934-35 is as under :—

No.	District.	Percentage 1934-35.	REMARKS.
1	Hissar .. ..	36	(Special case) Total grant is only about Rs. 600.
2	Rohtak .. ..	42	
3	Gurgaon .. ..	25	
4	Karnal .. ..	27	
5	Ambala .. ..	50	
6	Simla .. ..	100	
7	Kangra .. ..	25	
8	Hoshiarpur .. ..	29	
9	Jullundur .. ..	43	
10	Ludhiana .. ..	38	
11	Ferozepore .. ..	32	
12	Lahore .. ..	25	
13	Amritsar .. ..	26	
14	Gurdaspur .. ..	25	
15	Sialkot .. ..	25	
16	Gujranwala .. ..	25	
17	Sheikhpura .. ..	25	
18	Gujrat .. ..	29	
19	Shahpur .. ..	36	
20	Jhelum .. ..	25	
21	Rawalpindi .. ..	35	
22	Attock .. ..	25	
23	Mianwali .. ..	25	
24	Montgomery .. ..	27	
25	Lyalpur .. ..	..	
26	Jhang .. ..	25	
27	Multan .. ..	26	
28	Muzaffargarh .. ..	25	
29	Dera Ghazi Khan .. ..	25	

## ROADS.

**1161. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please lay on the table a statement showing therein—

- (a) the total amount of money spent by the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, from 1921 to 1934, on the metalled roads in the province ;
- (b) the total amount of money spent on the arterial metalled roads in the province during 1921 to 1934 ;
- (c) the total amount of grant made to the district boards of this province for metalling their roads within the districts concerned in 1921 to 1934 ;
- (d) the amount of money granted to each district board for metalling their roads during 1921 to 1934 ?

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** Two statements containing the information required under parts (a), (c) and (d) are placed on the table. As regards part (b) the arterial roads were so classified in 1925-26 and the expenditure shown under part (a) since then is mainly on their account and for the necessary short link roads connected with them.

*Statement.*

Year.					Amount spent on metalled Roads 41—C. W.
					Rs. in lakhs.
1920-21	..	..	..	..	38·34
1921-22	..	..	..	..	33·50
1922-23	..	..	..	..	24·32
1923-24	..	..	..	..	23·68
1924-25	..	..	..	..	27·87
1925-26	..	..	..	..	47·74
1926-27	..	..	..	..	53·51
1927-28	..	..	..	..	64·81
1928-29	..	..	..	..	75·08

## Statement—concl'd.

Year.					Amount spent on metalled Roads 41—C. W.
1929-30	..	..	..	..	66.21
1930-31	..	..	..	..	59.20
1931-32	..	..	..	..	49.72
1932-33	..	..	..	..	44.77
1933-34	..	..	..	..	46.87

NOTE.—The above figures do not include expenditure debited to 60—Civil Works Capital on construction of Roads in Nili Bar Colony which was as under :—

Year.					Rs. in lakhs.
1920-21	..	..	..	..	..
1921-22	..	..	..	..	..
1922-23	..	..	..	..	..
1923-24	..	..	..	..	..
1924-25	..	..	..	..	12.76
1925-26	..	..	..	..	9.77
1926-27	..	..	..	..	28.05
1927-28	..	..	..	..	22.78
1928-29	..	..	..	..	22.23
1929-30	..	..	..	..	11.02
1930-31	..	..	..	..	6.47
1931-32	..	..	..	..	0.12
1932-33	..	..	..	..	0.09
1933-34	..	..	..	..	0.24

[Hon. Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

*Statement showing the total amount of grants paid to the District Boards*

No.	District.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Hissar ..	15,000	15,000	..	..	..	..
2	Rohtak ..	50,000	40,400	8,500	8,500	..	..
3	Gurgaon ..	50,000	1,00,000	..	..	43,000	15,900
4	Karnal ..	..	..	..	..	..	24,709
5	Ambala ..	20,000	50,000	..	..	13,570	..
6	Simla ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	Kangra ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8	Hoshiarpur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	Jullundur ..	33,000	..	..	..	..	11,531
10	Ludhiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	Ferozepore ..	80,000	..	..	..	..	99,505
12	Lahore ..	..	..	15,010	..	20,000	12,304
13	Amritsar ..	77,000	..	..	..	..	..
14	Gurdaspur ..	..	25,000	..	..	..	10,187
15	Sialkot ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	Gujranwala ..	20,000	10,000	6,500	..	..	..
17	Sheikhupura ..	27,000	..	1,01,580	..	..	..
18	Gujrat ..	50,000	83,131	20,000	20,000	..	11,475
19	Shahpur ..	50,000	21,250	25,000	..	8,000	37,003
20	Jhelum ..	10,000	22,000	3,000	10,700	4,000	..
21	Rawalpindi ..	20,000	15,800	..	..	..	..
22	Attock ..	..	..	10,000	7,400	18,370	..
23	Mianwali ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	Montgomery ..	2,40,000	2,16,869	46,159	90,000	1,10,000	3,00,179
25	Lyallpur ..	60,000	70,000	..	..	..	..
26	Jhang ..	30,000	..	..	..	..	3,342
27	Multan ..	30,000	16,500	29,331	..	..	1,06,323
28	Muzaffargarh ..	20,000	..	..	..	..	..
29	D. G. Khan ..	..	50,000	60,000	..	..	..
	Total ..	8,82,000	7,35,950	3,25,080	1,36,600	2,16,940	6,32,458

*NOTE.*—The above figures do not include grants given against estimates for the construction

*for the metalling only of their roads for the period 1921-22 to 1934-35.*

1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	Total.
Rs. 7,699	Rs. 10,183	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. 3,590	Rs. 208	Rs. 51,590
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,07,400
..	11,026	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,19,926
33,008	8,223	..	..	..	..	..	..	65,940
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83,670
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1,773	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46,304
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80,667	1,613	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,61,785
52,146	33,593	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,33,053
921	..	..	..	6,723	681	..	..	85,325
31,761	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66,948
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36,500
..	..	..	..	20,000	..	19,992	20,000	1,88,572
5,076	46,680	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,36,342
1,54,888	4,320	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,00,461
4,646	1,278	..	..	..	..	..	..	55,624
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35,800
2,511	3,955	..	7,623	4,556	..	..	..	54,415
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
76,007	48,706	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,27,920
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,30,000
2,132	673	..	..	..	..	..	..	36,147
1,38,693	1,28,465	..	..	..	1,313	280	..	4,50,905
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,000
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,10,000
5,91,928	2,98,695	..	7,623	31,279	1,994	23,772	20,208	39,04,527

of bridges and culverts alone.



## (OFFICIAL RECEIVERS.

**1162. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) the number of official receivers in the province ;
- (b) the total amount of fee earned by them during 1934 ;
- (c) their number communitywise and the proportion of the amount of fee received by each community ;
- (d) if the number of Muslims be much below the number of non-Muslims, what steps, if any, Government intends to take to improve their representation ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** I regret that the answer to this question is not ready.

**1163. Cancelled.**

## CIVIL JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, JHANG DISTRICT.

**1164. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance please state—

- (a) the total number of the subordinate staff serving in the Civil Judicial Department of the Jhang district ;
- (b) their number communitywise ;
- (c) how many of them are statutory agriculturists and how many non-agriculturists ;
- (d) the total amount of money received by them annually in the shape of pay ;
- (e) the percentage of that amount received by each community and percentage of it received by the statutory agriculturist among them ?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) 85.

(b) Hindu 53.

Muslims 25.

Sikhs 4.

(c) Statutory agriculturists 9.

Non-agriculturists 76.

(d) Total pay Rs. 24,731 per annum.

*Per annum.*

					Rs.
	Hindus	..	..	..	16,380
	Muslims	..	..	..	7,428
	Sikhs	..	..	..	924
(e)	Hindus	..	..	..	66·2%
	Muslims	..	..	..	30%
	Sikhs	..	..	..	3·8%

Percentage of the amount received by statutory agriculturist is about 17 per cent.

## ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* GOVERNMENT OF INDIA GRANT FOR RURAL UPLIFT.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): With your permission I would like to make a very brief statement in connection with the receipt of Rs. 7½ lakhs approximately which the Punjab Government expect from the Government of India as our share of the sum of Rs. 100 lakhs which is to be given for distribution to the provinces to be spent on schemes for the economic development and improvement of rural areas. The Honourable the Finance Member of the Government of India in his budget speech said that the Government of India would probably adopt the basis of rural population for distribution. I rather think that that basis has been slightly modified since his statement was made. But any way the Punjab Government hope to receive somewhere about Rs. 7½ lakhs, though the sum has not yet been finally determined. When we receive it, the money will be credited to the account of the Punjab Government and according to the regular procedure it will require the sanction of this House to spend it. At the present moment schemes connected with the consolidation of holdings, with the distribution of seeds and other schemes connected with rural reconstruction are being prepared as rapidly as it is possible to prepare them and when they are ready they will be carefully considered by Government and Government would then like to start upon expenditure on those schemes at once without going through the usual formalities. I am making this announcement so that the House may understand that it is our intention, unless very strong objections are put in to go ahead with the schemes to be financed with this sum of Rs. 7½ lakhs without waiting for the regular process by which it is necessary to get sanction from the Legislative Council. The schemes will be very carefully examined by the Finance Department. If possible, they will be laid before the Standing Finance Committee, but I think it might cause unnecessary delay if we were to place them before the Legislative Council. If it is possible to get the sanction of the Council without unduly delaying the schemes this will, of course, be done.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq**: May I request for information about the procedure which the Honourable Finance Member has just now announced? What is the course open to any member or the House if he or the House wants to stop the Government from pursuing any scheme?

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd**: If any member would like to make any remarks whatever upon this announcement I will be delighted to receive him to-morrow in my office room.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq**: I would like to know the position of a member of this House, whether he has only to hear the statement and there is no way of his raising a discussion on it.

**Mr. President**: It has been ruled more than once that debate on statements made by Members of Government, regarding public affairs, is irregular.

**Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq**: This is the last day of the session and if the Honourable Finance Member had made the statement earlier we could have tabled some motion for its discussion. Not that we are in opposition to the Government schemes, but we would like the money to be spent properly. But now the House is tied down.

## GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR TOKEN GRANTS, 1934-35.

## LAND REVENUE.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** (Revenue Member):  
I beg to move—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Land Revenue.

*The motion was carried.*

## IRRIGATION.

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan** : I beg to move—

That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March, 1935, in respect of Irrigation.

*The motion was carried.*

## CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED).

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

That a token sum not exceeding 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 March, 1935, in respect of Civil Works (Transferred).

*The motion was carried.*

## THE PUNJAB STAMP (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I introduce the Punjab Stamp (Amendment) Bill.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** : I beg to move—

That the Punjab Stamp (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President** : The Council will now take into consideration the Bill clause by clause. The question is—

That sub-clause (2) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President** : The question is—

That sub-clause (3) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was carried.*

**Mr. President** : Clause 2.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries): The Punjab Government is no doubt to be congratulated on reducing the stamp duty on certain documents. The amendment proposed refers to article 23 which defines the stamp

duty on conveyances, but as the same stamp duty is applicable to gifts, the stamp duty for gifts is also proposed to be reduced. By this provision the Punjab Government proposes to reduce the duty on conveyance and on gifts in municipal towns and cantonments from 3 to 1½ per cent. But this reduction in stamp duty is accompanied, as the preamble shows, by a proposal for additional taxation which I understand can be effected by a notification. The Council and the public at large should take note of the fact that it is not really a proposal for reduction of taxation, but a proposal for a large increase in taxation, accompanied, as it necessarily is, by other taxation far in excess of that which could possibly be realised by the existing law. By extending the Transfer of Property Act to this province, every gift in towns and notified areas, of whatever description by a person to son, daughter or wife, or a charitable institution, shall have to be made by a registered instrument which will have to be stamped as a conveyance and registered before the registrar on payment of additional registration fees. Again, a mortgage, as the House is aware, can be effected orally in this province. In future, every mortgage for Rs. 100 or more, will have to be by a registered deed, subject to stamp and registration duties. The question, therefore, is, is this really a proposal for reduction of taxation, for which the House and the public have been clamouring? One of the reasons which moved the Punjab Government to reduce this tax was that taxation had gone to such prohibitive limits that people had invented methods for evading it. Therefore, in my opinion, all that Government should have done was to have reduced the exorbitant stamp duty and to see, if the reduction would not prevent evasion and would not secure proper return. If after reducing it to a limit where there would be no temptation to evade, the revenue from stamp was more, or at any rate as much as was expected, there would be absolutely no reason for extending the Transfer of Property Act to urban or urbanised areas, and thus increasing enormously the burden of taxation on urban property. Again, a further point to consider is that if this additional taxation is to be levied, if you think that these provisions of the Transfer of Property Act should be applied to all transactions in urban areas, then you should at least reduce the stamp duty to what was originally provided by the Indian Stamp Act. The Indian Stamp Act provides a duty of 1 per cent. on conveyances and on gifts, the Punjab Act had increased it to 1½ per cent., the present provision reduces the duty from 3 to 1½ per cent. and not to 1 per cent., the original provision in the Indian Stamp Act. I wish the House to realise that in agreeing to this provision they are really authorising the Government to levy more taxation, and if the Government does issue a notification, I would request the Government to reduce the duty to 1 per cent. on conveyances and gifts, that is, they should bring the duty to the rate which existed before the Punjab Government raised it from one per cent. to one and-a-half per cent. This is the least that the Punjab Government ought to do, in all fairness. Otherwise this is increasing taxation on urban property, for which there is no justification.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That clause 2 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 Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member): I beg to move—

That the Punjab Stamp (Amendment) Bill be passed.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved is—

That the Punjab Stamp (Amendment) Bill be passed.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri** (Punjab Industries): If the Transfer of Property Act is extended to this province in consequence of this Bill being passed, I would draw the attention of the Government to the necessity of asking the Governor-General in Council to issue a notification under section 58 (f) of the Transfer of Property Act. Section 58 (f) of the Transfer of Property Act specifies certain towns—

**Mr. President :** Is this matter relevant to the motion ?

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** Section 58 of the Transfer of Property Act allows equitable mortgages to be effected by the deposit of title-deeds in Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Karachi, Rangoon, Moulmein, Bassein and Akyab and presidency towns, and the House would note that the Governor-General in Council has recently extended the provisions of that section to Allahabad and Cawnpore in the United Provinces. It is necessary in the interest of joint-stock banks and the commercial community that the same exception be extended to Lahore and Amritsar, Rawalpindi and Multan.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member is requested to speak to the motion.

**Mr. Mukand Lal Puri :** I am trying to ask the House to accept this Bill and in doing so I am drawing the attention of Government that this is a step which they ought to take in the interest of trade and commerce and joint-stock banks and it is very necessary that Government should take that step simultaneously with the issue of the notification so that conditions in this province approximate as closely as possible with what exist in other provinces where the Transfer of Property Act is in force.

**Mr. President :** The honourable member is not in order. The question is—

That the Punjab Stamp (Amendment) Bill be passed.

*The motion was carried.*

## THE PUNJAB DEBTORS' PROTECTION BILL.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram** (South-East, Rohtak, non-Muhammadan, Rural): I beg to introduce the Punjab Debtors' Protection Bill.

**Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** I beg to move—

That the Punjab Debtors' Protection Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

I do not propose to make any speech whatsoever on this motion, neither the merits nor the principle of the Bill being at present under discussion. I, therefore, content myself with making this bare motion.

**Mr. President :** Motion moved—

That the Punjab Debtors' Protection Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd** (Finance Member) : I only wish to say at this stage that Government would like to see the opinions which are elicited as the result of the circulation before coming to any conclusion with regard to any of the provisions of this Bill. The Government reserve to themselves absolute freedom to vote for or against further consideration of the Bill after opinions have been received.

**Mr. President :** The question is—

That the Punjab Debtors' Protection Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

*The motion was carried.*

*The Council then adjourned sine die.*

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# PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

## APPENDIX.

Final answers to questions for which *ad interim* replies are printed in Volume XXVI of Council Debates.

### ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS.

#### COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

(Answer to question No. \*3547, page 6 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon:** The required information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing communitywise the number of teachers and students in vernacular schools for boys and expenditure thereon.*

	PRIMARY SCHOOLS.				VERNAICULAR LOWER MIDDLE SCHOOLS.				VERNAICULAR UPPER MIDDLE SCHOOLS.			
	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.
Number of Teachers—												
S. V. ...	87	70	19	...	903	1,151	250	2	1,001	1,470	280	5
J. V. ...	8,550	4,273	886	104	1,983	2,405	445	12	1,100	1,607	246	10
Number of students.	113,288	123,900	51,003	9,107	79,840	131,843	33,639	5,867	69,785	88,101	19,763	1,303

#### Expenditure from Government Funds.

	Rs.
Primary Schools	31,59,998
Vernacular Lower Middle Schools	21,94,898
Vernacular Upper Middle Schools	21,48,914

### MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, LUDHIANA.

(Answer to question No. \*3998, page 14 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang:** (a) The documents mentioned in parts (i) and (ii) of part (a) of the question are laid on the table. The action taken by the Executive Officer cannot, as requested, be laid on the table, but I may state that the action taken by the Executive Officer was to order notices to issue under sections 172 and 195-A., of the Municipal Act to Dr. Nur Muhammad.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.



## COMPLAINT OF KHAWAJA MUHAMMAD AKRAM.

Translation of a petition, dated 27th November, 1934, from Muhammad Akram, Municipal Commissioner, Ludhiana, complaining that Dr. Nur Muhammad, a nominated member of the Municipal Committee, Ludhiana, is continuously violating the law. I as duty bound have been bringing the matter to the notice of the officers of the Committee and the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana. Dr. Nur Muhammad is taking undue advantage of his being a Municipal Commissioner and is violating the law. It is not understood why his doings are not checked. I bring a fresh matter to your notice. In connection with the construction of a building on the tahsil road he has been illegally permitted to build a projection, he has further made an encroachment. Some action must be taken against him, otherwise it will go against the Municipal Committee. After calling for the report from the overseer, some justice may be done.

*Translation of report made by overseer on 27th November, 1934.*

I have inspected the spot and found the following irregularities :—

- (1) The construction of the shops has not been made according to the sanctioned plan. The second storey is being built without obtaining any permission.
- (2) At the time of selling the land the path left was 18 feet. A cornice with a width of 6 inches has been erected in front of the shops which has made the path narrow and an encroachment has also been made on the path. Action may be taken according to the rules.
- (3) Projections on the northern and western sides have been begun to be constructed.

## PUNITIVE CHARGES IN RESPECT OF ADDITIONAL POLICE.

(Answer to question No. \*4048, page 93 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Rs. 1,48,682-6-5.

(b) Rs. 1,48,490-6-5.

(c) The whole of the cost of the additional police posted at Amritsar was remitted. In regard to the additional police posted at Rawalpindi, the amount of Rs. 41,475-13-8 was remitted.

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINERS.

(Answer to question No. \*4060, page 100 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The number of head examiners in the various examinations of the University of the Punjab for the year 1934 communitywise was as under :—

<i>Hindus.</i>	<i>Muhammadans.</i>	<i>Sikhs.</i>	<i>Others.</i>
506	273	79	194

(b) The number of sub-examiners in the various examinations for 1934 communitywise was as under :—

<i>Hindus.</i>	<i>Muhammadans.</i>	<i>Sikhs.</i>	<i>Others.</i>
470	340	150	44

It may be pointed out that in most of the examinations the head examiners do not have any sub-examiners. They both set the questions and mark the answer books. It is mainly in the Matriculation, Intermediate, B.A., Proficiency in Hindi and First Examination in Law that the subordinate examiners are necessary. It is just for this reason that the number of head examiners is about the same as the number of subordinate examiners.

(c) It is regretted that the list of persons who were examiners, head or otherwise, in more than one examination of the University of the Punjab for 1934 with their academic qualifications and the institutions, if any, to which they belong and the subject in which they were examiners cannot be supplied as desired by the honourable member, as such lists are confidential and their publication is not in the interest of the public. The number of such examiners communitywise is, however, as follows :—

<i>Hindus.</i>	<i>Muhammadans.</i>	<i>Sikhs.</i>	<i>Others.</i>
84	57	19	29

CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC PROSECUTORSHIP AND  
COUNSEL FOR DEFENCE.

(Answer to question No. \*4065, page 107 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement is enclosed.  
*Statement.*

	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Christians.	Parsis.
Total number of candidates for public prosecutorship ..	10	10	5	2	..
Agriculturists among them ..	..	5	2	..	..
Counsel on the defence list of the Court of Sessions, Lahore ..	13	4	1	..	1
Agriculturists among them ..	1	3	1	..	..
(In addition to the above, there are 4 Hindus, one Sikh and one Christian on the defence list regarding whom information is not available whether they are agriculturists or non-agriculturists.)					
On both lists ..	..	3	1	..	..
Agriculturists among them ..	..	3	1	..	..

AUCTION OF LORRY STANDS.

(Answer to question No. \*4081, page 115 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) Gurgaon, Karnal, Ambala, Kangra, Ferozepore, Lahore, Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Sialkot, Gujranwala, Sheikhpura, Gujrat, Shahpur, Jhelum, Rawalpindi, Campbellpur, Montgomery, Lyallpur, Jhang and Multan.

(b) Yes, four districts. Such rules or by-laws do not encourage the "turn system".

(c) Yes, vide Punjab Government letter No. 15074, dated the 7th May, 1934 (copy enclosed). A table of rates prevailing at various stands in the districts in the Lahore division is annexed.

(d) The contractors are authorised to recover the fees only from those who use the stand.

*Copy of a letter No. 15074 (L. S.-G.—Comts.), dated the 7th May, 1934, from P. Marsden, Esq., I. C. S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Transferred Departments, to all Commissioners in the Punjab.*

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. , dated , on the subject of the provision of parking places for Public Motor Vehicles, I am directed to inform you that the Punjab Government (Ministry of Local Self-Government) are advised that the system of leasing of such places by auction and of the lessees charging fees on the earnings of the motor vehicles is not illegal. Government, however, have strong reasons to believe that such a system has in practice led to exorbitant fees being levied, and they consider, therefore, that the stands should preferably be managed by the local bodies themselves. If that is impracticable, it is considered that the next best system would be for the stands to be let out on a tender system at reasonable rates. If that again is considered not to be feasible, then the stands could be leased by auction. But in such a case I am to request that you will insist that the fees to be charged by the lessees are per vehicle and not per passenger, and fixed according to the class of vehicles and the amount of time spent at the stand. The lessee should in each case execute an agreement containing these conditions and also a condition that the lessee himself will not run his own vehicles. The bids at the auction should be subject to the approval of the Deputy Commissioner of the district, who, in giving his approval, should consider whether the rates are reasonable and the contractor reliable.

2. I am also to suggest that the rates authorized to be charged should be clearly advertised on large boards at either end of the motor vehicle stand as already directed in paragraph 2 of Punjab Government letter No. 14118, dated 15th May 1933, and should be communicated to the Superintendent of Police, who would arrange for regular inspections and report to the registering authority cases of over-charging by the contractors or lessees so that the registering authority can withdraw his approval of the contract or lease.

#### *Annexure.*

1. *Lahore district—*
  - (1) District Board, Lahore .. One anna per rupee of the fare.
  - (2) Municipal Committee, Patti .. Four annas for one-ton lorry and two annas for half-ton lorry per trip.
  - (3) Municipal Committee, Chunian .. Two annas to one rupee per trip per motor vehicle according to the distance of the trip.
  - (4) Municipal Committee, Baghban-pura-cum-Bhogiwal. Six pies per passenger.
  - (5) Town Committee, Pattoke .. One anna per rupee of the fare.
  - (6) Town Committee, Khudian .. Four annas per trip per motor vehicle.
2. *Amritsar district—*
  - (1) Municipal Committee, Jandiala .. One anna per rupee of the fare.
  - (2) Municipal Committee, Tarn Taran .. Four annas per trip for lorries and three annas per trip for taxi cabs.
  - (3) District Board .. Maximum fee is one anna per rupee of the fare.
  - (4) Town Committee, Ramdas .. One anna per rupee of the fare.
  - (5) Town Committee, Majitha .. One anna per rupee of the fare.
3. *Gurdaspur district—*
  - (1) Municipal Committee, Dinanagar .. Three pies per passenger to three passengers, two annas for more than three passengers, three pies per bicycle, three pies per maund of goods, two annas per lorry for loads exceeding three maunds.
  - (2) Municipal Committee, Gurdaspur .. Maximum four annas per trip.
  - (3) Municipal Committee, Pathankot .. Four annas per trip per lorry.
  - (4) Municipal Committee, Batala .. Maximum four annas per trip per lorry. (The Municipal Committee charges two annas per trip per lorry.)
  - (5) Municipal Committee, Dera Baba Nanak. Six pies per passenger.
  - (6) Town Committee, Sujampur .. Four annas per trip per passenger lorry and two annas per trip per goods lorry.
  - (7) Town Committee, Dhariwal .. Two annas per trip per lorry, or three pies per passenger when the lorry is not full.

4. *Sialkot district*—

- (1) Municipal Committee, Pasrur .. Seven annas and three pies and five annas and three pies is levied on motor lorries of 19 and 14 passengers, respectively, per trip.
- (2) All stands except at Pasrur .. One anna per rupee on the earnings of each lorry driver.

5. *Gujranwala district*—

- (1) All stands .. One anna in the rupee of fare.

6. *Sheikhupura district*—

- (1) District Board, Sheikhupura ..
- (2) Municipal Committee, Sharakpur ..
- (3) Municipal Committee, Nankana Sahib. } One anna per rupee of the fare.
- (4) Town Committee, Khangah Dogran ..
- (5) Town Committee, Chuharkana .. Two annas per trip or four rupees per mensem each, and four annas per trip or eight rupees per mensem per motor lorry per trip.

## TIRNI TAX.

(Answer to question No. \*4092, page 163 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No.

(b) *Tirni* tax was and is still paid by *Gaddis* for grazing their flocks in reserved or other forests.

(c) Although the zamindars and others cannot legally claim any grazing in reserved or closed forests, yet in consideration of the requirements of the local population these forests are opened to grazing when the forest crop can stand it.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) None.

## LAW COLLEGE STAFF.

(Answer to question No. \*4100, pages 166-67 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** —

*Teaching Staff.*

	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Christians.	Parsis.
Whole-time .. ..	2	2	..	..	..
Part-time .. ..	11	9	4	1	1
Post-graduates .. ..	2	..	..	..	..

Out of 32 lecturers, the number of Hindu agriculturists is one and of Muhammadan agriculturists is 8.

*Administrative staff.*

Principal .. ..	Hindu ..	Non-agriculturist.
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*Clerical Staff.*

Hindus .. ..	..	..	5
Muslims .. ..	..	..	1
Sikhs .. ..	..	..	1

Out of 7 clerks, there is one Hindu agriculturist, and one Muhammadan agriculturist.

## STAFF OF INDIAN LAW REPORTS, LAHORE SERIES.

*(Answer to question No. \*4103, page 168 ante.)*

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** None. The number of reporters is not so large as to admit of each community being always represented on it. Since the inception of the Indian Law Reports (Lahore Series), five gentlemen have worked as reporters, of whom two were Muslims.

## LAW REPORTING COMMITTEE.

*(Answer to question No. \*4106, page 169 ante.)*

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The Council of Law Reporting consists of :—

1. The Chief Justice.
2. Two Puisne Judges nominated by the Chief Justice.
3. The Government Advocate.
4. Two members of the Bar nominated by the Chief Justice.

Its functions are to appoint the personnel of the reporting staff and, subject to certain rules framed by Government, to control and guide the publication of the Indian Law Reports, Lahore Series.

## STAFF OF INDIAN LAW REPORTS, LAHORE SERIES.

*(Answer to question No. \*4107, page 169 ante.)*

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) A copy of the rules is laid on the table.

(b) The rules do not forbid this.

(c) Does not arise.

*Rules governing the appointment of the editorial and reporting staff of the Indian Law Reports, Lahore Series.*

1. The power of appointing the personnel of the reporting staff (editor and reporters) shall be exercised by the Council of Law Reporting, while the power of regulating the salary and fixing the scale of that staff shall rest with the Local Government.
2. The appointment of the editor shall be for a period not exceeding 5 years at a time.
3. The appointment of the reporters shall be on such terms as the Council of Law Reporting may determine.

## JUNIOR CLERKS.

*(Answer to part (b) of question No. \*4112, page 171 ante.)*

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** One hundred and sixty three posts of junior clerks have fallen vacant since 17th May, 1933, out of which 5 posts have been given to examiners.

## LAND BELONGING TO HER MUNDAHALIYAN IN ROHTAK.

*(Answer to question No. \*4128, page 220 ante.)*

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Nothing.

(d) Does not arise.

## INSTITUTIONS MAINTAINED AND AIDED BY DISTRICT BOARDS.

(Answer to question No. \*4184, page 222 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) and (b) A statement showing the information required by the honourable member is laid on the table :—

## Statement.

Name of District Board.	Names of institutions maintained by the District Board outside its jurisdiction.	Names of institutions belonging to Government or other local bodies to which the District Board makes grants.	Amount of grants made.
1	2	3	4
			Rs. A. P.
1. Rohtak ..	Veterinary Dispensaries at— (1) Sonapat.	(1) Female Hospital, Rohtak	3,364 0 0
	(2) Rohtak.	(2) Civil Hospital, Rohtak ..	4,687 8 0
	(3) Beri.	(3) Civil Hospital, Beri ..	4,906 0 0
	(4) Mehm.	(4) Civil Hospital, Sonapat ..	3,536 0 0
	(5) Bahadurgarh.	(5) Civil Hospital, Jhajjar ..	1,023 12 0
	(6) Boys and Girls Schools at Mehm.	(6) Civil Hospital, Bahadurgarh.	1 of the total expenditure.
	(7) Civil Hospital, Gohana.	(7) High School at Beri ..	1,400 0 0
2. Ferozepore	1. J. M. D. B. High School, Zira.	1. Government Civil Hospital, Ferozepore.	1,500 0 0
	2. Vernacular Middle School, Dharamkot.	2. Zoo at Lahore ..	50 0 0
	3. Urdu Girls' School, Dharamkot.	3. Public Library, Lahore ..	25 0 0
	4. Hindi Girls' School, Dharamkot.	4. Small Town Dispensary at Giddarbaha.	3,323 0 0
	5. Primary School, Bhucho	5. Municipal Dispensary, Abohar.	400 0 0
	6. Mathradas Hospital, Moga.	6. Townsend A.-V. Middle School, Jalalabad.	1,000 0 0
	7. Civil Dispensary, Dharamkot.		
	8. Civil Dispensary, Gura Har Sahai.		
	9. Veterinary Dispensary, Moga.		

Name of District Board.	Names of institutions maintained by the District Board outside its jurisdiction.	Names of institutions belonging to Government or other local bodies to which the District Board makes grants.	Amount of grants made.
1	2	3	4
			Rs. A. P.
2. Ferozepore <i>concid.</i> —	10. Veterinary Dispensary, Zira. 11. Veterinary Dispensary, Muktsar. 12. Veterinary Dispensary, Fazilka. 13. Veterinary Dispensary, Abohar. 14. Veterinary Dispensary, Dharamkot. 15. Veterinary Dispensary, Guru Har Sahai. 16. Veterinary Dispensary, Giddarbaha.		
3. Jhelum ..	1. Veterinary Hospital, Jhelum. 2. Stallion Stable, Jhelum. 3. Garden, Jhelum. 4. Raikhana, Jhelum. 5. Dāk Bungalow, Jhelum. 6. Veterinary Hospital, Pind Dadan Khan. 7. Stallion Stable, Pind Dadan Khan. 8. Civil Hospital, Chakwal. 9. Stallion Stable, Chakwal. 10. Cattle Pound, Chakwal. 11. Veterinary Hospital, Chakwal. 12. Raikhana, Chakwal. 13. Garden in the compound of the Rest-house, Chakwal.	1. Civil Hospital, Jhelum .. 2. Civil Hospital, Pind Dadan Khan. 3. Public Library, Lahore ..	1,000 0 0 500 0 0 100 0 0

Name of District Board.	Names of institutions maintained by the District Board outside its jurisdiction.	Names of institutions belonging to Government or other local bodies to which the District Board makes grants.	Amount of grants made.
1	2	3	4
			Rs. A. P.
4. Multan ..	<p>Dispensaries at— Jalalpur, Lodhran, Kahror, Tulamba, Dunyapur, Kabirwala.</p> <p>Schools at— Jalalpur, Lodhran, Mailsi, Tulamba, Dunyapur, Kabirwala, Jahanian.</p> <p>Veterinary Hospitals— Jalalpur, Lodhran, Mailsi, Kahror, Jahanian, Kabirwala, Khanewal, Multan, Mian Channu.</p> <p>Stallion Stables at— Lodhran, Mailsi, Kabirwala and Multan.</p> <p>Rest-houses and serais— Lodhran, Mailsi, Kabirwala, Multan, Shujabad, Mian Channu and Dunyapur.</p> <p>Fairs at— Mailsi, Kabirwala and Multan.</p> <p>Cattle-pounds at— Mailsi, Kahror and Kabirwala.</p> <p>Gardens at— Lodhran, Mailsi and Mian Channu.</p>	<p>1. Civil Hospital, Multan ..</p> <p>2. Civil Hospital, Khanewal.</p> <p>3. Civil Hospital, Mailsi ..</p> <p>4. Civil Hospital, Kucha Khuh.</p> <p>5. Dispensary, Shujabad ..</p> <p>6. Dispensary, Mian Channu</p> <p>7. Dispensary, Burewala ..</p> <p>8. Horse Fair, Burewala ..</p>	<p>5,000 0 0</p> <p>1,000 0 0</p> <p>3,730 0 0</p> <p>500 0 0</p> <p>2,500 0 0</p> <p>1,000 0 0</p> <p>500 0 0</p> <p>300 0 0</p>

## DISTRICT BOARD SCHOOLS, ROHTAK.

(Answer to question No. \*4136, page 223 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a) 84.

(b) Only in the year 1931-32.

(c) Such a proposal is under the consideration of the Board.

(d) The Board intends to take the following steps :—

- (i) to fill no vacant grade in future ;
- (ii) to stop annual increments of the teachers for the year 1935-36 ;
- (iii) to close down unsuccessful schools ;



- (iv) to request Government to withdraw the half-fee concessions sanctioned in respect of the children of agriculturists and *kamins*, attending the secondary classes of the Board's anglo-vernacular schools in the Jhajjar tahsil ; and
- (v) to close down English classes which are not self-supporting.

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GRANTS TO LOCAL BODIES.

(Answer to question No. \*4141, page 224 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The information required is given in the attached statement.

*Statement showing grants made by different Departments of Government to District Boards and Municipal Committees, during the year 1928-29, 1929-30, 1930-31, 1931-32, 1932-33, 1933-34 and 1934-35.*

Year.	GRANTS MADE BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO		GRANTS MADE BY THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF CIVIL HOSPITALS TO		GRANTS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO		GRANTS MADE BY THE DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES, PUNJAB, TO		GRANTS MADE BY THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD, PUNJAB, TO			GRANTS MADE BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BUILDINGS AND ROADS BRANCH TO	
	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)			(6)	
	District Boards.	Municipal Committees.	District Boards.	Municipal Committees.	District Boards.		District Boards.		(a)	(b)	(c)	District Boards.	Municipal Committees.
1928-29	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
..	76,08,436	6,14,676	12,30,422	23,522	No reduction has been made in the grants to District Boards.	With effect from 1st April 1932, an average annual reduction of Rs. 16,725 was made on account of Rs. 38,430 Medical Officer of Health and Assistant to Medical Officer of Health, Simla.	70,260	93,730	2,34,000	5,54,506	45,448	11,57,822	10,476
1929-30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38,234	..	..	..	..	..
1930-31	..	..	..	..	..	..	48,200	..	61,764	3,94,613	30,592	4,98,863	10,989
1931-32	..	..	..	..	..	..	44,700	..	61,942	3,28,096	22,000	4,19,816	11,240
1932-33	..	..	..	..	..	..	43,200	..	23,091	2,77,935	22,045	3,28,207	6,437
1933-34	..	..	..	..	..	..	27,200	..	41,150	2,80,822	18,075	3,48,805	10,462
1934-35	..	..	..	..	..	..	27,200	..	*45,000	*2,81,000	*10,000	3,45,090	10,462

NOTE.—

Regarding (1) The decrease in the educational grants paid to district boards in 1932-33 and 1933-34, as compared with 1928-29, has been more than counterbalanced by the increase in the grants paid in 1930-31 and 1931-32.

Regarding (4) Grants for cattle breeding were on account of the (1) Lakshmi Cattle Breeding Scheme, and (2) the Hafiana Cattle Breeding Scheme. With effect from 1933-34, however the system of monetary grants to district boards under the Hafiana Cattle Breeding Scheme was discontinued, and was replaced by supply of bulls from the Hisar Farm at concession rates.

Regarding (5) (a) Means Development of Bridges and Roads;

(b) Means Maintenance of Class II Roads; and

(c) Means Special Repairs.

\* Approximate figures only.

## INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS TOURNAMENTS.

(Answer to question No. \*4146, page 268 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) 26.

(b) 28.

(c) The causes which seem to have led to the stoppage of tournaments are :—

(i) In some cases the winning of trophies by fair or foul means had become the sole aim.

(ii) Unsportsmanlike-spirit and consequent bickerings and quarrels among the competing teams.

(iii) Financial stringency.

Some of the causes mentioned above have now ceased to operate.

(d) Four. A little disturbance occurred in the last district tournament at Ambala, but it did not affect the tournament as, after half an hour of the occurrence, the programme of the day was resumed and finished peacefully. The managing committee of the tournament decided that tournament should continue, but steps should be taken to prevent the presence of undesirable men on the ground. In Hissar no serious disorder took place, though a student of the C. A. V. High School received injuries to his head in a personal fracas. The case is pending in a court of law. In Rohtak the Jat and Vaish High School had an unpleasant quarrel at their hockey match. No unpleasant incidents have been reported to have occurred in other divisions.

## ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

(Answer to question No. \*4151, page 271 ante.)

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No. In assigning additional duties to officers, their fitness for the discharge of those duties must be considered.

*Statement showing the Special pay, etc., drawn by officers of the Education Department, Punjab, during the financial year 1933-34.*

Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Mr. H. L. O. Garrett, M.A., Principal, Government College, Lahore.	1. 250 0 0 2. 100 0 0	3,000 0 0 ..	Attached to the post of the Principal. Pay as Keeper of Records.

Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
2. Mr. J. E. Parkinson, M.A., Principal, Central Training College, Lahore.	1. 150 0 0 2. 110 0 0 3. 200 0 0	1,800 0 0 1,320 0 0 1,800 0 0	Attached to the post of the Principal. For administration and inspection of European Schools in the Punjab. Remuneration as Editor of the Punjab Educational Journal.
3. Dr. H. B. Dunncliff, M.A., Professor, Government College, Lahore.	500 0 0	6,000 0 0	As part-time Special Chemical Advisor to the Central Board of Revenues.
4. Mr. A. C. C. Hervey, M.A., Principal, Ludhiana Government College, Ludhiana.	150 0 0	1,800 0 0	Attached to the post of Principal.
5. Khan Bahadur Shaikh Nur Elahi, M.A., Assistant Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.	150 0 0	1,800 0 0	Attached to the post of Assistant Director of Public Instruction.
6. Miss G. Harrison, B.A., Principal, Lahore College for Women, Lahore.	100 0 0	1,200 0 0	Attached to the post of Principal.
7. Miss L. E. Thomas, Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, Punjab.	250 0 0	3,000 0 0	Attached to the post of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction.
8. Lala Chetan Anand, M.A., Principal, Government College, Lyallpur.	100 0 0	1,200 0 0	Attached to the post of the Principal.
9. Chaudhri Abdul Hamid, M.A., Principal, de Montmorency College, Shahpur.	50 0 0	600 0 0	Ditto.
10. M. Muhammad Ibrahim, M.A., Principal, Emerson College, Multan.	50 0 0	600 0 0	Ditto.
11. Mr. Keith Percy, Head Master, Lawrence College, Ghoragali.	80 0 0	960 0 0	Attached to the post.
12. M. Safdar Ali, Head-Master, Government High School, Simla.	30 0 0	55 3 0 (from 1-4-33 to 26-5-33.)	For the administration of Primary Schools within the Simla Municipality.
13. M. Ahmad Shah Bokhari, M.A., Professor, Government College, Lahore.	200 0 0	2,400 0 0	For performing the duties of the Secretary to the Punjab Text-Book Committee.

Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE.			
M. Safdar Ali, P.E.S., late Head Master, * Government High School, Simla.	50 0 0	91 15 0 (from 1-4-33 to 26-5-33.)	In lieu of free quarters.
CHARGE ALLOWANCE.			
Rev. W. F. Cotton, Principal, Lawrence College, Ghoragali.	100 0 0	51 10 0 (from 16-3-34 to 31-3-34.)	Entertainment or charge allowance.
Mr. T. G. Prince, Vice-Principal, Lawrence College, Ghoragali.	60 0 0	720 0 0	Special pay attached to the post of Vice-Principal.
CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE.			
Four Inspectresses of Schools, (including Inspectress of Domestic Science, Punjab).	30 0 0 (each).	1,440 0 0	Conveyance allowance.

## CLERICAL ALLOWANCE IN GIRLS SCHOOLS.

Number of clerks.	Amount received from General Revenues during the year 1933-34.	
	Rs. A. P.	
18	3,090	

## RED CROSS SOCIETY AND MILITARY SCHOLARSHIP ALLOWANCE.

35	3,157 0 0	
Lala Kishori Lal, Clerk, Government High School, Delhi.	270 0 0	
	4 0 0	For working as part-time clerk from the Headmasters' Association, Delhi.
		From the Superintendent, I. M. M. T. S. "Dufferin" Bombay, in connection with the cadet examination.
	50 0 0	From the Board of C. D. Examination for confidential work.

Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Subordinate Educational Service (Miscellaneous posts)—Lecturer assistant and instrument maker—5.	No details forthcoming.	491 8 0	
Subordinate Educational Service (Women's Branch), Clerical and Vernacular Section—Vernacular Teachers—3.	Ditto	782 12 0	
Lala Jawanda Mal, Senior English Master, Government High School, Dera Baba Nanak.	10 0 0	120 0 0	For superintendence of the hostel attached to the school.
Lala Mulk Raj, Junior English Master, Government High School, Akalgarh.	7 0 0	84 0 0	Ditto.
Pandit Hans Raj, 2nd Master, Government High School, Sharapur.	6 0 0	72 0 0	Ditto.
M. Muhammad Din Sagib, Senior English Master, Normal School, Gakhar.	10 0 0 (from 10-9-33 to 31-3-34.)	67 0 0	Ditto.
Lala Kundan Lal, Junior English Master, Government High School, Pindi Bhattian.	7 0 0	84 0 0	Ditto.
S. Ali Hussain, Oriental Teacher, Government High School, Zaffarwal.	7 0 0 (from 3-5-33 to 31-3-34.)	76 9 0	Ditto.
M. Fazal Ahmad, Senior English Master, Government High School, Pind Dadan Khan.	8 0 0	96 0 0	Ditto.
Pandit Vidya Sagar, Sanskrit Teacher, Government High School, Isakhel.	4 0 0 (from 1-4-33 to 24-4-33.)	3 3 0	Ditto.
B. Teja Singh, Senior English Master, Government High School, Isakhel.	4 0 0 (from 25-4-33 to 31-3-34.)	44 13 0	Ditto.
Chaudhri Muhammad Sardar Khan, Senior English Master, Government High School, Bhakkar.	4 4 0	51 0 0	Ditto.

Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
B. Harnam Singh, Junior English Master, Government High School, Bhakkar.	5 5 0	63 12 0	For superintendence of the hostel attached to the school.
Chaudhri Zafar Ahmad, Senior English Master, Government High School, Bhera.	13 0 0 (from 5-9-33 to 23-1-34.)	39 15 0	Ditto.
B. Thakar Singh, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Bhera.	2 0 0 (from 24-1-34 to 31-3-34.)	4 8 0	Ditto.
Lala Munshi Ram, Senior English Master, Government High School, Kahuta.	10 0 0	120 0 0	Ditto.
Lala Diwan Chand, Senior English Master, Government High School, Phalia.	8 14 0	106 8 0	Ditto.
B. Bhagwan Singh, Senior English Master, Government High School, Talagang.	6 0 0 (from 21-12-33 to 31-3-34.)	20 2 0	Ditto.
M. Muhammad Sharif, Senior English Master, Government High School, Jhelum.	13 0 0 (from 30-10-33 to 31-3-34.)	65 13 0	Ditto.
M. Pir Bakhsh, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Murree.	5 0 0 (from 3-11-33 to 15-12-33.)	7 1 0	Ditto.
M. Abdur Rahman, Oriental Teacher, Government High School, Murree.	8 6 0 (from 16-12-33 to 31-3-34.)	29 7 0	Ditto.
M. Muhammad Akram, Senior English Master, Government High School, Fatehjang.	6 0 0 (from 1-11-33 to 31-3-34.)	30 0 0	Ditto.
M. Muhammad Mohsin, Head Master, Government High School, Simla.	30 0 0 (from 20-5-33 to 9-7-33 and from 1-10-33 to 31-3-34.)	50 5 0	For holding charge of the administration of Primary Schools within the Simla Municipality.
Lala Tara Chand, Officiating Head Master, Government High School, Simla.	30 0 0 (from 10-7-33 to 30-9-33.)	81 1 0	Ditto.
M. Abdul Alim, Assistant District Inspector of Schools, Ferozepore.	20 0 0	240 0 0	For compulsory education.

Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Senior English Master, Government High School, Sirsa.	..	16 7 9	For superintendence of the hostel attached to the school.
Senior English Master, Government High School, Hansi.	..	36 0 0	Ditto.
Senior English Master, Government High School, Gohana.	..	74 0 0	Ditto.
Bhai Ganda Singh, Assistant District Inspector of Schools, Fazilka.	15 0 0	180 0 0	For compulsory education.
Bhai Chain Singh, Senior English Master, Government High School, Gujjarwal.	7 8 0	90 0 0	For superintendence of the hostel.
Bhai Fateh Singh, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Rahon.	5 0 0	60 0 0	Ditto.
Shaikh Muhammad Nazir, Agriculture Teacher, Government High School, Gakhar.	10 0 0	120 0 0	For teaching agriculture and being in charge of agriculture farm.
Chaudhri Ahmad Din, Agriculture Teacher, Government High School, Ajnala.	10 0 0	120 0 0	Ditto.
M. Ghulam Ghaus, Agriculture Teacher, Government High School, Sharaqpur.	10 0 0	120 0 0	Ditto.
M. Sabir Ali Khan, Teacher, Queen Mary College, Lahore.	No detail given.	60 0 0	From boarding house private fund.
Pandit Mohan Lal, 2nd Master, Government High School, Phalia.	10 0 0	120 0 0	For clerical work of the Government Middle School for Girls, Sahiwal.
Bhai Uddham Singh, Science Master, Government High School, Shorkot.	9 0 0 (from 1-4-33 to 26-6-33.)	25 12 9	For superintendence of the hostel attached to the school.
Lala Kishen Chand, 2nd Master, Government High School, Khanewal.	13 0 0	156 0 0	Ditto.
Lala Nand Kishore Banati, Senior English Master, Government High School, Kot Adu.	13 0 0	156 0 0	Ditto.



Name and designation.	Amount of Special pay drawn per mensem.	Total amount drawn during the financial year 1933-34.	REMARKS.
Lala Chuni Lal, Science Master, Government High School, Leiah.	9 0 0	108 0 0	For superintendence of the hostel attached to the school.
Lala Jesa Ram, 2nd Master, Government High School, Shorkot.	6 0 0 (from 27-6-33 to 31-3-34.)	55 3 0	Ditto.
M. Din Muhammad, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Jaranwala.	7 0 0	84 0 0 (Received from private funds.)	For suprintending the Muslim hostel, Jaranwala.
S. Farman Shah, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Bhera.	6 0 0	5 6 0	For teaching the adult class attached to the Government High School, Bhera.
S. Thakar Singh, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Bhera.	6 0 0	4 0 0	Ditto.
M. Said Muhammad, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Bhera.	6 0 0	5 2 0	Ditto.
Lala Hans Raj, Vernacular Teacher, Government High School, Bhera.	6 0 0	17 1 0	Ditto.
M. Ghulam Muhammad, Director of Public Instruction's office.	90 0 0	90 0 0	For work done in connection with the London Chamber of Commerce Examination.
Lala Daulat Rai, Director of Public Instruction's office.	70 0 0	70 0 0	Ditto.
S. Ghulam Murtaza, Director of Public Instruction's office.	40 0 0	480 0 0	For the performance of clerical duties of the Jesus and Mary Convent School, Lahore.
M. Ghulam Qadir, Director of Public Instruction's office.	20 0 0	320 0 0 (Special pay at Rs. 40 per mensem, for 2-8-33 to 3-12-33).	Cashier's allowances and additional pay for performance of the duties of General Record-keeper.
Pandit Dina Nath, Director of Public Instruction's office.	20 0 0	240 0 0	For the performance of clerical duties of the Government Hindu Widows' Home, Lahore.
M. Ilm Din, Director of Public Instruction's office.	15 0 0	180 0 0	For the performance of clerical duties of the Rural Community Board.

## RETRENCHED TEACHERS.

(Answer to question No.\* 4155, pages 273-74 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) to (d). If the honourable member will very kindly tell me what her object is, I may be able to give an answer which will save time and labour which will necessarily be involved in the collection of the information.

(e) On account of financial stringency, the posts of drill masters in district boards middle schools in the district were abolished, and consequently four junior-most drill masters were brought under reduction, but no uneducated or untrained men have been employed in their place.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) No. M. Mula Singh, an S. V. qualified to work as drill master, was employed in the vacancy in accordance with the policy of the department.

(h) Not always. Their addresses are in the District Inspector of Schools' office, and appointment orders can be sent to them whenever there are suitable vacancies to which they can be appointed.

(i) The honourable member's attention is invited to Director, Public Instruction's letter No. 11967-E., dated the 29th July, 1932, a copy of which is attached.

(j) A S. V. qualified to work as physical training instructor is much cheaper than an S. A.-V. or B. T., who, if qualified for physical training work, is employed in the more important post of assistant district inspector for physical training.

*Copy of a letter No. 11967-E., dated the 29th July, 1932, from the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, to the Divisional Inspectors of Schools in the Punjab.*

I have the honour to state that it has been decided that in future senior vernacular trained candidates qualified to work as drill masters should be recruited for the post of drill masters and to request that this may be borne in mind when making recommendations for filling vacancies of drill masters.

## ELECTION OFFENCES.

(Answer to question No. \*4156, page 274 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** The available information is given in the statement which is laid on the table.

Statement showing the number of persons convicted of election offences in mittees, Panchayats, Legislative Council, Legislative Assembly and Council

Serial No.	Name of district.	MUNICIPAL COM-MITTEE ELECTIONS.			DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.			SMALL TOWN COM-MITTEE ELECTIONS.		
		Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Sikhs.	Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Sikhs.	Muslims.	Hindus and others.	Sikhs.
1	Hissar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	Rohtak ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Gurgaon ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	Karnal ..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	Ambala ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
6	Simla ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	Kangra ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
8	Hoshiarpur ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
9	Jalandur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	Ludhiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	Ferozepore ..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
12	Lahore* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	Amritsar† ..	29	40†	13	9	1†	6	..	..	1
14	Gurdaspur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Sialkot ..	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	Gujranwala ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17	Sheikhupura ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18	Gujrat ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19	Shahpur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	Jhelum ..	..	1 (Chris- tian).	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
21	Rawalpindi ..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	Attock ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	Mianwali ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	Montgomery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	Lyallpur‡ ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26	Jhang   ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27	Muzaffargarh ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	Dera Ghazi Khan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
29	Multan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..		52	43	14	11	3	9	..	..	1

\*The Deputy Commissioner says that the information cannot

†Figures prior to 1926 are not available.

‡The Deputy Commissioner has not given separate figures. In

§Information prior to 1926 is not available.

||One person was convicted in connection with district board.



## EXPENDITURE ON

(Answer to question No.

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** A statement*Statement showing the total amount of expenditure incurred by*

YEAR.	Total expenditure on original works by Public Works Department Establishment excluding Public Health Circle Establishment.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ESTABLISHMENT.				
		Pay and allowances of officers.	Pay and allowances of other establishment.	Total.	Deduct credits received.	Net expenditure on— (i) Pay of officers. (ii) Pay of establishment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1924-25 ..	33,14,255	7,40,866	6,00,622	13,41,488	..	13,41,488
1925-26 ..	50,20,781	6,81,954	6,08,857	12,90,811	..	12,90,811
1926-27 ..	1,00,78,581	7,34,580	6,67,745	14,02,325	..	14,02,325
1927-28 ..	1,45,56,101	8,33,330	7,82,843	16,16,223	..	16,16,223
1928-29 ..	1,49,19,698	9,12,423	8,50,479	17,62,902	-12,860	17,50,042
1930-31 ..	53,80,470	9,23,709	8,50,697	17,74,406	-52,785	17,21,621
1931-32 ..	30,71,109	7,72,292	7,07,144	14,79,436	-2,161	14,77,275
1932-33 ..	19,40,383	6,43,168	6,01,029	12,44,197	+3,135	12,47,332
1933-34 ..	14,46,912	6,58,314	6,39,393	12,97,707	+67,425	13,65,132

**N.B.—I.** The figures in columns 3—7 exclude those of expenditure incurred in India on School and Maclagan Engineering College, Moghalpura, as these institutions to 1928-29 exclude recoveries for works done by the Superintending Engineers of the same are available. The figures in columns 9—13 exclude in columns 3—7 include expenditure in England in respect of the Secretary, pure, which in the absence of the necessary details could not be excluded.

The question relates to expenditure on original works only but does not include tag cost of establishment is as follows :—

Year.

1924-25	..	..	..	..
1925-26	..	..	..	..
1926-27	..	..	..	..
1927-28	..	..	..	..
1928-29	..	..	..	..
1930-31	..	..	..	..
1931-32	..	..	..	..
1932-33	..	..	..	..
1933-34	..	..	..	..

## ORIGINAL WORKS.

\*4192, page 347 ante.)

furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

*Public Works Department in the Buildings and Roads Branch.*

Total expenditure on original works by establishment employed in Public Health Circle.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF PUBLIC HEALTH ESTABLISHMENT.				
	Pay and allowances of officers.	Pay and allowances of other establishment.	Total.	Deduct credits received.	Net expenditure on— (i) Pay of officers. (ii) Pay of establishment.
8	9	10	11	12	13
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
12,92,506	89,316	70,710	1,60,026	—1,98,392	—38,366
7,77,709	79,223	73,806	1,52,528	—1,73,555	—21,027
7,58,672	82,972	79,894	1,62,866	—79,808	83,058
15,31,816	9,84,428	96,665	1,95,093	—1,43,039	52,054
16,71,538	80,559	1,12,731	1,93,290	—1,84,384	8,906
9,98,278	85,773	1,18,172	2,03,945	—1,26,883	77,062
11,02,203	89,297	1,20,942	2,10,239	—96,622	1,13,617
7,61,928	68,913	94,125	1,63,038	—1,06,020	57,018
4,91,432	63,604	87,042	1,50,646	—1,19,241	31,405

the emoluments of officers and staff of the Secretary, Communications Board, Rasul Engineering have no concern with the execution of works. The figures in column 6 for the years 1924-25 neers, as such recoveries were then treated as revenue under the head XXX—Civil Works and no expenditure in England as details of the latter expenditure are also not available. The figures Communications Board, Rasul Engineering School and MacLagan Engineering College, Moghal. The figures for these 3 institutions, excluding expenditure in England, are shown in the attached

cost of maintenance, etc. The total expenditure incurred by the department and the percent-

Total expenditure in lakhs.	Percentage of establishment expenditure to works expenditure.
Rs.	Rs.
110·15	14·8
148·14	13·2
199·99	12·0
236·98	11·06
268·97	11·5
156·62	13·3
121·32	14·8
104·27	14·35
105·98	15·60

*Statement showing expenditure (excluding expenditure incurred in England) on the emoluments of officers and other establishment of the Secretary, Communications Board, Rasul Engineering School, and MacLagan Engineering College, Moghalpura.*

1	2		3		4		5		6
YEAR.	SECRETARY, COMMUNICATIONS BOARD.		RASUL ENGINEERING SCHOOL.		MACLAGAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE, MOGHALPURA.		GRAND TOTAL (2 + 3 + 4.)		REMARKS.
	Pay and allowances of officers.	Pay and allowances of other establishment.	Pay and allowances of officers.	Pay and allowances of other establishment.	Pay and allowances of officers.	Pay and allowances of other establishment.	Pay and allowances of officers.	Pay and allowances of other establishment.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1924-25	32,918	15,529	23,169	37,657	..	..	56,087	33,186	
1925-26	7,167	959	30,726	32,200	85,838	57,427	1,23,731	90,686	
1926-27	66,320	33,281	33,071	35,008	87,360	71,858	1,86,750	1,40,147	
1927-28	20,925	8,500	39,085	36,050	84,937	1,16,131	1,44,947	1,60,681	
1928-29	33,431	11,130	41,101	34,380	78,600	1,31,404	1,53,132	1,77,424	
1930-31	20,232	10,174	53,243	42,183	84,781	1,38,750	1,58,256	1,91,107	
1931-32	13,128	6,169	42,415	43,472	1,04,722	1,28,626	1,60,265	1,78,267	
1932-33	5,645	5,645	43,684	35,162	1,01,292	1,12,537	1,50,821	1,63,344	
1933-34	4,198	6,299	41,696	33,440	1,08,252	1,11,392	1,54,146	1,51,131	

**CHARGES AGAINST LALA RALLA RAM, HEAD MASTER OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, SHAHPUR.**

*(Answer to question No. \*4210, page 405 ante.)*

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** There is no teacher of the name of Lala Rulia Ram employed in any middle school in the Shahpur district. Information relating to one, Ralla Ram, late Head Master, District Board High School, Bhagtanwala, is, however, given below :—

- (a) No formal charges were brought against the man. But his work at Bhagtanwala was considered not entirely satisfactory.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) He was transferred to another school.

**MURDERS.**

*(Answer to question No. \*4211, page 406 ante.)*

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The required information is contained in the accompanying statement.

*Statement.*

Tahsil.	Number of murders committed.	Number of cases actually challaned.	Number of cases which remained untraced.	Number of cases in which challans were dismissed by courts.	Number of cases in which culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment.
<b>HISSAR.</b>					
Bhiwani .. ..	46	15	5	6	9
Hansi .. ..	67	24	16	13	11
Hissar .. ..	101	32	19	13	19
Fatehabad .. ..	72	27	15	9	18
Sirsa .. ..	182	80	22	27	53
<b>ROHTAK.</b>					
Rohtak .. ..	83	46	15	27	19
Jhajjar .. ..	55	27	18	11	16
Gohana .. ..	75	44	21	24	20
Sonepat .. ..	76	40	22	18	22



*Statement—contd.*

Tahsil.			Number of murders committed.	Number of cases actually challaned.	Number of cases which remained untraced.	Number of cases in which challans were dismissed by courts.	Number of cases in which culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment.
GURGAON.							
Gurgaon	..	..	28	9	15	5	3
Rewari	..	..	30	11	17	3	8
Ballabgarh	..	..	9	5	1	3	2
Palwal	..	..	18	8	6	1	6
Firozpur-Jhirka	..	..	14	6	7	3	3
Nuh	..	..	33	15	15	10	4
KARNAL.							
Karnal	..	..	56	16	18	6	8
Panipat	..	..	54	27	16	7	15
Thanesar	..	..	37	16	11	4	5
Kaithal	..	..	75	28	23	13	14
AMBALA.							
Jagadhri	..	..	11	6	4	5	1
Kharar	..	..	43	30	10	14	15
Ambala	..	..	34	14	14	8	6
Naraingarh	..	..	14	8	2	4	5
Rupar	..	..	16	10	3	4	6
SIMLA.							
Simla	..	..	5	3	2	1	2
HOSHIAHPUR.							
Hoshiarpur	..	..	28	22	6	13	8
Dasuya	..	..	26	21	5	11	10
Una	..	..	13	13	..	6	7
Garhsenkar	..	..	25	21	4	13	8
JULLUNDUR.							
Jullundur	..	..	48	30	18	8	22
Nakodar	..	..	28	24	4	6	18
Nawanshahr	..	..	27	15	12	6	9
Phillaur	..	..	42	32	10	10	22

## Statement—contd.

Tahsil.	Number of murders committed.	Number of cases actually challaned.	Number of cases which remained untraced.	Number of cases in which challans were dismissed by courts.	Number of cases in which culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment.
LUDHIANA.					
Ludhiana .. ..	76	63	13	26	36
Jagraon .. ..	55	37	18	16	21
Samrala .. ..	32	26	6	14	12
KANGRA.					
Palampur .. ..	9	4	5	3	1
Hamirpur .. ..	18	11	4	4	7
Nurpur .. ..	7	4	3	1	3
Dehra .. ..	17	9	7	4	5
Saraj .. ..	2	2	..	1	1
Kulu .. ..	4	3	..	..	3
Kangra .. ..	14	8	5	3	5
FEROZEPUR.					
Fazilka .. ..	146	94	52	30	64
Muktsar .. ..	132	96	36	31	65
Zira .. ..	54	35	19	13	22
Moga .. ..	118	81	37	34	47
Ferozepore .. ..	94	53	41	15	38
LAHORE.					
Lahore .. ..	342	224	93	64	107
Kasur .. ..	294	192	49	72	95
Chunian .. ..	251	180	51	58	85
AMRITSAR.					
Tarn Taran .. ..	198	134	43	49	85
Amritsar .. ..	198	108	59	37	71
Ajnala .. ..	73	56	16	22	35
GURDASPUR.					
Gurdaspur .. ..	34	27	6	19	5
Batala .. ..	98	67	25	46	22
Pathankot .. ..	25	13	9	10	5
Shakargarh .. ..	25	20	6	12	7

*Statement—contd.*

Tahsil.	Number of murders committed.	Number of cases actually challaned.	Number of cases which remained untraced.	Number of cases in which challans were dismissed by courts.	Number of cases in which culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment.
SIALKOT.					
Sialkot .. ..	40	31	9	13	16
Daska .. ..	29	21	8	8	13
Pasrur .. ..	28	23	5	8	14
Narowal .. ..	40	28	12	17	9
SHEIKHUPURA.					
Sheikhupura .. ..	120	95	25	35	60
Nankana Sahib .. ..	60	48	12	23	25
Shahdara .. ..	63	52	11	16	36
GUJRANWALA.					
Gujranwala .. ..	140	117	23	..	52
Wazirabad .. ..	56	54	2	1	22
Hafizabad .. ..	71	70	1	..	32
MONTGOMERY.					
Montgomery .. ..	109	60	49	20	40
Okara .. ..	78	44	34	21	23
Dipalpur .. ..	54	39	15	15	24
Pakpattan .. ..	68	50	18	18	32
LYALLPUR.					
Layllpur .. ..	112	63	24	23	40
Jaranwala .. ..	99	50	20	16	34
Samundri .. ..	90	42	14	17	25
Toba Tek Singh .. ..	99	48	15	16	32
JHANG.					
Jhang .. ..	49	38	11	21	17
Chiniot .. ..	69	62	7	31	31
Shorkot .. ..	15	14	1	8	6

## Statement—contd.

Tansil.			Number of murders committed.	Number of cases actually challaned.	Number of cases which remained untraced.	Number of cases in which challans were dismissed by courts.	Number of cases in which culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment.
MULTAN.							
Multan	..	..	89	46	22	15	31
Shujabad	..	..	18	8	6	1	3
Lodhran	..	..	25	11	3	6	5
Mailsi	..	..	71	33	16	7	20
Kabirwala	..	..	51	27	6	11	17
Khanewal	..	..	61	28	12	9	19
MUZAFFARGARH.							
Muzaffargarh	..	..	35	25	3	9	16
Leiah	..	..	21	16	4	5	8
Kot Adu	..	..	21	15	2	1	11
Alipur	..	..	34	18	8	7	8
DERA GHAZI KHAN.							
Dera Ghazi Khan	..	..	132	104	20	24	51
Taunsa	..	..	23	15	6	4	7
Jampur	..	..	70	56	9	17	24
Rajanpur	..	..	130	96	18	20	23
GUJRAT.							
Gujrat	..	..	68	48	10	18	24
Kharian	..	..	57	43	8	10	30
Phalis	..	..	90	63	14	19	40
SHAHPUR.							
Sargodha	..	..	76	62	11	15	46
Bhalwal	..	..	83	68	15	25	42
Shahpur	..	..	43	34	10	14	18
Khusbab	..	..	86	69	16	29	40

*Statement—condol.*

Tahsil.	Number of murders committed.	Number of cases actually challaned.	Number of cases which remained untraced.	Number of cases in which challans were dismissed by courts.	Number of cases in which culprits were sentenced either to be hanged or to life imprisonment.
JHELUM.					
Jhelum .. ..	76	60	11	23	36
Chakwal .. ..	189	148	31	66	74
Pind Dadan Khan .. ..	84	58	19	20	36
RAWALPINDI.					
Rawalpindi .. ..	118	76	42	37	39
Gujar Khan .. ..	74	53	21	26	27
Kabuta .. ..	32	19	13	8	11
Murree .. ..	15	9	6	4	5
ATTOCK.					
Attock .. ..	145	123	22	44	67
Fatehjang .. ..	114	83	25	37	45
Pindigheb .. ..	124	95	18	43	50
Tallagang .. ..	113	87	20	44	42
MIANWALI.					
Mianwali .. ..	144	128	16	19	92
Bhakkar .. ..	24	21	1	5	13
Isakhel .. ..	72	63	9	5	47

## EXCISE CASES.

(Answer to question No. \*4218, page 406 ante.)

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** The available information is contained in the attached statement.

## Statement.

District.	Tahsil.	Number of criminal cases instituted against illicit distillers of alcoholic liquor.	Number of cases dismissed by different courts of law.	Number of cases in which illicit distillers were sent to jail.	Total amount of money paid to informers.	Total cost which the Government had to bear in connection with the institution of these cases.	Total amount of fine realized by the Government from illicit distillers.
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
HISSAR	Hissar	40	15	25	800		422
	Hansi	59	17	42	640		209
	Bhiwani	15	3	12	385		250
	Sirsa	52	11	41	855		2,396
	Fatehabad	21	6	15	410		228
ROHTAK	Rohtak	24	8	13	90		840
	Shajjar	31	14	14	115		700
	Sonepat	20	4	17	..		295
	Gohana	8	5	5	75		200
	Gurgaon	7	1	5	60		70
KARNAL	Karnal	7	2	5	250		..
	Panipat	5	..	5	230		..
	Kaithal	29	1	28	1,715		570
	Thanesar	8	1	7	330		..
AMBALA	Ambala	39	9	20	255		1,255
	Jagadhri	33	22	7	105		251
	Naraingarh	8	2	4	25		200
	Kharar	85	24	43	870		1,920
	Rupar	61	27	20	580		1,452
SIMLA	..	..	..	..	..		..
KANGRA	Kangra	21	3	18	865		580
	Nurpur	2	..	1	5		300
	Dehra	..	..	..	..		..
	Hamirpur	..	..	..	..		..

## Statement—contd.

District.	Tahsil.	Number of criminal cases instituted against illicit distillers of alcoholic liquor.	Number of cases dismissed by different courts of law.	Number of cases in which illicit distillers were sent to jail.	Total amount of money paid to informers.	Total cost which the Government had to bear in connection with the institution of these cases.	Total amount of fine realized by the Government from illicit distillers.
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
KANGBA—concluded.	Palampur ..	6	..	6	15		180
	Kulu ..	10	3	7	380		184
	Saraj ..	4	..	4	100		120
HOSHIAHPUR..	Hoshiahpur ..	49	18	15	1,015		1,148
	Dasuya ..	31	12	13	410		291
	Garshankar ..	88	26	43	1,605		2,297
	Una ..	32	7	5	180		403
	Jullundur ..	292	57	135	7,901		7,926
JULLUNDUR ..	Nakodar ..	157	30	76	4,249		4,262
	Nawanshahr ..	183	36	88	6,009		4,968
	Phillaur ..	125	25	69	2,323		3,395
	Ludhiana ..	40	21	25		Information not available.	766
	Jagraon ..	62	15	16	2,420*		1,286
LUDHIANA ..	Samrala ..	63	12	17			951
	Ferozepore ..	123	16	79	1,300		
	Zira ..	49	12	29	620		
	Fazilka ..	118	31	64	2,145		
	Moga ..	98	16	58	2,730		
FEROZEPORE..	Muktsar ..	64	11	39	1,750		
	Lahore ..	372	62	300	3,980		2,755
	Kasur ..	207	49	196	3,605		3,025
	Chunian ..	128	24	80	1,941		1,774
	Amritsar ..	242	46	196	5,954†		12,823†
AMRITSAR ..	Ajnala ..	83	21	62	..		..
	Tarn Taran ..	363	79	284	..		..

\*Information by tahsils is not available.

†Information regarding parts (d) and (f) by tahsils is not available.

## Statement—contd.

District	Tahsil	Number of criminal cases instituted against illicit distillers of alcoholic liquor.	Number of cases dismissed by different courts of law.	Number of cases in which illicit distillers were sent to jail.	Total amount of money paid to informers.	Total cost which the Government had to bear in connection with the institution of these cases.	Total amount of fine realized by the Government from illicit distillers.
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Gurdaspur ..	Gurdaspur ..	192	68	63	Rs. 3,795	Rs.	Rs. 6,546
	Batala ..	274	72	87	6,192		6,392
	Pathankot ..	21	6	7	300		296
	Shakargarh ..	27	10	13	380		380
SIALKOT ..	Sialkot ..	66	20	24	1,090	Information not available.	659
	Pasrur ..	76	25	34	1,017		532
	Narowal ..	90	24	38	1,560		1,266
	Daska ..	71	20	39	1,250		1,542
GUJRANWALA	Gujranwala ..	201	43	109	3,805		5,925
	Hafizabad ..	39	4	25	1,425		1,475
	Wazirabad ..	38	9	19	340		652
SHEIKHUPURA	Sheikhupura ..	252	48	184	3,117		2,570
	Shahdara ..	84	23	58	415		1,315
	Nankana Sahib ..	54	16	41	768		1,580
GUJRAT ..	Gujrat ..	25	11	12	590		482
	Kharian ..	2	1	1	..		200
	Phalia ..	9	4	6	95		106
SHAHPUR ..	Sargodha ..	49	9	30	1,342		285
	Bhalwal ..	19	3	13	645		265
	Shahpur ..	11	1	10	477		20
	Khuashab ..	2	..	2	30		15
JHELUM ..	Jhelum ..				Blank.		
	Pind Dadan Khan						
	Chakwal ...						
RAWALPINDI ..	Rawalpindi ..	9	2	7	150		50
	Gujar Khan ..	2	..	2	..		1,300



## Statement—contd.

District.	Tahsil.	Number of criminal cases instituted against illicit distillers of alcoholic liquor.	Number of cases dismissed by different courts of law.	Number of cases in which illicit distillers were sent to jail.	Total amount of money paid to informers.	Total cost which the Government had to bear in connection with the institution of these cases.	Total amount of fine realised by the Government from illicit distillers.
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
RAWALPINDI— concluded.	Murree ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Kahuta ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
ATTOCK ..	Attock ..	5	1	4	70	..	..
	Talagang ..	8	..	6	..	..	300
MIANWALI ..	All tahsils ..	..	..	Blank.	..	..	..
MONTGOMERY	Montgomery ..	47	77*	94*	1,550*	Information not available.	745*
	Okara ..	26					
	Dipalpur ..	30					
	Pakpattan ..	68					
LYALLPUR ..	Lyallpur ..	202	22	180	3,115	..	5,011
	Samundri ..	53	10	43	1,416	..	1,326
	Toba Tek Singh..	69	13	56	1,705	..	1,790
	Jaranwala ..	154	26	128	2,262	..	2,410
JHANG ..	Jhang ..	1	..	1	..	..	..
	Shorkot ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chiniot ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
MULTAN ..	Multan ..	5	1	4	310	..	825
	Shujabad ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Lodhran ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Mailsi ..	12	4	8	200	..	300
	Kabirwala ..	3	1	2	74	..	50
	Khanewal ..	5	2	3	150	..	500
MUZAFFAR- GAH.	All tahsils ..	..	..	Blank.	..	..	..
DEBA GHAZI KHAN.	All tahsils ..	..	..	Ditto.	..	..	..
	Total ..	5,865	1,380	3,606	98,927	..	1,07,821

\*Information by tahsils is not available.

## DISTRICT BOARD, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to questions Nos. \*4220 and \*4221, pages 410-11 ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gohat Chand Narang :** The District Board of Amritsar, in its measures to effect economy in educational expenditure was guided by the principles laid down in Punjab Government,<sup>1</sup> letter No. C. M. No. 3512-A, dated the 2nd March, 1932, which requires *inter alia*, the closing down of inefficient schools, and the removal of inefficient and if necessary, of junior-unconfirmed teachers.

Of the 58 teachers proposed to be removed, only 15 are agriculturists. The proportion of the Muslim teachers in the service of the Board is hardly affected by the retrenchment, the percentage of such teachers being 43.9 before the retrenchment, and 43.6, after it. It is not correct that there is a paucity of Muslim teachers in the employ of the Board.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL, LAHORE.

(Answer to question No. \*4225, page 412 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) No.
- (d) Does not arise.

## RAILWAY BUNDS.

(Answer to question No. \*4245, page 465 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) No new bunds have been erected. Existing bunds have been extended in order to guide the river more directly through the railway bridge.

(b) Two 4' bridge openings, one on either side of Giddarpindi station, were temporarily closed for raising the bank and it has been decided to re-open them.

(c) Railway formation has been raised by about 3 ft. from mile 34 to 37 between Lohian Khas and Giddarpindi.

(d) None, as Government has no reason to believe that flooding in the villages named is in any way accentuated by the existence of the railway.

- (e) Yes.
- (f) No.

## FACILITIES TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS.

(Answer to question No. \*4261, page 522 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Government understand that this is so.

<sup>1</sup>Placed in the Library.

(b) In the Central Provinces and in Madras where any communication is addressed to a non-official member of the Legislative Council to which a reply is required from the addressee, Government or the Secretary of the Legislative Council, as the case may be, sends a stamped envelope for the reply along with the communication.

(c) The Government of India have already considered the question of postal concessions to members of Legislative Councils and in the circumstances the Punjab Government regret that they are unable to negotiate further in the matter.

#### LAW COLLEGE.

(Answer to question No. \*4282, page 536 ante).

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The Hindu gentleman and five out of the eight Muslim gentlemen shown as agriculturists in answer to question No. \*3592<sup>1</sup> are statutory agriculturists.

#### LAW COLLEGE.

(Answer to question No. \*4283, page 536-37 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** The income of the Law College for the financial year ending 31st March, 1934, was Rs. 1,61,409, and the expenditure was Rs. 1,18,214.

The proportion of students community-wise during the year 1933-34 was as follows :—

	Per cent.
Hindus .. .. .	62·8
Muslims .. .. .	23·5
Sikhs .. .. .	18·7
Christians .. .. .	·5

The following is the total amount of salaries paid to the teaching staff community-wise during the year ending 31st March, 1934 :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Hindus .. .. .	40,943	12	4
Muslims .. .. .	26,209	10	9
Sikhs .. .. .	8,534	13	11
Christians .. .. .	2,400	0	0

No contribution is made by Government towards the maintenance of the Law College, therefore in view of the communal proportion of the students whose fees support the institution the Muslim representation on the teaching staff of the Law College is not inadequate.

## DISTRIBUTION OF CANAL WATER.

(Answer to question No. \*4306, page 599 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Not as far as is known. The question relates to internal distribution carried out by the shareholders.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The *wahrbandi* was framed in July 1934 by the Executive Engineer under Section 68, Canal Act, on a demand from shareholders and was approved by the majority present when it was announced by the Executive Engineer on July 4th, 1934. The principles were:—

(1) Gardens in existence prior to 1929 were given *wahrs* according to twice their actual area. Non-garden areas and gardens established during 1929 and later were treated alike and given *wahr* according to actual area. This is in accordance with the I. M. O. Art. 8.88, paragraph 4.

(2) The *wahrbandi* was calculated for a 10 day period.

(3) Each garden received its *wahr* on 3 fixed days each month and at fixed hours.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The Bhiwani Tail has received excellent supplies whenever water was available in the Western Jumna Canal.

(h) No, except when excess supplies are passed to the tail to feed the water-works and railway tanks.

(i) No.

(j) Does not arise.

*Statement of Discharges of Municipal Watercourse, Bhiwani,  
September to December 1934.*

Date of month.	DISCHARGE OF WATERCOURSE.				REMARKS.
	September.	October.	November.	December.	
1.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	The Full Supply discharge of the Municipal water-course is 1.13 cusecs.
2.	Nil.	2.0	Nil.	Nil.	
3.	Nil.	2.0	Nil.	Nil.	
4.	Nil.	1.8	Nil.	Nil.	

Date of month.	DISCHARGE OF WATERCOURSE.				REMARKS.
	September.	October.	November.	December.	
5	<i>Nil.</i>	2.28	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
6	<i>Nil.</i>	2.6	1.0	<i>Nil.</i>	
7	<i>Nil.</i>	2.95	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
8	<i>Nil.</i>	2.8	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
9	<i>Nil.</i>	1.8	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
10	<i>Nil.</i>	1.6	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
11	3.4	2.28	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
12	3.1	2.28	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
13	1.55	2.80	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
14	1.4	2.80	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
15	1.55	2.80	<i>Nil.</i>	1.8	
16	1.70	2.8	1.2	2.0	
17	1.70	2.7	0.8	2.0	
18	1.55	2.28	0.4	2.14	
19	4.0	1.9	0.4	2.28	
20	3.1	1.9	1.55	1.07	
21	2.8	1.14	2.8	0.9	
22	3.4	0.6	1.0	1.0	
23	4.0	0.4	<i>Nil.</i>	2.28	
24	3.1	0.7	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
25	3.1	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
26	3.1	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
27	3.1	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
28	3.1	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
29	0.8	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
30	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
31	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	

**DETENTION OF STUDENTS FROM APPEARING AT UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.**

*(Answer to question No. 4233, page 617 ante.)*

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

(b) The University regulations require that the head of college when sending up names of candidates for the Intermediate and B. A. examinations should certify among other things that the candidates have satisfactorily performed the work of their classes. Accordingly the candidates who do not satisfy this condition have to be detained.

(c) The candidates are expected to know all the university regulations about examinations.

(d) A statement showing the information is attached.

*Statement showing the number of students detained from University examinations in 1935.*

Serial No.	Name of College.	NUMBER OF STUDENTS DETAINED.	
		Intermediate Examination.	B. A. Examination.
1	Lahore College for Women .. ..	..	..
2	Government College, Lahore .. ..	4	1
3	Government Intermediate College, Paerur .. ..	..	..
4	Government Intermediate College, Dharamsala .. ..	..	..
5	Lawrence College, Ghoragali .. ..	..	..
6	Government Intermediate College, Rohtak .. ..	1	..
7	Stratford College for Women, Amritsar .. ..	..	..
8	Government Intermediate College, Gujrat .. ..	3	..
9	Government Intermediate College, Campbellpur .. ..	..	..
10	Government College, Lyallpur .. ..	..	..
11	Government Intermediate College, Hoshiarpur .. ..	..	..
12	deMontmorency College, Shahpur .. ..	6	..
13	Emerson College, Multan .. ..	6	4
14	Ludhiana Government College, Ludhiana .. ..	3	4
15	Government Intermediate College, Jhang .. ..	..	..
	Total .. ..	22	9

## PATWARIS.

(Answer to question No. \*4945, page 621 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** A statement showing the required information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the total number of revenue and canal patwaris community-wise recruited from 1st January, 1920, up to date.*

	Muslims.	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Others.	Total.
Revenue Patwaris .. ..	2,893	1,487	417	1	4,798
Canal Patwaris .. ..	709	774	244	1	1,728

## UNIVERSITY FELLOWS.

(Answer to question No. \*4949, page 622 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The number of Fellows of the Punjab University communitywise is as under :—

	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Sikhs.	Others.
(i) Elected .. ..	11	1	1	1
(ii) Official nominated ..	2	10	..	17
(iii) Non-official nominated	6	10	6	9
Total .. ..	19	21	7	27

(b) The system of election of Fellows of the Punjab University was introduced with the very inception of the University, *vide* clause 6 (c) of the Punjab University Act, 1882.

The Senate and the Faculties have elected Muslim gentlemen as Fellows on eleven occasions (*i.e.*, nine Muslims elected, and of these two were re-elected).

## RELIEF TO INHABITANTS OF ATARI.

(Answer to question No. \*4417, page 733 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** Further enquiries reveal that the reply to part (c) of question of No. \*3660<sup>1</sup> was not correct, 5 rectangles of land were granted to the inhabitants of this village—4 in 1929 and 1 in 1934—by way of compensation.

<sup>1</sup> Volume XXV, page 522.

## MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, LUDHIANA.

(Answer to question No. \*4422, pages 741-42, ante.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (i) Copies of the documents are laid on the table.

(ii) (a) Government has no information on the point.

(b) The Secretary and the typist were suspended by the Committee. Execution of the resolution was suspended by Deputy Commissioner so far as it related to the suspension of the Secretary.

(c) It is a fact that the committee transferred the Terminal Tax Superintendent and that the Deputy Commissioner suspended the execution of this resolution; and it is also a fact that the income from terminal tax increased subsequently to this transfer, but the increase was probably due to the enforcement of the revised terminal tax schedule.

*Audit and Inspection Note, Municipal Committee, Ludhiana.*

*Audit note for October 1932 to September 1933.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Paragraph 15 (i) and (ii).—The Committee has ordered that the amount paid in excess to the officials concerned should be recovered from them, but the necessary recoveries were found to have not been made. This failure requires to be explained.

Paragraph 15 (iii).—The amount paid in excess in this case was also found to have not been recovered in spite of the committee's orders. The pay of official was also not regulated correctly at the time of the next annual increment. This should be done now.

Paragraph 15 (iv) (b).—The committee has ordered that the pay of the official should be fixed at the stage mentioned in this paragraph, and that the amount less paid to him should be paid now, but these orders were found to have not been carried out. The utter disregard of the committee's orders in this and other cases referred to above is specially brought to notice. The pay of this official also was not regulated correctly on the grant of next annual increment. This should be done now.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SIKHS IN CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

(Answer to question No. \*4433, page 778 ante.)

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) (i) 18.36 per cent.

(ii) and (iii) Statistics are not available.

(b)	Sikhs.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Total.
Sub-Inspectors ..	9	1	16	26
Assistant Registrar ..	..	..	1	1
Inspectors ..	..	1	3	4
Head Clerks ..	..	..	1	1
Junior Clerks ..	1	..	7	8
Peons ..	..	1	5	6

In addition there are 2 honorary inspectors, both Muhammadans.

(c) Statistics are not maintained by communities, and the labour of collecting them would be incommensurate with the results to be attained.

(d) The particulars have been given under (b) above.



(e) Yes.

(f) Figures from 1st April 1927 are as follows :—

Muhammadans	..	..	..	..	10
Hindus	..	..	..	..	1
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	4
Total					15

Figures before that date are not available.

(g) By "proceeded against departmentally," it is presumed that formal departmental enquiry is intended. If so, one Muslim and one Sikh have been proceeded against. Both were punished. It is not in the public interest to give names.

(h) Seven Muslim sub-inspectors and two Sikhs sub-inspectors were proceeded against and punished.

(i) Three.

(j) One Sikh sub-inspector was promoted, but afterwards reverted for misconduct.

(k) The present Assistant Registrar once before held charge of the circle for a year, seven years ago.

(l) A previous tenure, particularly a short one, is no bar to appointment in such a case, if the officer is otherwise suitable.

(m) A Sikh Assistant Registrar was in charge of the circle in 1927-1928.

#### SUICIDES.

(Answer to question No. \*4436, page 779 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** An intermediate reply was made to this question in the Council on the 25th March 1935. I am afraid that the figures then given in reply to part (a) and those supplied last year to questions put by two other members of the House on this same subject, have been found to have been inaccurate and incomplete. A statement has now been prepared (attached) showing the total number of suicides and attempted suicides reported to the police in the Punjab in each year from 1930 to 1934. An attempt has been made in this statement to classify the cases according to motive. In a second statement, also attached, figures are given for the five earlier years, from 1925 to 1929. In the statement for the earlier years, no classification by motive has been attempted. The figures make it plain that unemployment is comparatively seldom a cause of suicide in the Punjab. On the other hand, they show a large and steady rise in the suicide rate, fairly constant over the whole of the decennium. The remarkable growth in the population of the province during the period doubtless accounts in part for the increase. It is moreover probable that the number of suicides left unreported is now less than it used to be. Some satisfaction can be obtained from the figures, in that the number of suicides and attempted suicides per million of population in the Punjab is very much lower even now than in most other countries.

## APPENDIX.

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*Statement showing the number of cases of suicide and attempted suicide reported to the Police in the Punjab in each of the years 1930—1934, analysed.*

Serial No.	Causes.	1930.		1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
		True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.
1	Jealousy on account of husband's or wife's bad character.	43	17	28	22	40	22	38	19	53	19
2	Domestic quarrels ..	115	44	114	50	125	53	157	51	170	58
3	Shock on account of the illness or death of near relatives or abduction of wife or mother.	46	8	37	5	37	12	54	6	55	11
4	Weariness of life on account of poverty, prolonged illness, or old age.	127	12	120	9	116	17	119	17	185	22
5	Loss of property ..	9	3	14	7	16	4	11	4	11	3
6	Indebtedness ..	8	6	2	6	9	5	11	4	10	4
7	Lunacy ..	20	3	25	2	34	2	20	3	33	7
8	Impotence or other sex trouble	3	3	5	3	14	2	7	4	23	4
9	To avoid the grip of the law	5	16	12	23	16	14	16	9	11	9
10	Unemployment ..	9	4	16	2	15	4	16	4	21	8
11	Failure in examinations ..	3	..	2	..	3	..	5	3	6	4
12	For reasons unknown ..	60	25	48	22	62	22	71	18	78	31
	Total ..	448	141	423	151	487	157	534	142	656	170
	Rate of suicide cases per million of population.	18.9	5.9	17.9	6.4	20.0	6.6	22.6	6.02	28.6	7.2

*Statement showing the number of cases of suicide and attempted suicide reported to the police in the Punjab during each of the years 1925—1929.*

1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.	
True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.	True cases of suicide.	Cases of attempted suicide.
147	101	183	111	272	120	356	130	327	123

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

(Answer to question No. \*4443, page 833 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) 84.

(b) Rs. 26,240.

(c) Government paid in the year 1929-30 Rs. 3,571 and in the year 1933-34 Rs. 7,368 to the urban local bodies to enable them to pay to the schools concerned the Government share of the grant assessed.

(d) Yes.

(e) The honourable member is referred to paragraph (b) of my answer to his question No. \*4447.<sup>1</sup>

#### FISHERIES.

(Answer to question No. \*4483, page 901 ante.)

**The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes : the matter is discussed in some detail on the administration report of the Madras Fisheries Department, 1933-34.

(b) This will be considered.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MR. R. R. SETHI AS UNIVERSITY HISTORY LECTURER.

(Answer to question No. \*4504, pages 951-52 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The University has not prescribed the academic qualifications of professors, readers and lecturers. Regulations relating to the appointment of professors and readers (chapter VI-C., pages 97 to 100 of the Punjab University calendar for 1934-35) do not apply to lecturers.

(b) Mr. R. R. Sethi was appointed Assistant to the Professor of History in January, 1931, on a fixed salary of Rs. 150 per mensem. He was

<sup>1</sup>Page 835 ante.

promoted to a grade with effect from 1st April, 1984. His designation was changed from Assistant to Lecturer. There was no vacancy to advertise. He was recommended for promotion by the Professor of History.

(i) Yes.

(ii) This is a matter of opinion. The research work was considered to be good.

(iii) Popular articles connected with the research work were published in a newspaper. More serious articles with references were published in journals.

(iv) He was recommended by the Professor.

(c) The honourable member is referred to the answer given to question No. 4507\* asked by him at the last budget session of the council.

RESEARCH OF MR. R. R. SETHI, UNIVERSITY HISTORY LECTURER,

(Answer to question No. \*4506, page 958 ante.)

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

(b) (i) Yes.

(ii) Yes.

(c) Yes. The Syndicate appointed a strong committee of inquiry consisting of the following :—

1. Dr. A. C. Woolner, C.I.E., Vice-Chancellor—Chairman.
2. The Honourable Mr. Justice Tek Chand.
3. Mr. R. Sanderson, Director of Public Instruction.
4. Mr. Manohar Lal, Bar-at-Law.
5. Khan Bahadur Dr. Khwaja Abdur Rahman, O.B.E., Director of Public Health.

The committee carefully examined the whole case. In view of Mr. Sethi's youth and his apology, the committee recommended that Mr. Sethi should not examine for the University in 1935 and 1936 which meant indirectly a fine of Rs. 2,000. The committee also recommended that the Syndicate should record an expression of its strong disapproval of the methods employed by Mr. Sethi in a series of newspaper articles. The Syndicate accepted this recommendation. The committee towards the end of their report recommended "In view of his youth, his free admission of the facts and expression of regret, we consider that no further action is called for".

(d) (i) One meeting and several consultations.

(ii) All.

(iii) The Syndicate Committee.

(iv) The honourable member is referred to the answer given in part (c) above.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No. The honourable member will notice that the Vice-Chancellor took prompt action in having the matter enquired into. A very strong

committee was appointed, including the Vice-Chancellor himself, an Honourable Judge of the High Court, an *ex*-Minister of the Punjab Government, the Director of Public Instruction and the Director of Public Health. I am perfectly satisfied that the Committee have enquired into the matter in the best manner possible and that we cannot do better than accept their unanimous verdict. It will be no use appointing a new committee of inquiry, nor will it be possible to find a better committee of inquiry than the one that has already looked into the case.

(g) The honourable member is referred to the answer to (c) above.

#### PANIPAT MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

(Answer to question No. \*4509, pages 954-55.)

**The Honourable Dr. Sir Gokul Chand Narang :** (a)—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	23,930
Hindus	..	..	..	..	7,262
Others	..	..	..	..	1,723

(b) The electorates are joint.

(c) Does not arise.

(d)—

Muslims	..	..	..	..	9	} elected.
Non-Muslims	..	..	..	..	3	
Officials	..	..	..	..	2	
						appointed by office.

(e) and (f) The required information is given in the attached statements Nos. 1-5.

(g) Yes, the required information is given in the attached statement No. 6.

(h) Only two such employees were discharged, but one of them has been reinstated to his former post on appeal.

(i) A representation was received by Government.

(j) The matter is under consideration.

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STATEMENTS.

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## STATEMENT No. 1.

Statement showing the expenditure in 1984-85 on account of pay of employees belonging to various communities.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Monthly expenditure.	Number of incumbents.	Monthly expenditure.	Number of incumbents.	Monthly expenditure.	
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.				
Secretary ..	100-10-150	1	150 0 0	..	..	..	..	
Accountant ..	40-2-70	1	40 0 0	..	..	..	..	
Clerks ..	30-1½-50	2	80 0 0	2	66 0 0	..	..	
Superintendent, Terminal Tax ..	50-3-90	1	59 0 0	..	..	..	..	
Inspector, Terminal Tax ..	30-1½-50	1	30 0 0	..	..	..	..	
Moharrirs, Terminal Tax ..	25-1-30	4	112 0 0	1	30 0 0	..	..	
Ditto ..	20-1-25	13	286 0 0	1	23 0 0	..	..	
Chaprasis, Terminal Tax ..	14-½-18	22	336 8 0	2	30 0 0	..	..	
Manials ..	Fixed pay ..	1	7 0 0	1	12 0 0	..	..	
Lighting Establishment ..	Ditto ..	15	165 0 0	5	43 0 0	..	..	
Total L. General Department ..	..	61	1,265 8 0	12	204 0 0	..	..	





STATEMENT No. 1—CONCLUDED.  
Statement showing the expenditure in 1934-35 on account of pay of employees belonging to various communities.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Monthly expenditure.	Number of incumbents.	Monthly expenditure.	Number of incumbents.	Monthly expenditure.	

3. MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

	Rs.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs.	Contribution towards the pay Rs. 2,250 per annum.
Assistant Surgeon	..	..	..	1	187 8 0	..	..	..	..	..
Lady Doctor	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	175	..
Compounders	..	2	70 0 0	2	60 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
Nurse Dai	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	35	..
Menials (Hospital)	..	4	54 0 0	7	80 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
Total 3. Medical Department.	..	6	124 0 0	10	327 8 0	2	..	..	210	..

## 4. PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Sanitary Inspector	..	50-4-90	..	..	1	86 0 0	..	..
Assistant Sanitary Inspector..	1	40-3-70	..	43 0 0	..	..	..	..
Darogha Safai ..	1	20-1-30	..	30 0 0	..	..	..	..
Jamadas ..	3	14-1-18	..	49 0 0	..	..	..	..
Bahishtis ..	32	Fixed pay ..	..	192 0 0	..	..	..	..
Sweepers ..	..	Ditto ..	..	..	92	641 0 0	..	..
Slaughter House Moharrirs ..	1	20-1-25	..	21 0 0	..	..	..	..
Vaccinator* ..	1	25-1-40	..	40 0 0	1	7 8 0	..	..
Birth and Death Moharrir ..	1	20-1-30	..	22 0 0	..	..	..	..
Total 4. Public Health Department.	40	..	..	397 0 0	94	734 8 0	..	..

\*Allowance of Superintendent of Vaccination to Sanitary Inspector.

## 7. MUNICIPAL WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Overseer†	..	50-3-80/100	2	60 0 0	1	30 0 0	..	..
Peon ..	..	14-1-18	..	..	1	16 0 0	..	..
District Engineer	..	Contribution ..	..	..	1	15 0 0	..	..
Total 7. Municipal Works Department.	2	..	2	60 0 0	3	61 0 0	..	..
GRAND TOTAL	141	..	141	2,720 8 0	138	1,680 2 0	3	280

†Lala Sultan Singh, drawing Rs. 100 per mensem, resigned in August 1934 and was replaced by 3 Overseers at Rs. 30 per mensem each.

STATEMENT No. 2.

1930.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs. A.		Rs. A.		Rs.	
Secretary ..	100—10—150	1	140 0	..	..	..	..	
Head Clerk ..	..	1	30 0	..	..	..	..	
Paid Apprentice ..	..	..	..	1	30 0	..	..	
Clerks ..	30—1½—50	1	42 0	1	35 0	..	..	
Menials ..	14—½—18	3	46 0	1	14 0	..	..	
Building Inspector	..	1	20 0	..	..	..	..	
Lighting Inspector	25—1—30	..	..	1	28 0	..	..	
Allowance for lighting.	..	1	6 0	1	6 0	..	..	
Mistries for gas lamps.	..	2	60 0	1	30 0	..	..	
Coolies for gas lamps.	..	..	..	3	15 0	..	..	
Superintendent, Terminal Tax.	50—3—90	1	50 0	..	..	..	..	
Inspector and in-charge Terminal Tax.	30—1½—50	1	33 0	1	30 0	..	..	
Cashier ..	25—1—30	..	..	1	28 0	..	..	
Moharrirs, Terminal Tax.	20—1—25	12	266 0	3	63 0	..	..	
Chaprasis, Terminal Tax.	14—½—18	25	377 8	..	..	..	..	
Pound Moharrir .. and sweeper	..	1	2 0	1	2 0	..	..	
Menial for arboriculture.	..	1	10 0	2	27 0	..	..	
Headmaster ..	110—5—135	1	*150 0	..	..	..	..	*Includes Rs. 15 personal pay.
Assistant Masters..	80—4—100	1	80 0	1	110 0†	..	..	†Rs. 10 personal pay.
Drawing Master ..	60—2—80	1	70 0	..	..	..	..	
Oriental Teacher	55—3—70	2	110 0	1	50 0	..	..	
Assistant Teachers	40—2—50	2	85 0	1	40 0	..	..	
Junior Vernacular Teachers.	30—1—40	2	74 0	..	..	..	..	
Junior D. Teachers	20—1—30	6	167 0	2	40 0	..	..	

## STATEMENT No. 2.

1930—concl'd.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs. A.		Rs. A.		Rs.	
Untrained Teachers	Fixed pay	3	48 0	3	54 0	..	..	
Menials ..	..	10	17 0	12	36 14	..	..	
Girls Urdu and Nagri School, Mistresses.	..	2	58 0	2	58 0	..	..	
Girls School Menial Staff.	..	2	7 12	3	8 8	..	..	
Contribution towards the pay of Assistant Surgeon.	..	..	..	1	187 8	..	..	
Midwife ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	45	
Compounders ..	..	3	100 0	1	25 0	..	..	
Nurse Dai ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	30	
Menials (Hospital).	..	5	69 0	7	64 0	..	..	
Hakim and Vaid ..	..	1	25 0	1	25 0	..	..	
Sanitary Inspector	50—4—90	..	..	1	70 0	..	..	
Daroga ..	25—1—30	1	29 0	..	..	..	..	
Patrols ..	14—1—18	3	45 8	1	14 8	..	..	
Bhishties ..	..	30	150 0	..	..	..	..	
Sweepers ..	..	..	..	88	613 0	..	..	
Contribution to Superintendent, Vaccination.	..	..	..	1	7 8	..	..	
Vaccinator ..	25—1—40	1	38 0	..	..	..	..	
Chaprasi of Vaccinator for six months.	..	1	84 0	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter-House Moharrir.	25—1—30	1	*21 0	..	..	..	..	*Actual pay.
Contribution to Veterinary Assistant.	..	..	..	1	5 0	..	..	Grade not given.
Slaughter-Houses Bhishties.	..	2	10 0	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter Houses Sweepers.	..	..	..	8	32 0	..	..	
Birth and Death Moharrir.	25—1—30	1	20 0	..	..	..	..	
Librarian ..	20—1—30	1	20 0	..	..	..	..	
Chaprasi for Library.	..	1	10 0	..	..	..	..	
Overseers ..	50—3—90	..	..	1	110 0†	..	..	†Includes Rs. 20 as personal pay.
Menials Public Works.	..	3	77 0	11	167 0	..	..	
Total ..	..	137	2,639 6	164	2,015 14	2	75	

## STATEMENT NO. 3.

1925.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs. A.		Rs. A.		Rs.	
Secretary ..	No grade ..	1	110 0	..	..	..	..	
Accountant ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	60 0	..	..	
Clerks ..	Do. ..	1	28 0	1	52 0	..	..	
Menials ..	Do. ..	2	26 0	1	12 0	..	..	
Lighting Inspector	Do. ..	..	..	1	22 0	..	..	
Superintendent, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	..	..	1	35 0	..	..	
Inspector, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	1	20 0	..	..	..	..	
Moharrirs, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	14	232 0	1	15 0	..	..	
Chaprasis, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	18	216 0	..	..	..	..	
Building Inspector	Do. ..	1	50 0	..	..	..	..	
Pound Moharrirs and Sweeper.	Do. ..	..	..	2	4 0	..	..	
Sanitary Inspector	Do. ..	..	..	1	50 0	..	..	
Patrols ..	Do. ..	4	67 0	1	14 0	..	..	
Conservancy Bhishties.	Do. ..	20	100 0	..	..	..	..	
Conservancy Sweeper.	Do. ..	..	..	73	361	..	..	
Midwife ..	Do. ..	..	..	..	..	1	50	
Vaccinator ..	Do. ..	1	33 0	..	..	..	..	
Chaprasis to Vaccinator.	Do. ..	1	11 0	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter House Bhishties.	Do. ..	2	10 0	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter House Sweepers.	Do. ..	..	..	1	24 0	..	..	
Birth and Death Moharrirs.	Do. ..	1	20 0	..	..	..	..	

## STATEMENT No. 3.

1925—*concl.*

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs. A.		Rs. A.		Rs.	
Plague Mate ..	No grade..	..	..	1	20 0	..	..	
Plague Coolies ..	Do. ..	..	..	12	96 0	..	..	
Overseer ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	94 0	..	..	
Menials, Public Works.	Do. ..	4	58 0	1	15 0	..	..	
Contribution towards pay of the Superintendent, Vaccination.	Do. ..	..	..	1	7 8	..	..	
Contribution towards pay of Veterinary Assistant.	Do. ..	..	..	1	5 0	..	..	
Contribution towards pay of District Engineer.	Do. ..	..	..	1	15 0	..	..	
Contribution towards pay of Assistant Surgeon.	Do. ..	..	..	1	180 0	..	..	
Headmaster ..	Do. ..	1	144 0	..	..	..	..	
Assistant Teachers	Do. ..	2	140 0	2	237 0	..	..	
Drawing Master ..	Do. ..	1	70 0	..	..	..	..	
Drill Master ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	38 0	..	..	
Senior Vernacular Teachers.	Do. ..	1	28 0	1	28 0	..	..	
Oriental Teachers	Do. ..	2	82 0	1	41 0	..	..	
Junior Vernacular Teachers.	Do. ..	4	84 0	1	34 0	..	..	
Nagri and Urdu Girl School Staff	Do. ..	2	54 0	2	52 0	..	..	
Menials, School ..	Do. ..	4	37 0	10	102 0	..	..	
Compounders ..	Do. ..	2	70 0	2	45 0	..	..	
Female Dresser ..	Do. ..	..	..	..	..	1	30	
Menials, Hospital..	Do. ..	4	52 0	7	80 0	..	..	
Total ..		94	1,649 0	133	1,638 8	2	80	

## STATEMENT No. 4.

1920.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs. A.		Rs. A.		Rs.	
Secretary ..	No grade ..	1	65 0	..	..	..	..	
Municipal Clerk and Assistant Clerk.	Do. ..	..	..	2	55 0	..	..	
Menials (Municipal office).	Do. ..	3	32 0	4	38 0	..	..	
Lighting Inspector	Do. ..	..	..	1	12 0	..	..	
Superintendent, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	1	26 0	..	..	..	..	
Inspector, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	..	..	1	20 0	..	..	
Moharrirs, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	15	166 0	..	..	..	..	
Chaprasis, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	18	126 0	..	..	..	..	
Sanitary Inspector	Do. ..	1	52 0	..	..	..	..	
Conservancy patrols	Do. ..	4	36 0	1	8 0	..	..	
Bhishties ..	Do. ..	20	80 0	..	..	..	..	
Sweepers ..	Do. ..	..	..	73	292 8	..	..	
Midwife ..	Do. ..	..	..	..	..	1	30	
Vaccinator ..	Do. ..	1	12 0	..	..	..	..	
Chapraisi to Vaccinator.	Do. ..	1	7 0	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter House Bhishties.	Do. ..	2	8 0	..	..	..	..	
Sweepers (Slaughter House).	Do. ..	..	..	4	24 0	..	..	
Birth and Death Moharrir.	Do. ..	1	18 0	..	..	..	..	
Overseer ..	Do. ..	1	26 0	..	..	..	..	

## STATEMENT No. 4.

1920—*concl.*

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs. A.		Rs. A.		Rs.	
Contribution towards the Superintendent, Vaccination.	No grade..	..	..	1	5 0	..	..	
Overseer ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	50 0	..	..	
Pound Moharrir and Sweeper.	Do. ..	..	..	2	4 0	..	..	
Headmaster ..	Do. ..	1	95 0	..	..	..	..	
Assistant Teachers	Do. ..	2	86 0	2	89 0	..	..	
Drawing Master ..	Do. ..	1	38 0	..	..	..	..	
Drill Master ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	22 0	..	..	
Senior Vernacular Teachers.	Do. ..	1	20 0	1	16 0	..	..	
Oriental Teachers	Do. ..	2	60 0	2	48 0	..	..	
Junior Vernacular Teachers.	Do. ..	2	30 0	2	33 0	..	..	
Urdu and Nagri Girls School Staff.	Do. ..	2	32 0	1	20 0	..	..	
Menials (School) ..	Do. ..	2	8 0	4	25 0	..	..	
Compounders ..	Do. ..	3	50 0	1	20 0	..	..	
Female Dresser ..	Do. ..	..	..	..	..	1	20	
Menials (Hospital)	Do. ..	4	35 0	6	46 0	..	..	
Total ..	..	89	1,100 0	110	828 8	2	50	



## STATEMENT No. 5.

1915.

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Secretary .. ..	No grade..	1	55	..	..	..	..	
Municipal Clerk ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	25	..	..	
Menials (Municipal Office).	Do. ..	1	8	2	14	..	..	
Lighting Inspector ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	10	..	..	
Superintendent, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	1	32	..	..	..	..	
Inspector, Terminal Tax.	Do. ..	1	17	..	..	..	..	
Moharrirs, Terminal Tax	Do. ..	11	110	2	20	..	..	
Charpasis, Terminal Tax	Do. ..	17	119	..	..	..	..	
Conservancy Patrols ..	Do. ..	4	28	..	..	..	..	
Bhishties .. ..	Do. ..	16	64	..	..	..	..	
Sweepers .. ..	Do. ..	..	..	61	183	..	..	
Plague Coolies ..	Do. ..	2	12	3	18	..	..	
Birth and Death Moharrir.	Do. ..	1	16	..	..	..	..	
Vaccinator .. ..	Do. ..	1	12	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter House Moharrir.	Do. ..	1	5	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter House Bhishties.	Do. ..	3	12	..	..	..	..	
Slaughter House Sweepers.	Do. ..	..	..	3	12	..	..	
Midwife .. ..	Do. ..	..	..	..	..	1	25	
Overseer .. ..	Do. ..	..	..	1	50	..	..	
Contribution towards the pay of Assistant Surgeon.	Do. ..	1	242	..	..	..	..	Rs. 2,900 yearly.

## STATEMENT No. 5.

1915—*concl'd.*

Designation.	Grade.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		OTHERS.		REMARKS.
		Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	Number of incumbents.	Pay.	
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Librarian ..	No grade..	1	10	..	..	..	..	
Chaprasī for Library ..	Do. ..	1	5	..	..	..	..	
Contribution towards allowance of Superintendent, Vaccination.	Do. ..	..	..	1	6	..	..	
Pound Moharrir and Sweeper.	Do. ..	..	..	2	5	..	..	
Headmaster ..	Do. ..	1	80	..	..	..	..	
Assistant Teachers ..	Do. ..	1	55	4	140	..	..	
Drawing Master ..	Do. ..	1	40	..	..	..	..	
Oriental Teachers ..	Do. ..	1	30	1	20	..	..	
Drill Master ..	Do. ..	1	18	..	..	..	..	
Junior Vernacular Teachers.	Do. ..	7	96	5	102	..	..	
Urdu and Nagri Girls School (Staffs).	Do. ..	1	12	1	20	..	..	
Menials (School) ..	Do. ..	3	14	6	35	..	..	
Compounders ..	Do. ..	3	50	1	20	..	..	
Female Dressers ..	Do. ..	..	..	..	..	1	20	
Menials (Hospital) ..	Do. ..	4	35	5	40	..	..	
Total ..		86	1,177	100	720	2	45	

## STATEMENT No. 6.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PERIOD OF SERVICE OF THE EMPLOYEES  
BROUGHT UNDER REDUCTION.

Serial No.	Name.	Designation.	Length of service.	Muslims.	Hindus.	REMARKS.
1	Pandit Shiv Lal ..	Sanitary Inspector at Rs. 86 per mensem.	Y. M. D. 10 7 18	..	1	
2	B. Hukam Chand..	Assistant Accountant at Rs. 36 per mensem.	6 9 12	..	1	
3	B. Manzur Ahmad	Temporary Overseer at Rs. 30 per mensem.	About six months.	1	..	
4	B. Data Ram ..	Temporary Overseer at Rs. 30 per mensem.	Ditto	..	1	
5	Abdul Rahman ..	Peon at Rs. 17 per mensem.	9 5 15	1	..	
6	Ram Chandar ..	Peon at Rs. 16 per mensem.	5 9 0	..	1	
7	Raja Ram ..	Peon at Rs. 16 per mensem.	4 9 5	..	1	
8	Abdul Hamid ..	Peon at Rs. 14-8-0 per mensem.	1 8 17	1	..	
9	Izharul Islam ..	Tonga Inspector at Rs. 20 per mensem.	Three .. months.	1	..	
10	Ali Bhakhtar ..	Terminal Tax Moharrir at Rs. 20 per mensem.	About five months.	1	..	Reduced from 1-4-35.
11	Ishtiaq Ahmad ..	Lighting Inspector at Rs. 20 per mensem.	8 10 6	1	..	Reduced from 7-5-35. Ditto.
12	H. Rahim Bux ..	Gas Lamp Mistry at Rs. 20 per mensem.	8 4 11	1	..	
13	Aziz-ud-din ..	Gas Lamp Mistry at Rs. 15 per mensem.	1 0 15	1	..	Ditto.
14	Mangat Ram ..	Gas Lamp Mistry at 15 per mensem.	1 0 14	..	1	Ditto.
15	Three Coolies ..	Gas Lamps at Rs. 6 per mensem each.	..	1	2	Ditto.
16	Lantern Lighters ..	At Rs. 10 per mensem each.	About one year each.	13	1	
17	Mam Raj ..	Mali at Rs. 12 per mensem.	Two months.	..	1	
	Total ..			22	10	

NOTE 1.—M. Shamas-ud-din, Drawing Master's pay was reduced from Rs. 80 to Rs. 40. He has been in service since the 14th October 1914.

NOTE 2.—Zahur Ali, Conservancy Darogha's pay was reduced from Rs. 30 to Rs. 20. He joined service on the 1st October 1911.

## MUSLIM REPRESENTATION IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

(Answer to question No. \*4522, page 965 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) The policy of Government in the matter of communal representation in the services has been brought to the notice of the Honourable Judges.

*Statement.*

	Total number of appointments.	MUSLIMS.		HINDUS.		SIKHS.		OTHERS.	
		Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.	Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.	Agriculturists.	Non-Agriculturists.
Senior Clerks in the grade of Rs. 75—5—125.	98	24	14	9	45	..	6	..	..
Junior Clerks ..	801	151	125	47	423	10	40	1	4

## ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

## DOGRAS IN THE FEROZEPORE DISTRICT.

(Answer to question No. 945, page 19 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** The information is not available and its collection would involve labour that would not be commensurate with the result.

## CIVIL CASES.

(Answer to question No. 1081, page 226 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :**

Year.						Percentage of cases heard ex parte to the total number of cases disposed of.
1919	..	..	..	..	..	20.1
1925	..	..	..	..	..	28.9
1928	..	..	..	..	..	28.2
1933	..	..	..	..	..	26.9
1934	..	..	..	..	..	26.7

## GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, FEROZEPORE.

(Answer to question No. 1107, page 742 ante.)

**The Honourable Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon :** (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) No. The Hindu Girls' School is only recognised upto the middle department.

(c) Enquiries made show that the school authorities have no objection to admitting girls of all classes. The actual enrolment in each case of girls of other communities, particularly, Muslim, is, however, almost negligible. This is reported to be due to the facts that provision for the teaching of Urdu is nominal, that there are no pardah arrangements and that there are young men-teachers on the staff of all these schools.

(d) Yes, but it is not being run efficiently.

(e) Yes, about ten years back she considered that there would not be enough girls for a Government school. Things are now reported to have changed.

(f) The honourable member is referred to my answer to part (a) of this question.

#### BOATAWALA CANAL.

(Answer to question No. 1118, page 784 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) to (d) It is a fact that Boatawala Canal passes under the Sutlej Navigation Channel of the Sirhind Canal and that surplus water of the Sutlej Navigation Channel was utilized in the Boatawala canal in 3 years, viz., 1907, 1912, 1913. This was done by the Executive Engineer, but was stopped under orders of the Chief Engineer.

(e) Yes. Sixty-two per cent. of the sown area failed.

(f) The area matured during 1934 was 901 acres against 1,648 acres during 1933.

#### BOATAWALA CANAL.

(Answer to question No. 1121, page 785 ante.)

**The Honourable Nawab Muzaffar Khan :** (a) Yes. To prevent waterlogging the discharge was regulated in 1933.

(b) Yes.

#### CIVIL SERVANTS INDIAN DEFENCE FORCE.

(Answer to question No. 1139, pages 852-53 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) and (f) The Punjab Government regret that they are unable to supply the required information as it is not readily available.

(e) Yes. The Indian Defence Force, which was intended for the actual defence of India, was never mobilised during the period of the Great War, except for training. A person who served with the Indian Defence Force cannot, therefore, be regarded as an enlisted and mobilised soldier liable for active service during the Great War as contemplated by the rules relating to military scholarships.

(g) If any specific case is brought to the notice of Government, it will be considered.

## PAY AND PENSIONS.

*(Answer to question No. 1149, page 911 ante.)*

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The attached statement gives the information required in respect of posts which relate to the normal cadres of the various services. It is not possible without detailed enquiry to give similar information in regard to superior posts not borne on a cadre but to which officers in the various services were and are eligible for appointment.

## Statement.

Serial No.	Service.	PAY.		PENSION.	
		Maximum pay in 1915.	Maximum pay in 1935.	Maximum ordinary pension in 1915.	Maximum ordinary pension in 1935.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Indian Civil Service ..	Ra. 2,250 per mensem, Deputy Commissioner, 1st grade.	Ra. 2,250 per mensem and £30 Overseas' pay for members of non-Asiatic domicile.	..	Ra. 10,466-10-8 subject to a minimum of £1,000 per annum.
2	Indian Educational Service.	Ra. 1,000 per mensem ..	Ra. 1,250 per mensem and £30 Overseas' pay for members of non-Asiatic domicile.	Ra. 5,000 per annum ..	Ra. 7,000 per annum.
3	Indian Police Service ..	Ra. 1,200 per mensem ..	Ra. 1,350 per mensem and £30 Overseas' pay for members of non-Asiatic domicile.	Ra. 5,000 per annum ..	Ra. 7,000 per annum.
4	Indian Forest Service	Ra. 1,250 per mensem ..	Ra. 1,350 per mensem and £30 Overseas' pay for members of non-Asiatic domicile.	Ra. 5,000 per annum ..	Ra. 7,000 per annum.
5	Indian Agricultural Service.	..	Ra. 1,250 per mensem and £30 Overseas' pay for members of non-Asiatic domicile.	Ra. 5,000 per annum ..	Ra. 7,000 per annum.

NOTE.—The maximum pay entered in the statement is that of posts in the time-scale.

The pay of posts above the time-scale, e.g., Commissioners, Financial Commissioners, Judges of the High Court, etc., has not been entered.

## PENSIONS.

(Answer to question No. 1150, page 911 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the table.

*Maximum pension of Provincial Service Officers in the Civil, Education, Police, Forest and Agricultural Services in 1915 and 1935.*

Serial No.	Service.	Maximum pension in 1915.	Maximum pension in 1935.
1	Punjab Civil Service ..	30/60th of average emoluments subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 5,000 per annum.	30/60th of average emoluments subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 6,000 per annum.
2	Punjab Educational Service	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3	Punjab Police Service ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
4	Punjab Forest Service ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
5	Punjab Agricultural Service	Ditto ..	Ditto.

NOTE.—The information given in the statement relates to posts in the time-scales. Posts above the time-scale carry special pensions.

## PAY AND PENSIONS.

(Answer to question No. 1151, page 911 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** The answer to this question will involve an enormous amount of work. If the honourable member will specify any particular establishment with regard to which he requires information, an endeavour will be made to supply it.

## OFFICIAL RECEIVERS.

(Answer to question No. 1162, page 984 ante.)

**The Honourable Mr. D. J. Boyd :** (a) Seventeen.

(b) Rs. 69,588-15-7.

(c)

				Amount of fee received by them.		
				Rs.	A.	P.
Hindus	..	..	Ten	..	50,401	3 0
Muslims	..	..	Six	..	18,048	0 7
Sikh	..	..	One	..	1,139	12 0

(d) The matter will be examined by Government in connection with the re-organization of the Official Receiver system, which is at present under consideration.



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