

Government Gazette Extraordinary

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES.

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LAHORE, SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1925.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

NOTIFICATION.

The 20th June 1925.

No. 48.—The following Report of the Select Committee on the Sikh Gurdwaras and Shrines Bill is published under article 82 (1) of the Punjab Constitutional Manual, Volume II :---

ABNASHA SINGH,

Secretary, Punjab Legislative Council.

Report of the Select Committee on the Punjab Sikh Gurdwaras and Shrines Bill.

The Select Committee met on May the 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th and June the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th and 9th, and now begs to submit its final report.

2. Immediately after the Bill was first introduced in Council all members of the Legislative Council were asked to submit for the consideration of the Select Committee any objections or suggestions with regard to the Bill or its schedules which they might desire to make, and notices were also issued in the press inviting objections or suggestions from the public. At a later stage lists of additions to the schedules which had been proposed for the consideration of the Select Committee were published for the purpose of eliciting objections. All objections and suggestions received in response to these invitations were carefully considered by the Select Committee. In the case of institutions already in schedule I or schedule II of the Bill or proposed for inclusion in either schedule, if any objections were received, reports were called for from Deputy Commissioners in cases where the material already on record was not sufficient to enable a conclusion to be come to as to the justifiability of including any particular institution in one or other of the schedules, and summaries of the reports received and of the material already on record were prepared and placed in the hands of the members of the Select Com-mittee before the items were considered. In cases where no objection was received to the retention or insertion of a particular institution in a schedule, it was retained or inserted without further discussion except in cases where on material available or reports received from Deputy Commissioners it was clear that no case for retention or insertion could be made out.

3. The Select Committee considers that the following amendments should be made in the Bill :—

(1) In the heading and preamble to the Bill, the words " and shrines " should be omitted throughout.

PART I.

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

(2) Clause 1.—In sub-clause (1) of clause 1, the words "and shrines" should be omitted.

(3) Clause 2.—

- (a) In sub-clause (1) of clause 2, the word "Central" should be omitted, and in sub-clause (2) for the word "a" the word "the" should be substituted.
- (b) Sub-clause (4) should be omitted.
- (c) Sub-clause (5) should be re-numbered sub-clause (4).
- (d) For article (i) of sub-clause (5), now to be re-numbered sub-clause (4), the following article, namely :---
 - (i) "Office" means any office by virtue of which the holder thereof participates in the management or performance of public worship in a gurdwara or in the management or performance of any rituals or ceremonies observed therein : and "Office-holder" means any person who holds an office.

should be substituted.

- (c) In article (ii) for the words "at the time of ", the word "on " should be substituted.
- (f) In article (*iv*), the words " by custom, by the scheme of foundation, or by an order of a Civil Court " should be omitted.

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